PHIL 43904: First short paper

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Due: in class, Tuesday, October 2

Your assignment has three parts:

1. Explain, in at most one page, why Russell, in *The Principles of Mathematics*, thought that the following two claims were inconsistent:

   - For any verb, there is a corresponding verbal noun with the same meaning.
   - Any two sentences which differ only in the substitution of synonyms for synonyms must have the same truth value.

2. Explain, in at most one page, Russell's argument that the first of these principles is true.

3. In at most one or two pages, say whether you think Russell was right about these things. If you think he was, then explain how we can plausible reject the second claim above. If you think he was not, explain what is wrong with Russell's arguments.