# MAS 962: Computational Semantics

## Assignment 1

## Readings

Quillian, M. (1968) *Semantic Memory*. In M. Minsky, ed, Semantic Information Processing, 216-270. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.

Harnad, S. (1990) The Symbol Grounding Problem. *Physica* D 42: 335-346.

## Questions

1. Summarize each paper's main ideas (one page maximum for each summary)

2. Consider a machine that represents word meanings in terms of a Quillian network. What sort of linguistic processing tasks would be inherently easy for such a machine? What tasks would be difficult?

3. Are semantic networks compatible with Harnad's notion of symbol grounding? If so, how? If not, why not?