

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to deal with the problems which arise from interpretations of Descartes' term "*cogitare*". It concentrates on the deconstruction of the orthodox interpretations which explain the term "*cogitare*" as "to be conscious". The thesis aims at introducing three alternative interpretations from Czech academic environment, the one of James Hill, of Petr Glombík, and of Tomáš Marvan. I would like to refer to the problems of orthodox reading as well as to benefits and losses of the other interpretations. I will proceed through analysis of sensory perceptions, emotions and dream. The purpose of the thesis is not to find the definite meaning of "*cogitare*", but to make the readers familiar with these problems and their interpretations which I find more plausible than the orthodox interpretation. The term "consciousness" is a complex term which needs to be explained in order to be capable of explaining other philosophical problems.

Keywords: Descartes, thinking, consciousness, sensory perceptions, emotions, dream, self-reflection, judgment, propositional content