

Definitions

People insist on definitions
 tell Me what it Is!
 What's the Color? What's the Taste? What's the ...
 All this adds up and up and up
 to being a box,
 within which a person is buried.
 The box decays into the Tao.

Future and Past are definitions
 as
 definitions come and go.
 Now
 We are always as we are
 as is the Tao.

past, Now, future: What time do you live within?

===== Thoughts =====

A definition could be based on the future, in which case it's a pattern. A definition of the past is a memory. In the “*now*” we are alive where all "definitions" are meaningless until the moment passes. The act of later adding value to the “*now*” would be called intro / retro - spection for the past and expectation for the future. Each of which is an organized method of "lying" to oneself.

An ability of humanity is storing memories in order to build up patterns. This summarizes down to the basis of being "I". We as living creatures constantly recompile our own terms of existence relative to terms of the past and future. Our behavior/actions are then directly related to how much of the future and past we mix together to form the “I”. An infant of 1 isn't an "I" or "Me" yet: how can the child be so when not yet having the time to compile the concept of self relative to a past / future combination? For this reason an infant is always one with the Tao.

Remembering the past and predicting the future are both powerful tools we possess. To a Taoist: life is defined as it happens not by the tools used in life.

===== Water =====

Does water predict where it will flow? Does it remember where it has been? Water just flows to its nature. In doing so, it shapes the world, flies as vapor, cascades in rain and is the basis of all life on Earth. Hence Taoists always refer to water in examples of how to be one with the Tao.