

Philosophy 12: Introduction to Causal Reasoning

Answers to study questions for Lecture 3: “Determinism and Indeterminism”

1. Answer(s): (a)

The structure would appear deterministic because setting the value of CAUSAL FACTOR 1 always uniquely determines the value of the effect.

2. Answer(s): (b)

It would appear indeterministic because setting the value of CAUSAL FACTOR 2 does not always uniquely determine the value of the effect.

3. Answer(s): (a)

4. Answer(s): (b)

5. Answer(s): (b)

6. Answer(s): (a), (b) , (d)

Even if we don't observe all the causal assignments in a population in which everyone has a deterministic response structure and the population is response structure uniform because, all the causal assignments we do observe will cause the causation in that population to appear deterministic.

7. Answer(s): (c)

The population may not be response structure uniform but we just didn't spot it due to the particular choice made in making causal assignments. Each individual also need not have a deterministic response structure (the chance element involved in indeterministic causation may just have turned out the way as described).

8. Answer(s): (c)

- 9.

10. Answer(s): (a), (c)

Look carefully at the test pairs and you'll see that LOW FAT DIET is not an indeterministic cause of HEART DISEASE.