

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

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Aug 28 59

Dear Professor Bunge,

Yes, I agree, though the trouble goes beyond the conflation. I was aware of the conflation, and indeed felt it even as I engaged in it; and had I not, I would have for the editor sounded me out about it. But I was then willing to make the error for what I considered a sufficient gain. I'll step in feces if the position that is afforded enables a powerful blow.

The real trouble concerns the proper characterization of the ape's mental state when she reads the videotape. Though presently we have even firmer evidence that the ape does read the tape, i.e., "assign" perception, purpose, desire to the actor; the exact sense of "assign" escapes me. It is not infer, you are quite right, but neither is it hypothesize. Her reading is much more automatic than either of those states imply.

Sincerely,

David Premack

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