

**Phi 383—Free Will
Summer II 2022— Short Assignment 1**

Due date: July 11, Monday by the end of the day

Your Name:

Respond to questions 1, 2, and 3 below.

The image of the garden of forking paths (p. 7 of Kane's book) represents the idea that one has control over which, among many paths, one may take.

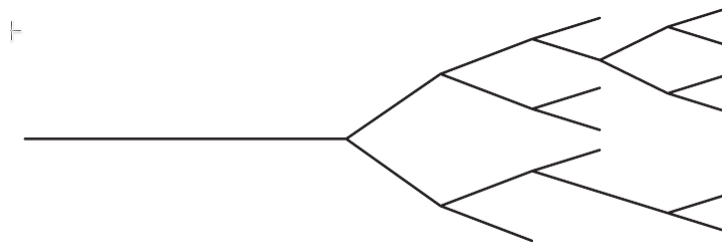


Figure 1.1 A Garden of Forking Paths

Question 1) How would you modify the 'garden of forking paths' figure to represent ideas (a), (b), and (c) below? (You can draw using a PDF reader annotation tool, or you can attach a picture of a handmade drawing to Blackboard.)

a) the idea that there is only one possible future.

Explain:

b) the idea that there are many possible futures but an agent has no ability to choose between them.

Explain.

c) fatalism

Explain.

Question 2) Would you represent determinism just like you represented (a), (b), or (c)? Or would you present determinism in some other way? If so, draw one. In any case, explain.

Explanation:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw or write an explanation. It occupies the lower half of the page.

Question 3) According to Kane, any deeper conception of freedom would be incoherent because it would require agents---such as Molly, mentioned on p. 16---to make irrational or senseless choices. Kane does not develop this argument much further.

Task a) explain this argument in more detail. Task b) assess the argument; that is, first, state whether you agree or disagree, and second, explain why.

