

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2021  
Reading questions #1

Your answers should be uploaded into Blackboard before class on Thur, Jun 3rd.

1) Read Chapter 2 of *The Selfish Gene*. Does Dawkins think that the original replicators were alive? What can you infer about what he thinks the definition of life is? What do you think the difference between living and non-living things is?

2) Read Chapter 3 of *The Selfish Gene*. Wikipedia says, "In biology, a **gene** is a sequence of DNA or RNA which codes for a molecule that has a function." Is this what Dawkins means by gene? (Hint: no). What does he mean and how is his definition different?

3) After reading the chapters, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapters.