



# Week Twelve Writing Assignment

exploring  
**Mind and Self**  
ID1§13, Fall 2005

For this week, the five of you who haven't yet will write peer review letters. I believe that's John, Dan T., Torrey, Megan, and Mara. (Please correct me if I'm wrong about that.)

The remaining ten will write a critical response to Mara's argument.

## Peer Review Letters

Please see week nine's assignment for instructions on writing a peer review letter. Review letters are due Wednesday, 11/16 at noon by email.

You will each review three papers. Please communicate amongst yourselves and assign reviewers to papers so that every paper author gets three sets of comments. Will someone please send me an email listing who's reviewing which papers?

I'd like to emphasize one item from Week Nine's guidelines that occurred to me after reading the letters *your* reviewers wrote to *you* last week. Make sure you summarize in your own words the author's thesis and a **sketch of their main line of argument**. Doing the latter is quite hard, and it's the reason I'm having you write three letters instead of the full five.

## Mara Response

Write a roughly two-page paper on the second half of Mara's argument. Think of this paper as an attempt to concisely encapsulate our discussion from last week in only two pages and then add your critical thoughts.

- In two paragraphs, explain Mara time, Megan time, and difference between them.
- In one paragraph, briefly sketch Mara's argument from the fact you can't change the past (in Mara time) to the claim that some action is not free.
- In the remaining space, critically examine the second half of Mara's argument. Here are some questions you might think about: What is (or what are) the crucial transition(s)? How does the notion of possibility (and related notions like could or must) figure in the argument? What's the notion of free will involved in the argument? Do actions of the characters in the movies causally impact what happens in the movie?

Please email me your paper by Monday, 11/14, at 5 p.m.