



# Performativity

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# What does it mean **to perform**?

- To perform is to do/act
- ✓ To do in an ordinary sense of doing an action

OR

- ✓ To act in a theatrical/cinematic sense

In both the cases there is a subject which you call as 'I' who does this action. That is the 'I' pre-exists the act

The subject – in the grammatical sense of the word – who performs the action exists before the act and it is that already existing I who does the action.

# Perform Vs Performatives

- Radical difference between an act that is performed and that which is called a performative is: **unlike in ‘perform’, in a performative the subject of the action does not pre-exist the act. On the contrary it is constituted via the performative. So in a performative the ‘I’ – the subject that performs the act – is not the cause but the effect of the act.**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo7o2LYATDc>

# Language and Performatives

✓ Constatives and Performatives

◻ *Performativity Pg. 7-9*



# Gender Performativity

✓ Expressive and Performative

*Performativity Pg. 118*

*Performativity Pg. 119*

# Judith Butler and Gender Performativity

Gender Performativity is a term propounded by the American philosopher and Gender theorist Judith Butler – Influenced by Phenomenology, Speech-act theory and

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dElvFDODdTc>
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