

## Conditioning Exercises

Learning  
A.P. Psychology

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

### PART I: CLASSICAL CONDITIONING

Check your understanding of classical conditioning by identifying the unconditioned stimulus (UCS), unconditioned response (UCR), conditioned stimulus (CS), and conditioned response (CR) in each example below.

1. Sam is 3 years old. One night his parents build a roaring fire in the family room fireplace. The fire spits out a large ember that hits Sam in the arm giving him a nasty burn that hurts a great deal for several hours. A week later, when Sam's parents light another fire in the fireplace, Sam becomes upset and fearful, crying and running from the room.

UCS: \_\_\_\_\_ CS: \_\_\_\_\_

UCR: \_\_\_\_\_ CR: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Melanie is driving to work on a rainy highway when she notices that the brake lights of all the cars just ahead of her have come on. She hits her brakes but watches in horror as her car glides into a four-car pileup. She's badly shaken up in the accident. A month later she's driving in the rain again and notices that she tenses up every time she sees brake lights come on ahead of her.

UCS: \_\_\_\_\_ CS: \_\_\_\_\_

UCR: \_\_\_\_\_ CR: \_\_\_\_\_

3. At age 24, Tyrone has recently developed an allergy to cat dander. When he's in the same room with a cat for more than 30 minutes, he starts wheezing. After a few such allergic reactions, he starts wheezing as soon as he sees a cat in the room.

UCS: \_\_\_\_\_ CS: \_\_\_\_\_

UCR: \_\_\_\_\_ CR: \_\_\_\_\_

4. In Europe, circus trainers used to use classical conditioning to train bears to dance. The trainers would chain the bear upright on a hot stove. They would then play a tune and begin to hear the surface of the stove. In turn, the bear would begin to shuffle its feet in order to cool them. Following a number of repetitions of this procedure, the bear learned to "dance" whenever it heard the song.

UCS: \_\_\_\_\_ CS: \_\_\_\_\_

UCR: \_\_\_\_\_ CR: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART II: CLASSICAL VS. OPERANT CONDITIONING**

For each of the statements below, determine whether it represents classical or operant conditioning.

1. Alfred got food poisoning from some chicken wings at a local restaurant. Now he says that he can no longer eat chicken wings.
2. The teacher gives the children one piece of candy each time they complete their homework.
3. When you were very young, your cousin took you to the beach and you got pulled under the water by the waves. This was a terrible experience for you; now you feel fear every time you go near the ocean.
4. Johnny is given a “time-out” for writing on the walls in crayon.
5. Yolanda’s husband compliments her for the hard work and effort she put into preparing dinner for the holiday.
6. Salim got into an accident on the freeway. Now he feels anxiety whenever he travels on that freeway.
7. Your grandmother used to wear a distinctive perfume. Now whenever you smell the scent of that perfume you think of her.
8. Because Marshall got straight A’s on his report card, his parents allow him to play on the computer for one extra hour.
9. Allison finds that whenever she listens to classical music her feelings of anxiety go away.
10. Luke took Beth out on their first date to a movie. The evening went very well and Beth gave Luke a kiss at the end of the evening.