

Discussion Questions

Formulate the criterion of personal identity proposed by Locke:

Person A (at an earlier time) is numerically the same as person B (at the present time) if and only if _____

Formulate the criterion of personal identity proposed by Cohen during the second night of the Perry dialogue:

Person A (at an earlier time) is numerically the same as person B (at the present time) if and only if _____

How do the personal identity theories of Locke and Cohen differ? Can you think of a case where their criteria would yield different results?

Suppose that Mary commits the crime of murder, then suffers a head injury while being arrested, and has permanent amnesia, remembering nothing of her entire life prior to the head injury. Given his criterion for personal identity, would Locke say that she should, or should not, be held responsible for the murder?

Do you think there are different kinds of memory (give an example of each kind)? Which kind of memory does Locke's criterion require? Cohen's?

What is the difference between "philosophical behaviorism" and "methodological behaviorism"?