

ned.block@nyu.edu

Assignment 5: 3-5 pages

Due Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 5 PM

This assignment is divided into two parts. Part 1 is concerned with making sure that you get Searle's argument right. The answers should be short. Most of your paper should be devoted to Part 2.

Part 1.

- a. Does Searle argue that no machine could think? ('Yes' or 'No' will suffice).
- b. What does Searle mean by 'Strong AI'?
- c. What is the *conclusion* of Searle's argument? That is, what does he take himself to have shown?
- d. In 4 sentences or less, summarize Searle's argument for the conclusion that you just described in c.
- e. Does Searle's viewpoint dictate that only biological systems can think?

Part 2.

What objection to Searle do you think is the most powerful and why?