



Try to imagine a language in which a person invents words which refer to what can only be known to the person herself, immediate or private sensations. Suppose every time she has a particular sensation, she writes 'S' in a notebook. Is 'S' now a word in her private language? For a mark or a sound to have a meaning, it has to have a use, and for it to have a use, there has to be a sense in which it might be misused. Marks and sounds get to have meaning against the backdrop of a system of use, rules for going on in one way and not another. But the person putting an 'S' in a notebook when she has a certain sensation is not participating in anything like this. In such a case the person has no criterion for correctness. One would like to say: whatever is going to seem right to me is right. And that only means that here we can't talk about "right." There is no external check, no way of determining that _____ and, without that, the mark is nothing more than a mark.

*backdrop (연극 등의) 배경막, 배경

- ① the private language can be understood right
- ② the 'S' is derived from an appropriate sensation
- ③ the mark is being used in any particular way
- ④ the community can accept the private language
- ⑤ the criterion for correctness is valid



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