

Ludwig Wittgenstein

Quotes

Philosophical, Philosophy, Thinking, World, Language, Mean, Men, Believe, Logic, Doe, Use, Facts, Problem, Lying, Way, Philosopher, Important, Needs, Reality, Different

When we can't think for ourselves, we can always quote

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Nothing is so difficult as not deceiving oneself.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If we spoke a different language, we would perceive a somewhat different world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The real question of life after death isn't whether or not it exists, but even if it does what problem this really solves.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

I don't know why we are here, but I'm pretty sure that it is not in order to enjoy ourselves.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The limits of my language means the limits of my world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The human body is the best picture of the human soul.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If people did not sometimes do silly things, nothing intelligent would ever get done.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

To convince someone of the truth, it is not enough to state it, but rather one must find the path from error to truth.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The problems are solved, not by giving new information, but by arranging what we have always known.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

We learn by rearranging what we know.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A philosopher who is not taking part in discussions is like a boxer who never goes into the ring.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A man will be imprisoned in a room with a door that's unlocked and opens inwards; as long as it does not occur to him to pull rather than push it.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Hell isn't other people. Hell is yourself.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Not how the world is, but that it is, is the mystery.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A tautology's truth is certain, a proposition's possible, a contradiction's impossible.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

He who lives in the present lives in eternity.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

In order to be able to set a limit to thought, we should have to find both sides of the limit thinkable (i.e. we should have to be able to think what cannot be thought).

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

To believe in a God means to see that the facts of the world are not the end of the matter.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A serious and good philosophical work could be written consisting entirely of jokes.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Make sure that your religion is a matter between you and God only.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Language disguises thought.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Kierkegaard was by far the most profound thinker of the last century. Kierkegaard was a saint.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Uttering a word is like striking a note on the keyboard of the imagination.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

To believe in God is to see that life has a meaning.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

I sit astride life like a bad rider on a horse. I only owe it to the horse's good nature that I am not thrown off at this very moment.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Knowledge is in the end based on acknowledgement.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Philosophy is a battle against the bewitchment of our intelligence by means of language.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Nowadays it is the fashion to emphasize the horrors of the last war. I didn't find it so horrible. There are just as horrible things happening all round us today, if only we had eyes to see them.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Ethics and aesthetics are one.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

For a truly religious man nothing is tragic.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The world of those who are happy is different from the world of those who are not.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Man has to awaken to wonder - and so perhaps do peoples. Science is a way of sending him to sleep again.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Aim at being loved without being admired.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Resting on your laurels is as dangerous as resting when you are walking in the snow. You doze off and die in your sleep.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Only describe, don't explain.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

This is how philosophers should salute each other: "Take your time."

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

What is thinkable is also possible.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Don't look for the meanings; look for the use.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If the will did not exist, neither would there be that centre of the world, which we call the I.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A man's thinking goes on within his consciousness in a seclusion in comparison with which any physical seclusion is an exhibition to public view.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

My aim is: to teach you to pass from a piece of disguised nonsense to something that is patent nonsense.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Philosophy is like trying to open a safe with a combination lock: each little adjustment of the dials seems to achieve nothing, only when everything is in place does the door open.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Philosophy is not a body of doctrine but an activity. ...Without philosophy thoughts are, as it were, cloudy and indistinct: its task is to make them clear and to give them sharp boundaries.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

We see, not change of aspect, but change of interpretation.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

All I know is what I have words for.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The logic of the world is prior to all truth and falsehood.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Logic is not a body of doctrine, but a mirror-image of the world. Logic is transcendental.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If you tried to doubt everything you would not get as far as doubting anything. The game of doubting itself presupposes certainty.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Most of the propositions and questions to be found in philosophical works are not false but nonsensical.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Everything that can be said, can be said clearly.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

When you are philosophizing you have to descend into primeval chaos and feel at home there.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Think of the tools in a tool-box: there is a hammer, pliers, a saw, a screwdriver, a rule, a glue-pot, nails and screws.--The function of words are as diverse as the functions of these objects.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Courage, not cleverness; not even inspiration, is the grain of mustard that grows up to be a great tree.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Where two principles really do meet which cannot be reconciled with one another, then each man declares the other a fool and a heretic

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Never stay up on the barren heights of cleverness, but come down into the green valleys of silliness.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The classifications made by philosophers and psychologists are like trying to classify clouds by their shape.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Freud's fanciful pseudo-explanations (precisely because they are brilliant) perform a disservice. Now any ass has these pictures available to use in "explaining" symptoms of an illness.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The subject does not belong to the world; rather, it is a limit of the world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Humor is not a mood but a way of looking at the world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A picture held us captive. And we could not get outside it, for it lay in our language and language seemed to repeat it to us inexorably.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The common behavior of mankind is the system of reference by means of which we interpret an unknown language.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

I give no sources, because it is indifferent to me whether what I have thought has already been thought before me by another.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The depressed man lives in a depressed world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

There can never be surprises in logic.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Could one imagine a stone's having consciousness? And if anyone can do so-why should that not merely prove that such image-mongery is of no interest to us?

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If a person tells me he has been to the worst places I have no reason to judge him; but if he tells me it was his superior wisdom that enabled him to go there, then I know he is a fraud.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

It seems to me that, in every culture, I come across a chapter headed 'Wisdom.' And then I know exactly what is going to follow: 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.'

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

What is your aim in philosophy? To show the fly the way out of the fly-bottle.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

All mathematics is tautology.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If one understands eternity as timelessness, and not as an unending timespan, then whoever lives in the present lives for all time.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The fact that we can describe the motions of the world using Newtonian mechanics tell us nothing about the world. The fact that we do, does tell us something about the world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

For an answer which cannot be expressed the question too cannot be expressed. The riddle does not exist. If a question can be put at all, then it can also be answered.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Transparency painted in a picture produces its effect in a different way than opaqueness.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

It is obvious that an imagined #â€Ž world , however different it may be from the real one, must have something - a form - in common with it.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Language is a part of our organism and no less complicated than it.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Believers who have formulated such proofs [for God's existence] ... would never have come to believe as a result of such proofs

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A French politician once wrote that it was a peculiarity of the French language that in it words occur in the order in which one thinks them.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Like everything metaphysical the harmony between thought and reality is to be found in the grammar of the language.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Every explanation is after all an hypothesis.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

One of the most misleading representational techniques in our language is the use of the word 'I.'

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

About what one can not speak, one must remain silent.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Tell them I've had a wonderful life.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The eternal life is given to those who live in the present.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Idealism leads to realism if it is strictly thought out.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

If a lion could talk, we could not understand him.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The philosopher is not a citizen of any community of ideas, that is what makes him a philosopher.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Philosophy, as we use the word, is a fight against the fascination which forms of expression exert upon us.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

You learned the concept 'pain' when you learned language.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

In order to draw a limit to thinking, we should have to think both sides of this limit.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

A confession has to be part of your new life.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

What is troubling us is the tendency to believe that the mind is like a

little man within.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Don't ask what it means, but rather how it is used.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Religion is, as it were, the calm bottom of the sea at its deepest point, which remains calm however high the waves on the surface may be.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

Man is the microcosm: I am my world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

An entire mythology is stored within our language.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

The world is independent of my will.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

It is an hypothesis that the sun will rise tomorrow: and this means that we do not know whether it will rise.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

You might say that certain words are only pegs to hang intonations on.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

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