

Schedules of Reinforcement

Instructions. Identify the reinforcement schedule illustrated in the following examples by placing the appropriate abbreviation in the blank next to the item. Use the following code:

Fixed Ratio (FR)

Variable Ratio (VR)

Fixed Interval (FI)

Variable Interval (VI)

- _____ 1. Getting a paycheck every other week
- _____ 2. Pop quizzes
- _____ 3. Slot machines at gambling casinos
- _____ 4. Calling the mechanic to find out if your car is fixed yet
- _____ 5. A factory worker who is paid on piece work
- _____ 6. Fly fishing: casting and reeling back several times before catching a fish
- _____ 7. Looking at your watch during a lecture until the end of the lecture
- _____ 8. A salesperson who gets paid on commission
- _____ 9. Calling a friend and getting a busy signal because he or she is frequently on the phone
- _____ 10. Getting a ride while hitch-hiking
- _____ 11. Frequent flyer program: rewards after flying X amount of miles
- _____ 12. Collecting bottles, cans, or other recyclables for cash
- _____ 13. An athlete's contract specifies salary increases to be renegotiated every three years
- _____ 14. Buying lottery tickets
- _____ 15. A person refrains from drugs for fear of random drug testing
- _____ 16. Checking the refrigerator to see if the JELL-O is ready
- _____ 17. Watching for shooting stars
- _____ 18. Checking the mail, assuming the mail carrier comes at the same time every day
- _____ 19. Playing Bingo
- _____ 20. A worker receives \$1 for every 100 envelopes stuffed and sealed

CLASSICAL CONDITIONING PRACTICE SHEET

1. A young child who reaches out to pet a barking dog is bitten by the dog which causes her to cry. Now any time the child hears a dog bark she whimpers.

UCS:

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2. A boy who is trained in karate practices by throwing fake punches at his sister. One day he accidentally hits her in the eye and hurts her. Now every time he raises his hand she flinches.

UCS:

UCR:

NS:

CS:

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3. As a young woman, Barbara was deeply in love with Jacob. Their favorite song was an Otis Redding song, "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay." Years later, as an aging Baby Boomer, she is driving around in her VW Beetle one day when this song plays on the radio. Suddenly, she feels a pleasant rush of warm happiness.

UCS:

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4. Sam is a four year old boy whose parents often hit or slap him when they are angry. When these painful events happen, he reacts with pain and fear. Lately, Sam's parents have been attempting to show more affection to their son and have found an unexpected difficulty: when they reach out their hands to touch or hug him, he looks terrified and draws away.

UCS:

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