

The Pragmatic-Rhetorical Theory of Explanation

Faye, Jan (2004) The Pragmatic-Rhetorical Theory of Explanation.

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Abstract

The pragmatic theory of explanation is an attempt to see explanation as a linguistic response to a cognitive problem where the content of the response depends on the context of the scientific inquiry. The present paper draws on the rhetorical situation, as it is defined by Loyld Bitzer, in order to understand how the context may influence the content as well as the acceptability of the response.

Keywords: Explanation, Pragmatic theory, Rhetoric

Subjects: [General Issues: Explanation](#)

ID Code: 3747

Deposited By: [Faye, Jan](#)

Deposited On: 23 December 2007