

How to Link Assertion and Knowledge Without Going Contextualist:
A reply to DeRose's "Assertion, Knowledge, and Context"

Abstract

Keith DeRose has recently argued that the knowledge account of assertion, in conjunction with the manifest contextual variability of appropriate assertion, yields a direct argument that 'knows' is semantically context-sensitive. The argument fails because of an equivocation on the notion of *warranted assertability*. Once the equivocation is removed, it can be seen that the invariantist can retain the knowledge account of assertion and explain the contextual variability of appropriate assertion by appealing to Williamson's suggestion that practical and conversational considerations can influence the extent to which adherence to the constitutive norm of assertion matters.