Classical Conditioning Worksheet

Directions: Six examples of classical conditioning are outlined in the following paragraphs. In each example, identify the unconditioned stimulus, unconditioned response, conditioned stimulus, and the conditioned response (1pt per question).

The Shower

When Miah gets back to the dormitory after jogging around the campus, he likes to take a quick shower before going to class. One morning while taking a shower he hears someone flushing a nearby toilet. Suddenly, extremely hot water comes rushing out of the showerhead and Miah experiences excruciating pain. After muttering a few obscenities, he continues showering. A few minutes later, Miah hears another toilet flush and he leaps out of the shower.

1. What is the unconditioned stimulus? ______________________________________________________
2. What is the unconditioned response? ______________________________________________________
3. What is the neutral stimulus that becomes the conditioned stimulus? ____________________________
4. What is the conditioned response? ______________________________________________________

Stop the Carousel I Want to Get Off

Molly was ecstatic when she learned her family was going to the state fair next weekend. When her family arrived at the state fair the temperature was in excess of 100°F, but Molly didn’t care because she was finally there. Molly stopped and watched some clowns performing next to the carousel. As she watched the silly antics of the clowns with the carousel music playing in the background, Molly got more and more sweaty and uncomfortable. Eventually, she fainted from the heat. After that trip to the state fair, every time Molly hears carousel musical she feels a little dizzy.

1. What is the unconditioned stimulus? ______________________________________________________
2. What is the unconditioned response? ______________________________________________________
3. What is the neutral stimulus that becomes the conditioned stimulus? ____________________________
4. What is the conditioned response? ______________________________________________________
When Good Tuna Goes Bad

Ryan was really looking forward to lunch because his mother had prepared a tuna salad sandwich. Unfortunately, the mayonnaise she used had been left out too long and was spoiled. Not long after eating the sandwich, Ryan felt sick and had to rush to the bathroom. Thereafter, the mere mention of a tuna sandwich would make Ryan nauseous.

1. What is the unconditioned stimulus?

2. What is the unconditioned response?

3. What is the neutral stimulus that becomes the conditioned stimulus?

4. What is the conditioned response?

Kitties and Clickers

Psychologists like to experiment on other organisms in their immediate environment, so Jenny decided to perform a few experiments on her kitty, Precious. Jenny had a little clicker that makes a loud ‘CLICK’ sound. She walked around the house, randomly clicking it for a while while Precious rested in the living room. Then Jenny sat down with Precious, and used the flash on her camera to flash a bright light at the same time she clicked. Precious blinked because of the flash, and looked mildly annoyed. Jenny repeated this process with her 4 times, then clicked the clicker, without using the flash. She still blinked!

1. What is the unconditioned stimulus?

2. What is the unconditioned response?

3. What is the neutral stimulus that becomes the conditioned stimulus?

4. What is the conditioned response?

Kitties and Snappers

After Sabrina heard about Jenny’s experiment, she wanted to try something with her own cat. Sabrina’s cat, Jasmine, tends to follow her around the house (unless she’s sleeping). When Sabrina feeds her, She puts her food dish on the floor. One day a few weeks ago, Sabrina tried a new procedure. After she put the food dish on the floor, She would snap her fingers, which was paired with her eating the food and licking her chops (yum!). One night about a week ago, a half hour or so before Sabrina normally feeds her, they were sitting on the couch. Sabrina decided to try snapping her fingers to see if there was any classical conditioning — Jasmine looked at Sabrina and licked her chops!

1. What is the unconditioned stimulus?

2. What is the unconditioned response?

3. What is the neutral stimulus that becomes the conditioned stimulus?

4. What is the conditioned response?
Operant Conditioning Worksheet

Directions: For each example below, decide whether the situation describes positive reinforcement (PR), negative reinforcement (NR), positive punishment (PP), or negative punishment (NP) (1pt per question).

___ 1. Johnny puts his quarter in the vending machine and gets a piece of candy.
___ 2. I put on sunscreen to avoid a sunburn.
___ 3. You stick your hand in a flame and you get a painful burn.
___ 4. Bobby fights with his sister and does not get to watch TV that night.
___ 5. A child misbehaves and gets a spanking.
___ 6. You come to work late regularly and you get demoted.
___ 7. You take an aspirin to eliminate a headache.
___ 8. You walk the dog to avoid having dog poop in the house.
___ 9. Nathan tells a good joke and his friends all laugh.
___ 10. You climb on a railing of a balcony and fall.
___ 11. Julie stays out past her curfew and now does not get to use the car for a week.
___ 12. Robert goes to work every day and gets a paycheck.
___ 13. Sue wears a bike helmet to avoid a head injury.
___ 14. Tim thinks he is sneaky and tries to text in class. He is caught and given a long, boring book to read.
___ 15. Emma smokes in school and gets hall privileges taken away.
___ 16. Sawa falls asleep under the sun, and gets a sunburn.
___ 17. A rat presses a lever and gets a shock.
___ 18. Joe puts on deodorant to avoid having body odor.
___ 19. Marco studies a lot and gets a good grade.
___ 20. The squirrel runs up a tree to escape a predator.
Schedules of Reinforcement Worksheet

**Directions:** For each example below, decide whether the situation describes fixed ratio (FR), variable ratio (VR), fixed interval (FI) or variable interval (VI) schedule of reinforcement situation. Note: the examples are randomly ordered, and there are not equal numbers of each schedule of reinforcement (1pt per question).

___ 1. Getting paid $10 for every 20 puzzles solved.
___ 2. Studying for a class that has surprise quizzes.
___ 3. Slot machines are based on this schedule.
___ 4. Speed traps on highways.
___ 5. Selling a product door to door.
___ 6. Getting the clothes out of the dryer once it buzzes.
___ 7. Going up a staircase to reach a landing with a nice view.
___ 8. Doing 20 push-ups to help stay fit.
___ 9. Getting a paycheck at the end of every 2-week pay period.
___ 10. Random drug testing.
___ 12. Calling your mechanic to see if your car is fixed.
___ 13. A child screams and cries in the store to get what he wants—sometimes it works.
___ 14. A surfer waiting for the perfect wave to ride in.
___ 15. Angelina gives Brad a kiss after the end of every lap he swims in the pool.