

# Hans-Georg Gadamer

## Quotes

*Understanding, Language, Art, Real, Men, Essence, Self, Doe, Speak, Thinker,  
Possibility, Play, Book, Mind, Examination, Trying, Taken, Answers, Silence,  
Objectivity*

Being that can be understood is language.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

Nothing exists except through language.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

The essence of the question is the opening up, and keeping open, of possibilities.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

It is the tyranny of hidden prejudices that makes us deaf to what speaks to us in tradition.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

I basically only read books that are over 2,000 years old.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

The focus of subjectivity is a distorting mirror.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

Long before we understand ourselves through the process of self-examination, we understand ourselves in a self-evident way in the family, society and state in which we live.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

History does not belong to us; we belong to it.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

All cities we have visited are precincts in this metropolis of the mind.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

For both art and the historical sciences are ways of experiencing in which our own understanding of existence is immediately brought into play.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

The process of translating comprises in its essence the whole secret of human understanding of the world and of social communication.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

Unlike seeing, where one can look away, one cannot 'hear away' but must listen ... hearing implies already belonging together in such a manner that one is claimed by what is being said.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

The real being of language is that into which we are taken up when we hear it - what is said.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

The more language is a living operation, the less we are aware of it. Thus it follows from the self-forgetfulness of language that its real being consists in what is said in it.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

From Gadamer I learned that to understand a given thinker requires one to presuppose that he is right.

~Hans-Georg Gadamer

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