

Tractatus logico-philosophicus

1. The world is everything that is the case.
2. What is the case, the fact, is the existence of atomic facts.
3. The logical picture of the fact is the thought.
4. The thought is the significant proposition.
5. Propositions are truth-functions of elementary propositions.
(An elementary proposition is a truth-function of itself.)
6. The general form of truth-function is: $[\bar{p}, \bar{\xi}, N(\bar{\xi})]$.
This is the general form of the proposition.
7. Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent.

Tractatus pedagogico-philosophicus¹

1. The world is (as it were) the totality of Lego constructions.
2. A Lego construction—a fact—is a combination of Lego bricks.
3. A picture or model of a Lego construction (including the instructions for building it) is a thought.
4. A thought is a meaningful statement (or proposition) about how bricks are combined into a Lego construction (e.g., “The Lego home has a white fence and a green lawn”). It distinguishes one way of combining bricks from another (e.g., “The Lego home has a green fence and a white lawn”).
5. The truth of such a proposition (e.g., “The Lego home is red”) is determined by the truth of more specific propositions (e.g., “This brick is red; that brick is red; this brick is connected to that brick,” etc.).

(The truth of the most specific propositions does not depend on any further proposition, since they are the most specific.)

6. Once you know all the most specific propositions that can be made about a Lego construction, and every way of combining them with basic logical connectives (\sim , $\&$, \vee , \rightarrow), you have the recipe for any proposition that could ever be made. This is the general form of a proposition.
7. I have now given you the recipe for any meaningful statement that could ever be made about the world (of Legos)! Regard any attempt to say something about Legos that goes against this recipe as nonsense—and pass over it in silence.

¹ By Phil Bold. A simple Lego-ladder for climbing into the *Tractatus*. Once you’ve reached the top, kick it away and remember: it was only ever an analogy.