We suggest table techniques as a pragmatic description formalism for a both precise and readable specification of systems, their interfaces, as well as their functional properties. We define a formal semantics for these tables by translating them into logical formulas. Tables are considered easier to read, to comprehend, or at least easier to communicate than large logical formulas. However, we consider formulas to be better suited for a manipulation by logical calculi to derive properties. By translating tables into formulas of predicate logic and vice versa, we provide a bridge between the conciseness of readable suggestive specifications and the preciseness of mathematical methods in software and systems engineering.