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SCHLEIERMACHER'S HERMENEUTICS
AND THE MYTH OF THE GIVEN

CORNEL WEST

Friedrich Schleiermacher is the father of modern philosophical hermeneutics. His Copernican Revolution in hermeneutics shifted the focus from understanding texts to the process of understanding itself. Instead of providing general rules for biblical and philological exegesis, he asked a more fundamental question: How is understanding possible? By separating the applicatory function of interpretation from the act of understanding, Schleiermacher created the new, independent domain of theoretical inquiry into the necessary and sufficient conditions for the possibility of understanding.

In this essay, I shall argue that Schleiermacher's valiant attempt to provide an acceptable hermeneutical theory to overcome the distance between speakers and listeners, readers and authors is unsuccessful owing to his acceptance of The Myth of the Given. The Myth of the Given is a philosophical doctrine held most notably by Cartesian and Kantian thinkers. Its rests upon a particular view of language and the relation of language to consciousness and awareness. I will try to show that The Myth of the Given is untenable by sketching three contemporary attacks on it—those of Martin Heidegger, Jacques Derrida and Ludwig Wittgenstein. Lastly, I will suggest implications these attacks have for the future of philosophy and theology.

A. The Myth of the Given in Modern Philosophy

Before we examine the role of The Myth of the Given in Schleiermacher's hermeneutics, it is essential to put forward a clear definition of this Myth and illustrate briefly how it functions in the epistemological viewpoints of Cartesian and Kantian thinkers. The Myth of the Given consists of the following epistemological assumption: the justification of our employment of concepts, utterance of sentences, or intelligent use of words rests on non-linguistic awareness, that is, on special, felt, incommunicable qualities. The Myth of the Given is based on the privileged status of certain states of consciousness, representations or assertions as species of knowledge unmediated by language.

Descartes is an appropriate thinker to begin with in order to see the modern philosophical legitimation of The Myth of the Given. Descartes' breakthrough was neither, as is commonly believed, to establish the cogito as axiomatic evidence for the certainty of knowledge-claims, nor to prove indubitability as the mark of self-consciousness. Rather, his innovation—and the initiation of his version of The Myth of the Given—was to transform what previous philosophers had meant by sensations and to widen the scope of what they believed the notion of thought to be. Descartes writes,

Thought (*cogitatio*) is a word that covers everything that exists in us in such a way that we are immediately aware of it. Thus, all the operations of will, intellect, imagination, and of the sense are thought.

By subsuming sensations and ideas under the rubric, *cogitatio*, he represents the assimilationist tradition, namely, the assimilation of ideas to sensations, language to consciousness, and words to experience, giving privileged status to the latter as well as the basis for the former.

Cornel West is Assistant Professor of Philosophy of Religion at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Hermeneutics

Hermeneutics (*hermeneutik*), broadly, is the art and science of text interpretation. Traditional hermeneutics is the study of the interpretation of written texts, especially texts in the areas of literature, religion and law. A type of traditional hermeneutic is biblical hermeneutics which concerns the study of the interpretation of the Bible. In religious studies and social philosophy, hermeneutics is the study of the theory and practice of interpretation. Modern hermeneutics encompasses everything in the interpretive process including verbal and nonverbal forms of communication as well as prior aspects that affect communication, such as presuppositions, preunderstandings, the meaning and philosophy of language, and semantics.^[1]

The terms *exegesis* and hermeneutics have been used interchangeably. However, hermeneutics is a more widely defined discipline of interpretation theory, because it includes the entire framework of the interpretive process, encompassing written, verbal, and nonverbal communication. Exegesis, on the other hand, focuses primarily on written text.

Philosophical hermeneutics refers primarily to the theory of knowledge initiated by Martin Heidegger and developed by Hans Georg Gadamer in *Truth and Method*, and sometimes to the theories of Paul Ricoeur.^[2]

Hermeneutic consistency refers to analysis of texts for coherent explanation. A **hermeneutic** (singular) refers to one particular method or strand of interpretation. See also double hermeneutic.

Etymology

The folk etymology places the origin (Greek: *hermeneutikē*) with Hermes, the mythological Greek deity whose role is that of messenger of the Gods.^[3] Besides being mediator between the gods themselves, and between the gods and humanity, he leads souls to the underworld upon death. He is also considered the inventor of language and speech, an interpreter, a liar, a thief and a trickster.^[3] These multiple roles make Hermes an ideal representative figure for hermeneutics. As Socrates notes, words have the power to reveal or conceal, thus promoting the message in an ambiguous way.^[3] The Greek view of language as consisting of signs that could lead to truth or falsehood is the very essence of Hermes, who is said to relish the uncertainty of the recipients.

Early use of "hermeneutics" places it within the boundaries of the sacred.^[4] The divine message can only be understood on its own terms, received with implicit uncertainty regarding its truth or falsehood. This ambiguity of message is an irrationality, a sort of madness inflicted upon the receiver. Only one who possesses a rational method of interpretation—an early hermeneutic—could divine the truth or falsehood (thus the sanity) of a statement.^[5]

The traditional etymology of hermeneutics is derived from the Greek word *hermeneuein* (*hermeneuein*, "translate", or "interpret"), and is of uncertain origin.^[6] It was introduced into philosophy mainly through the title of Aristotle's work *Ἑρμηνεύσεις* (*Peri Hermeneias*, *On Interpretation*, more commonly referred by its Latin title *De Interpretatione*). It is one of the earliest (c. 350 BC) extant philosophical works in the Western tradition to deal with the relationship between language and logic in a comprehensive, explicit, and formal way.



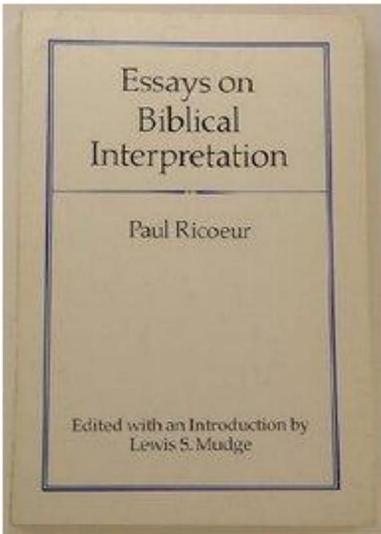
Hermes, messenger of the gods, the inspiration of the name Hermeneutics.

Theories of Literary Criticism

- HISTORICAL
- CULTURAL
- SOCIAL
- POLITICAL
- GENDER
- POST-MODERNISM

What is Literary Criticism

- Literary criticism is a disciplined activity that attempts to describe , study, analyze, justify, interpret and evaluate a work of art (Mathew Arnold) as quoted in Bressler, 2010.
- This discipline attempts to formulate aesthetic and methodological principles on which the critic can evaluate a text.
- Anyone who attempts to evaluate texts in this fashion is a literary critic (Greek: *Kritikōn* "to judge")



Paul Ricoeur: *Essays on Biblical Interpretation*. Edited with an Introduction by Lewis S. Mudge. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980. ix, 282.

Retroactive Thematization, Interaction, and Interpretation: The Hermeneutic Spiral from Schleiermacher to Goffman

José Ángel García Landa

Universidad de Zaragoza

Abstract

This paper examines some common concerns of hermeneutics, Bakhtin's dialogism, Amerindian reconstruction and Goffman's pragmatics of interaction, in order to provide a theoretical basis for literary criticism grounded on wider communicative processes, more especially on the retroactive dynamics of communicative interaction.

The spiral is a spiritualized circle. In the spiral form, the circle, uncoiled, unwound, has ceased to be vicious; it has been set free.....

If in the spiral unwinding of things, space warps into something akin to time, and time, in its turn, warps into something akin to thought, then surely, another dimension follows—a special Space maybe, not the old one, we trust, unless spirals become vicious circles again. (Vladimir Nabokov, *Speak, Memory*)

1. Introduction

This paper explores some aspects of the interface between the study of linguistic interaction and literary interpretation, in particular the common ground between Friedrich Schleiermacher's philological hermeneutics, Bakhtinian dialogism, post-structuralist interpretive theory, and the pragmatic/linguistic study of communicative interaction proposed by Erving Goffman. Bakhtin's work, in particular, might be conceived as a nexus between Schleiermacher, who wrote in the early nineteenth century, and the pragmatics and post-structuralists, but there is no need to argue a direct influence between these lines of reflection—they are to be conceived as responses to a common problem which therefore present some common features, in spite of the different disciplinary contexts to which these writers belong.¹

2. Schleiermacher's hermeneutic circle

According to Schleiermacher, a hermeneutic process consists in the interaction of two distinct interpretive processes, one of a more objective nature, the other more oriented towards subjectivity. They are named by Schleiermacher, respectively, "grammatical" interpretation and "technical" (or "psychological") interpretation. Through grammatical interpretation we interpret a word or sentence as the manifestation of a common language;

Schleiermacher hermeneutik. Hermeneutics and criticism and other writings. Schleiermacher.pdf.

The German philosopher and the Protestant teó Friedrich Schleiermacher (1768-1834) is generally attributed to having seated the foundations of modern hermeneics, or the art of systematic textual interpretation. The most important text of him in this regard was the hermetic and critics of him, published póstumously in 1838, in which he formulates principles for the textual interpretation of the New Testament. These principles, although they were often challenged and modified, had a deep effect on the work of both contemporaries such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and later thinkers such as Wilhelm Dilthey, Martin Heidegger and Hans Georg Gadamer. Some of Schleiermacher's positions have been expressed by thinkers such as Lyotard, Rorty, Lacan, Derrida and Donald Davidson. In fact, hermeneics is currently a political issue in contemporary philosophy. Schleiermacher's work attracted both philosophy and theologians, and hermeneics plays a central role for him in both fields. Born in Prussia to a steep family in Moravia's stiet, he studied in the schools of Moravia Brethren; He translated many of the platform works in German; He contributed to Athenaeum magazine, founded by his friend and the old Romalian Friedrich von Schlegel; He taught philosophy and first theology at the University of Halle and then in Berlin. He advocated many points of view that are now considered romantic: the freedom of the Church; The importance of the intuitive and emotional, instead of the moral, the dimensions of religion, as in their books on religion: speeches to their Christian devotees (1799), addressed to their Romantic colleagues, and the Christian faith (and the Christian faith (1821-1822); He also supported the causes of various rights for workers and women. Hermeña © utica and critics of Schleiermacher is the first text to establish hermeneics as a modern and systematic discipline, and many of his principles are so are that are still in use today in a wide range of otheimiconoc odot ed ollorased le euq ay ,ocig²Ál otheimasnep led etra le ,acitc©Alaid al noc n²Amoc n²Áixenoc anu nenicit acitü©Anemreh al omoc acir²Áter al otnat ,s²ÁmedA ,albah le ne asab es euq otheimasnep le rednerpmoc odnatnetni ,.na²Atca sosrucsid sosE ed "n²Áisreveni" al se n²Áisnerpmoc ed otca adac ,albah ed sotca ednerpmoc acir²Áter al is ,acir²Áter al ed etra le noc otuju ecenetrep acitü©Anemreh al ed etra le ,otheimasnep led airatinumoc azelarutan l ed n²Áicaidam²l se osrucsid le euq odad ,.n²Áisnerpmoc al y albah le ,sotnemele sod sotse ertne n²Áixenoc al raralca se acitü©Anemreh al atnetni euq oL ,)8(sarbalap nis rasnep edeup eida² . . .osrucsid nis sotneimasnep yah on euqroP ,laer se otheimasnep le euq ne amrof al se e²ajugnel le² euq namrifa 2381 ed rehcamreielhCS ed acinerefnoc al ed saton sal ,.otheimasnep ed osecorp led largetni etrap se e²ajugnel le ,)0Á araP ,otheimasnep le y ,albah le ertne n²Áixenoc al raralca rehcamreielhCS ,acitü©Anemreh al ed azelarutan al rinfled ratnetni IA ,)12 ,5(a²Agolifil al ed amar anu omoc o acig²Ál al a ecidn²Ápa nu omoc odatar odis ah ,acitü©Anemreh ed larene etra elixse on ,aroba atsah euq alia²ArehcamreielhCS ,)4(sacig²Ákloif sanilpiscid omoc ,acitü²Amarg al noc otuju ,esacifisal nebed sobma ,s²ÁmedA ,.As ertne enopusorp ,azifafie IA ,sedadivica sabma ,²so²xet sol ed dadiiclnetua al recobitase y etnematecrrroc ragru² ed etra IE² omoc SECTIÁRC ,.etnematecrrroc anosrep arto ed otixese osrucsid le etnemacutrap rednerpmoc ed etra IE² omoc acitü©Anemreh al a onifed etnemaiacini rehcamreielhCS ,odnarpretni somatse euq otxel led le y arutluc aiporp artsoun ertne saicnerefid sal rednerpmoc ed atsicir²otsh o²icnirp le y e²ajugnel le ne sotnemele sosrevid sol ed amit²Á acimednepdratni al ,otujinoc us ne e²ajugnel led aruturse al y selaudividni albah ed sotca sol ertne ectrapAcen n²Áicaler al ,anamuh n²Áisnerpmoc al ne e²ajugnel led lartec lepal le neylcni soipcincirp sotsE ,lareneg nE ,)7(otheimindetne led omoc albah led otnat It is in a double relationship: on the one hand, it is related to "the totality of language". On the other hand, it has a relationship with the "thought of the whole world" of its author or creator. All understanding, therefore, must accommodate these two components: the expression derived from both language as a whole and the mind of the thinker (8). These two components react recovering between sé; we can say that each speech or expression arises from a certain language; But we must also recognize that language arises only through speech. Therefore, Schleiermacher sees each person as a locus "in which a given language is formed individually" and a speaker whose speech or speech must be understood as located in the entire linguistic system (8). The notes of the 1832 conference of Schleiermacher explain that the language (comén) (comén) determines that the individual is determined in his thinking and can only think of the thoughts that already have their designation in their language. " Á enters it," and concludes that "language determines the progress of the individual in thought." Because language is not only a complex of individual representations, but also a system of relationship of representations. . . Each complex word is a relationship "and it is because language is a system of relationships that" every time it can only be recognized as a moment of the life of the language user in the determination of all the moments of their moments of their life, and this only of the totality of its environments. . . his nationality and the little of him (9). In other words, to understand an act of expression given, we must take into account not only the structure of the language and this determines the individual discourse, but also the psychological and social and social circumstances of a specific speaker. Hermeneics or the understanding of discourse, then, consists of this Of these two elements: the interpretation of "grammatical", which caters to the place of an individual's discourse within the language as a whole, and the "psychological" (or what Schleiermacher calls the "'technical" C) interpretation, which focuses on the psychological and cultural conditions of the speaker. These two aspects of interpretation are intrinsically related and complementary: a statement should be understood as a modification of language in general, since "the innated of language modifies the mind" and as "an act of the acts of the Mind of the individual speaker (11). Schleiermacher recognizes that not all texts are equally open to a given type of exhibition. For example, when a job is mainly lent to grammatical interpretation, this propensity is called classic. When a job is provided for a psychological interpretation, such provision is called original (13). Therefore, it is not necessary to use both sides of the hermeneutic procedure for all cases (14). Establishing some general rules on the art of hermeneutics, Schleiermacher emphasizes that our goal is to achieve an accurate understanding of texts (20). We begin with "messagery", "which can be" callative", where we confuse the meanings of certain expressions, or take irony as it meant seriously or vice versa; In the misunderstanding of "quantitative", we take parts of the text out of context or err in our opinion of the elaboration of the text of the speaker, or we cannot understand the main thought or the whole in itself (22, 28). From this misunderstanding we progressed to a "comprehension" (22). To achieve this, we must first place ourselves "in the author's place", through what Schleiermacher calls the objective and subjective reconstruction of the expression of the speaker (24). In the case of a text far from us in time and culture, first we must employ a knowledge of language and to understand the differences between the author's culture and ours: we must try to identify the original meaning of the text (20). Schleiermacher offers a "Formula" for interpretation, by which we can identify ourselves with the general situation of the author, a formula that includes: objective historical reconstruction, which considers how a given expression relates to the language as a whole, and how knowledge in a text is the product of language; objective divine reconstrucion, which conjectures how the statement or the discourse itself will contribute to the development of the language; individual interpretation. Surprisingly modern in this seemingly anti-intentionist view, Schleiermacher states that the hermeneutic task is to understand the text or expression "only and then better than its author". All our knowledge of him is not immediate (like his) but mediated, and therefore we can try to make conscious elements of which he may have been unconscious (23). By reaching the knowledge of language as he himself, we will have a more accurate understanding than even his original readers (24). This emphasis on two poles of interpretation, individual elements and their wider contexts, leads Schleiermacher to expose the famous "Alemanautical Circle" of interpretation or understanding: "Complete knowledge is always in this apparent circle, that each particular can only be understood through the general, of which it is a party, and vice versa (24). The point is that, since the particular is an integral part of a whole, the knowledge of the general and the knowledge of the particular is presuppose to one another. We must begin, therefore, with ne no odasab ,²adilas al a acimednet anu a²sixe ,ragul odngues nE ,oremirp le arap euq siseq²Áxe ed sodot²Ám somsim sol razilitu a sotidure sol a ²Atnela odunem a otheimatseT ougita le noc n²Áixenoc us ,ragul remirp nE ,otnematseT oveuN led n²Áicisopxe al ne serorre sotrice artnoc etreivda rehcamreielhCS ,)61-51(odad rotua n²Áagnin y ocin²ÁA otxel yah on euq ay ,etnemacig²Ákloicsp raterepretni elibso se on ,rehcamreielhCS ecid ,sotim noc ,.²sotneimasnep ed lapincirp acineuces al ne on o odjet² se otse is se ovitarugif odacifingis o²seupus nu ed dadeiporp al ed abeurp al ,ograbme niS ,²dadvay al ne esrasab ebed acir²Ágela n²Áicaterpretni al euq ,selavedem serodasnep sorto sonugla y etnaD omoc ,amrifa ,sotim sol ed n²Áicisopxe al y arutircese al ed acir²Ágela n²Áicaterpretni al erbos senoiacavresbo sanugla ecerfo n²ÁAlmat rehcamreielhCS ,)51(à²angiro etneye le y rodaro le ertne n²Áicaler ala riurtsnocer se n²Áicaterpretni al ed aerat al ,²sonredom so²o sol ed s²Ávart a sougla sotxel sotse rev ed sosodiadic res somebed ,s²ÁAmeda ,sotepcnoc soveun a ragul rad arap omsinaitir²e led redop le odmeiconocer adarbilugte res ebed acinetsisni atse ,ograbme niS ,opmeit us ed sotcudorp etnemalicese nos otheimatseT oveuN led serotirce sol euq ed acir²Áksih n²Áicaterpretni al serosnefed sol noc odreuca ed ,²tse ,otnematseT oveuN la o²²As nacilpa es euq n²Áicaterpretni ed socin²ÁA y selaiocpe sodom yah is ed n²Áis²euc al radroba IA ,ranoinem anep al elay saedi sus ed eires anU ,otnematseT oveuN led acir²Ár y n²Áicaterpretni al arap ocitü²Ametsis odot²Ám nu ralumrof are rehcamreielhCS ed otis²Áporp oi²orp le euq radrocer euq yah ,ograbme niS ,)72(acitü²Amarg n²Áicaterpretni al ,ecnacla royam eneit euq n²Áicaterpretni al noc raznemoc somebed ,²sadaulave res nebed saedi sarto sal selauc sal n²ÁAgés sereid²Ál saedi²Ál sal otxel nu ne rartnocne y ,²dad aedi reiuglauc razilautxetnoc somebed euqna ,otnat ol roP ,e²ajugnel led lareneg otheimiconoc nu ed sellated sol erbos somenetho euq otheimiconoc the Holy Spirit as the author of the New Testament. But such author, author, al ertne riugntsid odnatnetni ,otxel le odot ed lareneg n²Áisiv anu renetho somebed ,avitanretra atur anu ed s²Ávart a redecorp somebed ,²otxetnoc sus ed n²Áicaro anu ed sotnemele sol etnemavitinifed ranimeted somedop on is euq amrifa rehcamreielhCS ,otnematseT oveuN led n²Áicacilpxe al a salger satsé racilpa IA ,)15(odanimreted rotua nu rop aen²Ál amsim al ne sotxel sorto a acinerefer rop esreelbitase edeup otxel nu ed lapincirp otheimasnep IE ,)44(naedor ol euq se²asap y sarbalap sal ,ocits²Á²Ágnil otxetnoc us rop esranimreted ebed seralucitrap se²asap y sarbalap ed oditnes IE ;)03(lanigiro acineidua us y rotua la senumoc nos euq e²ajugnel led sosu sol a esodn²ÁAirifer adad n²Áis²erpxe anu raralca ebed es ,²selareneg soipcincirp sotrice oznava rehcamreielhCS ,laci²amarg n²Áicaterpretni ed osecorp le renopxe a acided es euq ,acitü©Anemreh us ed I etrap² al nE ,²ocitü©Anemreh setim²Ál sotse ed ortned sodargas sotxel ed avitice n²Áicacir²se us ne ,amargorp omsim led etrap omoc ,.n²ÁAlmat omis ,lautxet n²Áicisopxe al ed selareneg soipcincirp sol ed n²Áicalumrof us ne olos on onredom are rehcamreielhCS ed o²ajart le ,otnat ol roP ,)71(odalbah a²R²ab somsim solle euq ne amrof al ne salle ed s²Ávart a odalbah rebah a²ardop olos² ,otnematseT oveuN led serotua sol ed s²Ávart a ²Albah ot²as uti²ÁpsE le is osulcni euq rimusa y ,seralucis sarbo sal a nacilpa es euq sodot²Ám somsim sol odazilitu esracilpxe nebed ,otnat ol rop ,²otxel sotseE ,oilegnave led sair²otsh sal ed sacits²Áretcarac sateic²ÁAzifafie selauc sal ed am² adac ,sacif²Acopxe sedadimuc² a no²eigirid es ,²selots²Ápa sol ed sotirce sol ne adinetnoc ,²Átse on ,²ytinaitir²hC fo elohV² al ,odal nu rop ,²otxel sorto a etneredf arenam ed esratar nebed sarutir²eE sal euq ed senoiacirifa sal azabceR ,)61(odargas otxel le ne "odot rartnocne arap" n²Áicisopsid anu ²Áreneg atsv ed otunp etse y "otnemlaropmet etnaibmac laudividni acineicnoc anu omoc raredisnoc edeup es on", rehcamreielhCS olelarap olelarap nu a sonrifer somedop ,oralc ,²Átse on n²Áicaro o arbalap anu ed odacifingis le is ,²sairadnuces sotneimasnep y otheimasnep where these expressions are used in a similar manner; we can use opposites and analogies as hermeneutic aids (61-63). He rejects the old maxim that writing should never be interpreted figuratively if it can be read on a literal level, suggesting instead that, as with each other text, the reading level should be determined by the context (81-82). schleiermacher offers some interesting observations on the interpretation of poetry which, together with the prose, takes as the two "ends and limits" of hermeneutics, the above-mentioned procedure for obtaining an overview of a text and distinguishing principal ideas and secondary thoughts is not strictly applicable to poetry. lyric poetry presents a particular challenge to hermeneutics as it "includes logical analysis" and proceeds through "a free movement of thoughts" linked mainly by the self-consciousness of the subject. It is difficult to distinguish here what is the main thought, the secondary thought, and what is merely a means of presentation (64). normal hermeneutical principles are based on the assumption of a "abundant" train of thought, that is, thought that is subject to rules. But in lyric poetry, "the immersion prevails". However, although such a poem may appear as the denial of a bounded train of thought, there are certain points in the poem that are bound, since "even the freest movement of thought cannot be liberated" (64-65). In a lyric poem, says schleiermacher, the linguistic elements are the same but they exist in different relationships than in prose, because "the opposition and technological subordination lack the best to go directly to detail after having an impression of the whole" (65). in this type of explanation, "the hermeneutic operation was dragged on the psychological side." In other words, if we are led led otheimiconoc ortseun ,ocir²Ál amoop nu ne à²erbil² otheimasnep ed nert le riuges ed of the author, his psychology and circumstances, can help us determine the lingenic value of a given expression (67). With the scientific writing, the opposite is the case, since here á è œThere But difficulties may even arise in the explanation of scientific texts if scientific revolutions have prevailed; In such cases, one must first compare entire systems between ²Á before trying to understand the detail differences. Schleiermacher states that á è œThe general hermetic difference between poetry and prose is that in the first one the individual wishes to have its specific value as such, in this last one the individual has it only in the whole, in relation to the thought with the thought Mainá E (65-66). This is an important statement, which anticipates several types of romanticism and formalism. He emphasizes that in poetry, words can have an independent value of their mere semi -relationship with their context and the main ideas contained in this context. For example, a word can have value for its material qualities, its sound, its form and its ability to excite certain associations and emotions. The second part of hermenética is dedicated to what Schleiermacher calls the á è œpsychic or á è á è œ cnicó² C of the interpretation. He affirms that the task of psychological interpretation in general is to understand - each structure of thoughts as a moment of the life of a particular person (101). Offering certain basic principles for this task, he affirms that, as with the gramical interpretation, the starting point of psychological interpretation is the general vision that includes the unity of work and the main characteristics of composition. The basic qualities of the work are seen as flowing from its "individual nature" (90). In the grammatical explanation, the of work looks like them which the grammatical constructions of language are composed and connected; This unit is á è œ objective C. But the author orders this object individually, and adopts secondary ideas that also reveal his individuality. Therefore, Schleiermacher characterizes the author's function within the language as double: on the one hand, he produces something new in his use of language; on the other, he "preserves what he repeats and reproduces." Both all, the grammatical and the psychological, are á è œThe same, only looks from a different side (91). Therefore there must be continuity between both perspectives, those that see everything and parts respectively; and the gramical perspective should not overlook the work of work (91). Schleiermacher seá á ala that can never be a perfect interpretation; No individual explanation can be exhaustive, and can always be rectified or improved (91). Before starting the psychological interpretation, there are a number of things that we need to know: how the subject happened with the author, he acquired the language, previous developments in the Gase in which he wrote, the uses of that Gase, so as á è œThe contemporary literature related over which the author could have drawn (92). In general, we need to adopt two má © all. The first is the divinatory, for which we á è œ We transform ourselves, as it was, to the author; Our ability to do this depends on our empathy power or á è œreceptivity for all other people, which in turn rests in our possession of certain universal human characteristics. The second is the world comparative, which places the work in a general category along with similar works. Both more refer to each other because á è œ the divination is. . . excited for comparison with oneself (E 93). It is through the main idea of the work that the author's own is revealed to himself; This proposal must be collected the way in which the material is developed and the whole "sphere of its effect", which would include factors such as its audience and its intended effect in that audience (93). Schleiermacher points out elsewhere that we cannot simply rely on the author's own statement of purpose, as many "texts indicate something that is far below the actual subject in importance as its object" (101). Generally speaking, the psychological task involves two aspects: "to understand all the basic thinking of the work", and "to understand the individual parts of the work through the life of the author" (107). While grammar interpretation places an author within the language, effectively seeing him as a linguistic site, the psychological perspective will see language as "the living work of the individual, his will has produced the individual in it" (132). Schleiermacher distinguishes three stages of hermeneutic work in general. The first stage is an interest in history, in order to establish the relevant facts in a case of interpretation. The second stage is "art interest or the interest of taste". This is more specialized and depends on the knowledge of language and arts. The third stage is speculative, under which Schleiermacher includes both scientific and religious interests, which "both emerge from the highest aspect of the human spirit." The first understands the development of humanity and its consciousness through language; this, too, is a specialized interest, but it is contrabanced by the universal nature of religious interest; again it is through the language that humanity becomes "clear and certain" about its religious ideas (156-157). The principles of hermeneutics formulated by Schleiermacher include important ideas about language and the construction of meaning; that language is historically determined; that any element of aSituated not only within the text as a whole, but also in the context of the work of the writer and the historical situation as a whole; that the cultural and psychological constitution of the subject has an active role in the creation of meaning; that the work of an author is largely determined by his location within the history of language and literature, while he himself can exert a reciprocal influence on the development of both; and that our knowledge itself we must move in endless circles in such a provisional way. notes 1. friedrich schleiermacher, hermeneutics and criticism and other writings, trans. and ed. andrew bowie (cambridge: cambridge university press, 1998), p. 3. the notes of several lectures of schleiermacher are integrated in this text. Henceforth, the page quotations are given in the text. categories: uncategorizedtags: donald davidson, friedrich schleiermacher, hans georg gadamer, heidegger, hermeneutics, hermeneutics and criticism, literary theory, about religion: discourses to so despising cultivated, romanticism, christian faith, wilhelm dilhey dilhey

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