Extra credit essay

Consider the pair of essays, “The Runabout Inference-Ticket” by A. N. Prior, and “Roundabout the Runabout Inference-Ticket” by J. T. Stevenson (both are available in the ‘Readings’ folder). In no more than 500 words, do the following:

1. Concisely explain Prior’s objection to the claim that there are “inferences whose validity arises solely from the meanings of certain expressions occurring in them.”

2. What is Stevenson’s rebuttal to Prior? That is, in what way does Stevenson think Prior has made a mistake?

3. Explain whether you think that our definition of the truth-functional connectives is flawed in the way Prior suggests.