

What is acquisition?

Acquisition is the period in conditioning during which a response is reinforced.

What is an antecedents?

Antecedents are events that precede a response.

What is an aversive stimulus?

An aversive stimulus is one that produces discomfort or displeasure.

What is avoidance learning?

Avoidance learning occurs when making a particular response delays or prevents the onset of a painful or unpleasant stimulus.

What is bait shyness?

Bait shyness is an unwillingness or hesitation on the part of animals to eat a particular food; often caused by the presence of a taste aversion.

What is classical conditioning?

Classical conditioning is a basic form of learning in which existing reflex responses come to be elicited by new stimuli.

What is cognitive learning?

Cognitive learning is higher-level learning involving thinking, knowing, understanding, and anticipation.

What is a cognitive map?

A cognitive map is a mental image of an area that guides movement from one location to another.

What is a conditioned aversion?

Conditioned aversion is a learned dislike or conditioned negative emotional response to some stimulus.

What is a conditioned emotional response?

A conditioned emotional response is an emotional response that has been linked to a previously non-emotional stimulus by classical conditioning.

What is a conditioned response?

A conditioned response is a reflex response linked to a new stimulus through learning.

What is a conditioned stimulus?

A conditioned stimulus is a previously neutral stimulus that acquires the capacity to evoke a response by being paired with an unconditioned stimulus.

What is a conditioning chamber?

A conditioning chamber is an apparatus designed for the study of operant conditioning. In animal studies, it is called a Skinner box.

What are consequences?

Consequences are the effects that follow a response.

What is continuous reinforcement?

Continuous reinforcement is one of the schedules of reinforcement in which every correct response is followed by a reinforcer.

What is discovery learning?

Discovery learning is that which is based on insight or understanding rather than on mechanical application of rules.

What is a discriminative stimuli?

A discriminative stimuli is one that precedes a rewarded and non-rewarded response in operant conditioning and that comes to exert some control over whether the response is made.

What is escape learning?

Escape learning is learning to make a response in order to end an aversive, painful or uncomfortable stimulus.

What is expectancy?

Expectancy is the anticipation concerning future events or relationships.

What is extinction?

Extinction is the gradual decrease in the frequency of a non-reinforced response.

What is feedback?

Feedback is information on the effects a response has had that is returned to the person performing the response.

What is a fixed interval schedule?

A fixed interval schedule of reinforcement is a pattern in which a reinforcer is given only when a correct response is made after a set amount of time has passed since the last reinforced response.

What is a fixed ratio schedule?

A fixed ratio schedule is a pattern in which a set number of correct responses must be made to get a reinforcer. For example, a reinforcer is given for every four correct responses.

What is generalization?

Generalization is the transfer of a learned response from one stimulus situation to other similar situations.

What is a generalized reinforcer?

A generalized reinforcer is a secondary reinforcer that has become independent of direct association with primary reinforcers.

What is higher order conditioning?

Higher order conditioning is classical conditioning in which a conditioned stimulus is used to reinforce further learning; that is, a CS is used as if it were a US.

What is the significance of a knowledge of results?

During learning, a knowledge of the results or feedback about the correctness of responses or other aspects of performance can aid in the learning.

What is latent learning?

Latent learning occurs without obvious reinforcement but remains unexpressed until reinforcement is provided.

What is the law of effect?

The law of effect suggests that responses that lead to desirable effects are repeated and those that produce undesirable results are not repeated.

What is a good definition of learning?

Learning is any relatively permanent change in behavior that can be attributed to conditioning, observation, or cognition.

What is learning psychologist?

A learning psychologist studies how learning occurs.

What is mild punishment?

Mild punishment is that which has a relatively weak effect, especially punishment that only temporarily slows a response.

What is the importance of models in learning?

A model is a person who serves as an example for observational learning or vicarious conditioning.

What is a negative instance?

A negative instance is an object or event that does not belong to the construct or cognitive concept class.

What is negative reinforcement?

Negative reinforcement occurs when a response is followed with an end to discomfort or with the removal of an uncomfortable state of affairs.

What is negative transfer?

Negative transfer occurs when the mastery of one task conflicts with learning or performing another task.

What is a neutral stimulus?

A neutral stimulus is a stimulus that fails to elicit a response.

What is non-reinforcement?

Non-reinforcement is the withholding of reinforcement after selected responses.
This is also called extinction training.

What is observational learning?

Observational learning is achieved by watching and imitating the actions of another or noting the consequences of those actions.

What is operant conditioning?

Operant conditioning is learning based on the consequences of responding.

What is operant extinction?

Operant extinction is the weakening or disappearance of a non-reinforced operant responses.

What is an operant reinforcer?

An operant reinforcer is any event that reliably increases the probability or frequency of responses it follows.

What is operant shaping?

Operant shaping is the gradually molding of responses by rewarding ever-closer approximations to a final desired pattern.

What is operant stimulus discrimination?

Operant stimulus discrimination means to make a response when stimuli previously associated with reward are present.

What is operant stimulus generalization?

Operant stimulus generalization is the tendency to respond to stimuli similar to those present when an operant response was acquired.

What is the orientation response?

The orientation response is the pattern of changes occurring throughout the body that prepares an organism to receive information from a particular stimulus.

What is partial reinforcement?

Partial reinforcement is the pattern in which only some responses are reinforced.

What is the partial reinforcement effect?

The partial reinforcement effect suggests that greater resistance to extinction is found in responses acquired during partial reinforcement.

What is a positive instance?

A positive instance in concept learning is an object or event that belongs to the construct or concept class.

What is positive reinforcement?

Positive reinforcement occurs when a response is followed with a reward or other positive event.

What is positive transfer?

Positive transfer occurs when mastery of one task aids learning or performing another.

What is the premack principle?

The premack principle suggests that any high-frequency response can be used to reinforce a low-frequency response.

What is a primary reinforcers?

Primary reinforcers are unlearned reinforcers; usually those that satisfy physiological needs.

What is a punisher?

A punisher is any event that decreases the probability or frequency of responses it follows.

What is punishment?

Punishment occurs when a response is followed with pain or an otherwise uncomfortable event.

What is reinforcement?

Reinforcement is any event that brings about learning or increases the probability that a particular response will occur.

What is respondent conditioning?

Respondent conditioning is another term for classical conditioning.

What is respondent reinforcement?

Respondent reinforcement occurs when the unconditioned stimulus closely follows the conditioned stimulus.

What is response chaining?

Response chaining is the assembly of a series of responses into a chain of actions leading to reinforcement.

What is a response cost?

A response cost occurs when a response leads to the removal of a positive reinforcer.

What is a response-contingent?

A response contingent occurs when a reinforcement, punishment, or other consequence is followed only after a certain response.

What is a schedule of reinforcement?

A schedule of reinforcement is a rule or plan for determining which responses will be reinforced.

What is a secondary reinforcer?

A secondary reinforcer is a learned reinforcer.

What is self-recording?

Self-recording is self-management based on keeping records of response frequencies.

What is severe punishment?

Severe punishment is intense punishment; by definition, punishment capable of suppressing a response for long periods.

What is shaping?

Shaping is the gradual molding of responses to a final desired pattern.

What is social reinforcement?

Social reinforcements are things like praise, attention, approval, and/or affection from others.

What is spontaneous recovery?

Spontaneous recovery is the reappearance of a learned response after its apparent extinction.

What is stimulus control?

Stimulus control is learning to pay attention to things that we identify in the environment that give us information about the effectiveness of our response subsequently controlling when and where the response will be made.

What is stimulus discrimination?

Stimulus discrimination is the learned ability to detect differences in stimuli, often produced by reinforcing responses to one stimulus but not another.

What is stimulus generalization?

Stimulus generalization is the tendency to respond to stimuli similar to, but not identical to, a conditioned stimulus.

What are successive approximations?

Successive approximations are a series of steps that change behavior to a desired response pattern.

What causes superstitious behavior?

Superstitious behavior is classically conditioned behavior that happens because it seems to produce a reinforcement, even though it is actually unnecessary.

What is a time out?

A time out is the removing of a person from a situation in which rewards for maladaptive behavior are available.

What is a token reinforcer?

A token reinforcer is a tangible secondary reinforcer such as money, gold stars, poker chips, and the like.

What is an unconditioned response?

An unconditioned response is an innate reflex response elicited by an unconditioned stimulus.

What is an unconditioned stimulus?

An unconditioned stimulus is a stimulus innately capable of eliciting a response.

What is the variable interval schedule?

The variable interval schedule is a schedule in which a reinforcer is given for the first correct response made after a varied amount of time has passed.

What is the variable ratio schedule?

The variable ratio schedule is a pattern in which a varied number of correct responses must be made to get a reinforcer.

What is vicarious classical conditioning?

Vicarious classical conditioning is conditioning brought about by observing another person react to a particular stimulus.