

Week 4 Class Activity: Personal Identity and Ontology

Your Name:

Option 1

Come up with a fictional story involving a confrontation between two different characters who disagree about (i) when they (or you) began to exist and (ii) when they (or you) will cease to exist. Decide how the story ends. Elect a student to tell the story to the class.

Option 2

Prepare a role play / improv scene involving a confrontation between two different characters who disagree about (i) when they (and you) began to exist and (ii) when they (and you) will cease to exist. To prepare the scene, specify the following:

- Who are the characters?
- Where are they?
- What is their conflict?

Elect some students in your group to act out the scene.

1. **You** are the thing to whom you apparently refer when you use the pronoun “I.” **You** are the thing that has conscious experiences and other mental states. Pick a character from the previous part of the activity. If they are correct about (i) when you began to exist and (ii) when you will cease to exist, essentially what **kind** of thing are **you**?