

Preface

This is meant to be the almost full reading text of T.E. Hulme's "Notes on Language and Style", which was edited from his manuscript at T.E. Hulme Collection, Keele University Library in the United Kingdom.

Although the three versions of "Notes on Language and Style" have already been published, there seems to be some room for revised presentation if Hulme's manuscript should be published exactly as he himself prepared it. The four editorial principles are followed in the present version. First, all the sheets kept at T.E. Hulme Collection are included, except a few ones carrying notes which are too short to make any sense. Secondly, Hulme's reading text is presented in a more fragmentary condition than in any previous version. In order to emphasize the fragmentariness of his manuscript a set of three asterisks is used, showing clearly a turn of loose sheets of paper of the manuscript, which can be of help to demonstrate the rhythm and development of Hulme's thinking. Thirdly, a considerable number of subheadings are restored exactly as Hulme put in his manuscript, in place of ones which Herbert Read and Michael Roberts devised for the reader. And lastly, when this editor's reading of a word or words is different from that in the previous versions, the text is corrected according to his, with a footnote indicating the fact added for the reader's convenience of reference.

The editor wishes to extend his heartfelt thanks to the previous editors for their works. Herbert Read (ed.), *Notes on Language and Style* (University of Washington Book Store, 1929), Michael Roberts, *T.E. Hulme* (Faber & Faber, 1938) and Karen Csengeri (ed.), *The Collected Writings of T.E. Hulme* (Oxford University Press, 1994) were the three books he referred to when, reading Hulme's manuscript, he came across a word he could not make out for himself. During the course of the work, he gradually got himself accustomed to Hulme's running script. The result presented here may not prove to be very satisfactory to the reader, with not a few blanks left in the reading text, but the editor himself is satisfied with what he has done, supported by the three previous books.

The editor would also like to thank Helen Burton, Librarian at Keele University Library, for her help in deciphering Hulme's "extremely illegible script", as Herbert Read observes in his introduction to the edition mentioned above. She not only checked many of the editor's new readings but proposed

her own for the words which the editor could not make out at all. In any case, if Helen Burton's assistance had not been available, the editor would not have harboured an overweening ambition to publish an almost full version of Hulme's "Notes on Language and Style" for himself.

S.K.

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