

Title	Total Recall
Director	Paul Verhoeven
Date	1990
Area	Self and Personal Identity
Theme	Personal Identity and memory
Plot Summary	Doug Quaid (Arnold Schwarzenegger), apparently a lowly construction worker, has dreams about Mars. He goes to a 'travel' agency that gives you memories of a holiday, choosing the Martian secret agent adventure. In the course of the memory implant it becomes apparent that he had in fact been a secret agent called Hauser on Mars. His memories had been wiped and he has been given false ones, becoming Quaid in the process. He goes to Mars to find out why his memory was raised. He ends up overthrowing the corrupt Martian administration, which he had been working for as his former self, and which had wiped his memories so he could go undercover as Quaid, return to Mars and infiltrate the Martian resistance. The film can be used to discuss the memory condition for personal identity.
Key Scenes	Quaid, captured by the Martian authorities, learns from a message recorded by his former self Hauser, that he has been set up by his own former self. Hauser has had his memories wiped and has become Quaid in order to get access to the resistance leader whose psychic abilities would have allowed him to spot Hauser. Now Hauser wants to be restored, which entails the destruction of Quaid's memories, of his whole personality. Here, personal identity is tied very closely to memory. Quaid has no memory of being Hauser and sees himself as an entirely different person. Moreover they are very different moral agents: Quaid is 'good' and Hauser is 'bad'.
Relevant Text	Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding, 'Of Identity and Diversity' (II. Xxvii)