

Parmenides

Summary

Parmenides

- **A summary of Parmenides' views**
 - He makes some basic assumptions about **thought** and **existence**:
 - 1. X can be thought about if and only if X can exist.

And as in the words of Johnnie Cochran:

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2. If it does not exist,
then it cannot exist!

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Central thesis:

- **It is impossible to talk or think about what does not actually exist.**
 - From his main thesis, he arrives at other important views that defy common sense:

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- There is no such thing as: generation and destruction, motion, change, qualitative difference, plurality.
 - The argument for these views is that anyone who tries to assert that there really is such a thing as motion or change or what have you, is reduced to trying to talk about what does not exist.