The Liar's Paradox

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Who Wants To Play True or False?: What is the Liar's Paradox?

This statement is false. Think more about that statement. This statement is false. Believe it or not, statements like these are paradoxes, because if this statement were really false, it would be true that the statement is false, making it false, and so on. This is known as the liar's paradox. There are many other ways to put this. For example, I am lying; everything I say is false; this sentence is a lie. Lets dive a bit deeper…

Blast from the Past: Liar's Paradox History

The first case of the liar's paradox was created by Epimenides the Cretan, a Greek poet and prophet, and he lived in the 6th century B.C.E. He lived in Athens at the time. The paradox went like this: Epimenides had believed that all Cretans (people who lived on the Greek island of Crete), were always liars about everything. As you can see from his name, Epimenides was Cretan, therefore calling himself a liar. But if he were really a liar, then his statement about all Cretans being liars would be false, therefore making him and all Cretans not liars. But if that were true, then he would tell the truth that all Cretans were liars. This was the first ever liar's paradox that evolved into the classic, "this statement is false."

One Answer, Endless Possibilities: Is it Possible to Solve?

"Can anyone solve this?" you might be asking right now. Well, the answer is simple. No. The sequence of it being true or false can't end. Think of this as a long division, where you get an answer of a repeating decimal. You have a remainder, you add a zero in the new ones place because it is a decimal, and then you subtract the divisor multiplied by another number, and you get the same number after the subtraction. I know some of you all won't get what I just said, but it is an example, because no matter how many times you subtract the divisor multiplied by another number, the remainder for that will always be the same, just like in this paradox. No matter how many times you do it, it will switch from the false statement being false, so it is true, so it is false, and that repeats for infinity. There is nothing we can do to stop it, unless we change the sentence, but then that would not be part of the paradox.

Don't Be Mad: My Opinion

This will upset some of you, but I think scientists are wasting their time trying to solve this. Without changing anything, there is no stopping infinity, so what is the point in solving this. This is something that is mind bending, and very confusing, but if I did it 100 times, nothing would change. Unless there is a solution in the future, then the answer to this is no, and I don't think that could ever change.
Thank you for reading. Stay safe!

Sources:

- Liar Paradox (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy) | https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/liar-paradox/
- Liar Paradox: A Longstanding Enigma (exploringyourmind.com) | https://exploringyourmind.com/liar-paradox/
- Resolving the Liar's Paradox (steve-patterson.com) | https://steve-patterson.com/resolving-the-liars-paradox/