

# Definition of Definition?

## Question

What is a definition? Like, what is the **definition** of “definition”?

## Types of definitions

- **Intensional/analytic/essential** — give necessary and sufficient conditions for when the term applies;
  - **genus and differentia** — first give a family (genus) in which the object sits, and then give criteria that differentiate it from other members of the family
  - **axiomatic/algorithmic** — give a set of rules and an algorithm to generate all objects that satisfy the definition
- **Extensional/exemplar** — list the objects that satisfy the definition;
  - **ostensive** — give examples so that the listener infers the idea
  - **enumerative** — the list is the definition!