

Endurantism

- Believes objects are fully present at each moment.
- Objects persist by being wholly themselves in every moment of time.
- Rejects the idea of being stretched across time.
- Objects are spatial—composed of spatial ‘simples’ or individual objects.

Perdurantism

- Believes objects are made of different temporal parts or “time-slices” of a 4D-whole.
- Thinks of a person like a “worm” in spacetime — with each moment being just one *perceived part*.
- Accepts that past, present, and future all exist as parts of the 4D universe.

Leibniz’s Law

- States that if two things are identical, they must share all the same properties.
- Any difference in time, appearance, or parts challenges the idea of sameness over time.

Peter Van Inwagen

- Supports Endurantism
- Argues that ordinary objects like tables or ships are not “real” objects — they are just collections of parts we talk about as wholes.
- Introduces the “Super Gunk” argument: If everything is made of smaller and smaller parts with no real wholes, perdurance falls apart.
- Claims Perdurantism confuses parts for wholes.
- Sees dimensions are separated.

David Kellogg Lewis

- Supports Perdurantism.
- Believes Endurantism is flawed because it assumes one object can exist across time without being made of parts — which violates logic about identity.
- Lewis claims that spatial properties can have parts, then why not temporal?
- Claims that Endurance is confusing numerical and qualitative identity—equivocation.
- Sees dimensions as unified.

Short Response Need to Know

Q11: Will be about Peter Van Inwagen versus David Kellogg Lewis.

Q12: Will be about how Endurantism and Perdurantism avoid violating Leibniz’s Law.