

Abstract

The aim of the following paper is to show what problems Husserl's phenomenology poses in relation to language. At first sight, the problem of language seems irrelevant or uninteresting in Husserl's work, since the author himself never really problematized language. However, I insist that without a proper analysis of language, some key questions remain unanswered, including 1) epistemological questions such as how we can grasp something in language, 2) the nature of phenomenology itself. When natural attitudes are transformed into phenomenological ones, the question is whether or how language is transformed, and 3) the constitution of other phenomena - like ideality, history, etc. Because of the vastness of the subject, I have chosen to focus mainly on three points - 1) the influence of language on perception, 2) the nature of language itself, and 3) the ability of language to penetrate the deepest depths of subjectivity. These topics will not all be discussed in detail because it would require much more work. For this reason, I have chosen to understand Husserl's phenomenology through the background of the problem of language. This means that the whole explanation and analysis can only be understood in this context. With this approach, I was able to see new perspectives and shed new light on the problems that sometimes escape us. Overall, I have been able to show why Husserl's lack of engagement with language has led to such a diverse discourse on the subject, involving not only criticism but also the further development of his thought in very different ways.

I have mainly dealt with Derrida's discussions because he is the one who sticks very close to Husserl and tries to find inconsistencies in his work. In the last chapter I discuss Lohmar's book "Thinking without language". This also helps us to understand the implications of Husserl's phenomenology for understanding this relationship.

Keywords: phenomenology, language, thinking, perception, presence, imagination, representation.