
Questioning as we learn: An introduction to critical thinking

Material for Higher Education students in Sierra Leone by INASP, UK



Provided by the Critical Thinking Taskforce (CTTF)
within the project AQHEd-SL

Unit 4 - Snippet 92

Causality

By working through the following pages, you will learn about the cause–effect relationship and why correlation does not mean the same as causality. Start with the short activity below.



Reflective activity – Causality

In everyday life, arguments (i.e. disputes) often start because someone blames someone else for causing an undesired outcome. “If you hadn't done that, we would be fine now.” Or we blame something, an event, an incident: “If the alarm clock had gone off, I wouldn't have overslept”, “if it hadn't been for the traffic jam, I wouldn't have been fired for being late”, etc. Can you recall a situation like the above, when either you were blamed or you blamed someone or something for an unpleasant outcome? Was the unpleasant outcome actually caused by whoever or whatever was blamed? Or do you think the real cause was someone/something else?

Note your recollections down. You also could share them with your fellow students.