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Is Kripke right about statements of identity between names?

Harris, Chadwin Mark

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Abstract

In this report I critically evaluate Kripke's rejection of the possibility of contingently true statements of identity between names. I extract his argument for this view from his book *Naming and Necessity* and his article "Identity and Necessity". I discuss debates in the relevant literature about Kripke's positions on naming, reference and modality, as these issues influence Kripke's conclusions about statements of identity between names. I provide my own arguments for rejecting Kripke's conclusions and accepting that there can be contingently true statements of identity between names.