

11.3 The Identity of Things (p. 279)

Don LePan interestingly speculates that the medieval mind may have thought differently about cases that we count as continuing identity. He considers the Anglo-Saxon phrase “Forst sceal freosan” [Frost shall freeze]. What can that mean? Perhaps they reasoned: Water is not frozen, so therefore water cannot freeze. What happens when the temperature falls is that one entity (frost) is *created* to take the place of another (water) which vanishes.¹

¹ *The Cognitive Revolution in Western Culture* (London: Macmillan, 1989), Vol. I, pp. 64–65.