

## Assignments

Assigned in class 1 of week #2, due a day after class 2 of week #3 (in section).

Explain in your own words the Cartesian criterion of personal identity (one paragraph).

In Perry's dialogue, Miller defends the Cartesian criterion. As a part of that defence, he claims that when making judgements of personal identity, he relies on the principle "same body, same soul".

Why does Miller need this principle? Why can't he allow the possibility of numerous souls successively occupying the same body? (two paragraphs).

Explain Weirob's argument(s) that Miller cannot know that the "same body, same soul" principle is true. Would a "same body, same brain" principle be any easier to know? (two pages).

Weirob claims that immaterial souls, if they existed, would be totally irrelevant to questions of personal identity and survival. Is she right? Why or why not? Do her arguments, if successful, show that brains too are irrelevant to questions of personal identity? (two pages).

**Remember:** Give reasons for your answers. It might be worth looking over Jim Pryor's [\*Guidelines on Writing a Philosophy Paper\*](#) and the handout on arguments before you begin writing.

Roughly five double-spaced numbered pages. No late papers will be accepted unless you have a very good excuse, such as illness.

No footnotes, no quotations (although you may use bits of terminology from the readings or the handouts, as appropriate).

See the Assignments section of the syllabus for further guidance.