

Past-paper walk-through

Classical Conditioning ■ 3.7

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q1
- 2025 Set 2 Q2

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(a) Identify the research method used in the study.

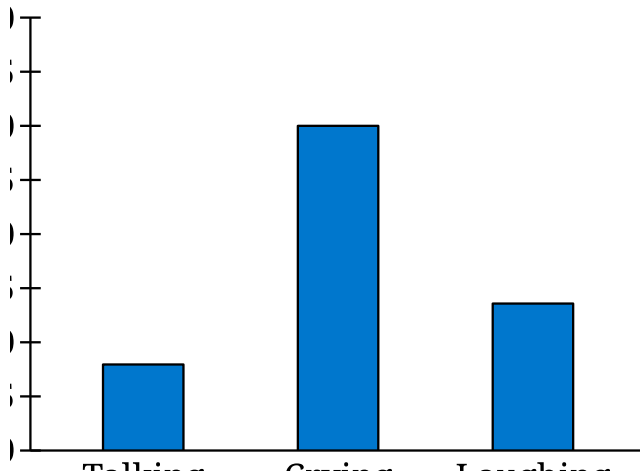
Question 1

Behavior	Dogs Looking	Dogs Making Contact	Dogs Approaching	Dogs Vocalizing	Total Person-Oriented Behaviors
Baseline	5	3	2	2	12
Owner crying	20	15	6	1	42
Owner laughing	11	2	2	0	15
Stranger crying	24	11	8	3	46

Question 1

Behavior	Dogs Looking	Dogs Making Contact	Dogs Approaching	Dogs Vocalizing	Total Person- Oriented Behaviors
Stranger laughing	11	7	2	0	20
Totals	71	38	20	6	135

Question 1



Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(b) State the operational definition of person-oriented dog behaviors.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(c) Describe what the mean of the person-oriented behaviors indicates for the laughing trials as compared to the talking trials.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(d) Identify at least one ethical guideline applied by the researchers.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(e) Explain the extent to which the research findings may or may not be generalizable using specific and relevant evidence from the study.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

Article Analysis Question (AAQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C, D, E, F.

(f) Explain how at least one of the research findings supports or refutes the idea that dogs' expressions of the person-oriented behaviors demonstrate stimulus discrimination in operant conditioning.

Introduction Dogs often comfort their owners by making visual and/or physical contact when the owners cry or by providing help to their owners when they are sick. The study examined whether a dog's reactions to a person's emotions differ based on the dog's prior experience with the person (owner versus stranger).

Participants Researchers recruited community members with nonaggressive dogs via email. Of those recruited, 16 dog and owner pairs participated in this study. The owners ranged in age from 25 to 60 years (mean age = 47.06 years; standard deviation = 11.89 years), and the dogs ranged in age from 2 years to 13 years

Question 1

(mean age = 6.87 years; standard deviation = 3.35 years). The length of time the owners had their dogs before the study began ranged from 2 months to 13 years (mean = 5.70 years; standard deviation = 3.69 years). The study included the following dog breeds, with the number of each in parentheses: Lab mix (3), black Lab (1), terrier mix (2), corgi or corgi mix (3), French bulldog (1), Jack Russell terrier (1), miniature pinscher (1), miniature schnauzer (1), Shih Tzu (2), and wirehaired pointing griffon (1). Method Each dog owner received and signed a consent form. Researchers tested each dog at their owner's house, and the dogs received dog biscuits as compensation for participation in the study. All dog and owner pairs participated in all four trials of the study. This is called a "withinsubjects" design, which means that researchers observe each participant in every condition of the study so that a participant can be directly compared to themselves across conditions. The "within-subjects" design serves the same purpose as random assignment. 4

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify the research method used in the study. (1 point). Accurately identifies the research method used in the study Responses that earn this point: The response accurately identifies the research method used in the study as an experiment.

Solution 1

(b)

Mark scheme

- State the operational definition of person-oriented dog behaviors. (1 point).
States a measurable or quantifiable definition of the identified variable as used in the study
Responses that earn this point: The response states that person-oriented dog behaviors are defined as the number of times a dog looked at a person, contacted a person, approached a person, and/or vocalized at a person in the study.; The response states researchers measured person- oriented dog behaviors as the dog looking at, making contact, approaching, or vocalizing at the people.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Describe what the mean of the person-oriented behaviors indicates for the laughing trials as compared to the talking trials. (1 point). Accurately describes what the identified statistic indicates in relation to the study Responses that earn this point: The response accurately describes the mean of the person- oriented behaviors for the laughing trials as being larger than the mean of the talking trials, which indicates that the dogs showed more person-oriented behaviors when the people laughed than when they were just talking.; The response accurately describes the means for the laughing and talking trials as not significantly different from each other, meaning that the difference in means between the talking trial and the laughing trial was likely due to chance or not due to the emotion.

Solution 1

(d)

Mark scheme

- Identify at least one ethical guideline applied by the researchers. (1 point).
Accurately identifies at least one ethical guideline applied by researchers in the study
Responses that earn this point: The response identifies informed consent as an ethical guideline applied by researchers in the study.; The response identifies doing no unnecessary harm to the animals as an ethical guideline applied by the researchers in the study.

Solution 1

(e) Mark scheme

- Explain the extent to which the research findings may or may not be generalizable using specific and relevant evidence from the study. (1 point). Explains the extent to which the study is generalizable using specific and relevant evidence referencing participant variables from the study Responses that earn this point: The response proposes a claim about generalizability that references a population (the “larger population” or a population relevant to the study’s participants) to explain the extent of the generalizability of the study.; The response proposes that the study is or is not generalizable to the population relevant to the study because of specific and relevant evidence derived from the participant information from the study.

Solution 1

(f) Mark scheme

- Explain how at least one of the research findings supports or refutes the idea that dogs' expressions of the person-oriented behaviors demonstrate stimulus discrimination in operant conditioning. Introduction Dogs often comfort their owners by making visual and/or physical contact when the owners cry or by providing help to their owners when they are sick. The study examined whether a dog's reactions to a person's emotions differ based on the dog's prior experience with the person (owner versus stranger). Participants Researchers recruited community members with nonaggressive dogs via email. Of those recruited, 16 dog and owner pairs participated in this study. The owners ranged in age from 25 to 60 years (mean age = 47.06 years; standard deviation = 11.89 years), and the

Solution 1

dogs ranged in age from 2 years to 13 years (mean age = 6.87 years; standard deviation = 3.35 years). The length of time the owners had their dogs before the study began ranged from 2 months to 13 years (mean = 5.70 years; standard deviation = 3.69 years). The study included the following dog breeds, with the number of each in parentheses: Lab mix (3), black Lab (1), terrier mix (2), corgi or corgi mix (3), French bulldog (1), Jack Russell terrier (1), miniature pinscher (1), miniature schnauzer (1), Shih Tzu (2), and wirehaired pointing griffon (1).

Method Each dog owner received and signed a consent form. Researchers tested each dog at their owner's house, and the dogs received dog biscuits as compensation for participation in the study. All dog and owner pairs participated in all four trials of the study. This is called a "withinsubjects" design, which means that researchers observe each participant in every condition of the study so that a participant can be directly compared to themselves across conditions. The

Solution 1

“within-subjects” design serves the same purpose as random assignment. 4 (1 point). Uses the results of the study but does not explain how the psychological concept or hypothesis is supported or refuted OR Explains that the psychological concept or hypothesis is supported or refuted but does not use any results from the study 2 points Uses a specific result from the study to explain how the results support or refute the psychological concept or hypothesis presented in the questio

Question 2

2025 Set 2 ■ Q2

Evidence-Based Question (EBQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C.

(a) Propose a specific and defensible claim based in psychological science that responds to the question.

Question 2

Condition	% Responding by the end of the Emergency	Time in Seconds
2 (Participant and Victim)	85	52
3 (Participant, Victim, and 1 Other)	62	93
6 (Participant, Victim, and 4 Others)	31	166

Question 2

2025 Set 2 ■ Q2

Evidence-Based Question (EBQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C.

(b) i. Support your claim using at least one piece of specific and relevant evidence from one of the sources. ii. Explain how the evidence from Part B (i) supports your claim using a psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding learned in

Question 2

2025 Set 2 ■ Q2

Evidence-Based Question (EBQ). Read the source provided with this question, then answer parts A, B, C.

(c) i. Support your claim using an additional piece of specific and relevant evidence from a different source than the one that was used in Part B (i). ii. Explain how the evidence from Part C (i) supports your claim using a different psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding learned in than the one that was used in Part B (ii).

Source 1 Introduction In this study, researchers investigated environmental factors that may influence whether a person will help in an emergency.

Participants Students in introductory psychology courses at a university in New York took part in the experiment as part of a class requirement. Fifty-nine of the participants were women and 13 of the participants were men. Researchers did not report race/ethnicity data for participants in the study.^{1 7}

Solution 2

(a)

Mark scheme

- Propose a specific and defensible claim based in psychological science that responds to the question. (1 point). Proposes a claim that is relevant to the question Responses that earn this point: The response proposes specific effects on the question.; The response proposes a claim that suggests a positive or negative effect on the question.; The response proposes recommendations for the application of the question.

Solution 2

(b)

Mark scheme

- i. Support your claim using at least one piece of specific and relevant evidence from one of the sources. ii. Explain how the evidence from Part B (i) supports your claim using a psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding learned in (1 point). Explains the relationship between the evidence and the claim 2 points Applies a different psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding to explain how the evidence supports the claim. The psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding is not the same one used in Part B (ii).

Solution 2

(c) Mark scheme

- i. Support your claim using an additional piece of specific and relevant evidence from a different source than the one that was used in Part B (i). ii. Explain how the evidence from Part C (i) supports your claim using a different psychological perspective, theory, concept, or research finding learned in than the one that was used in Part B (ii).
- Source 1 Introduction In this study, researchers investigated environmental factors that may influence whether a person will help in an emergency. Participants Students in introductory psychology courses at a university in New York took part in the experiment as part of a class requirement. Fifty-nine of the participants were women and 13 of the participants were men. Researchers did not report race/ethnicity data for participants in the study.1 7 (1

Solution 2

point). Uses a different piece of correctly cited, specific, accurate, and relevant evidence from either of the other two provided sources to support the claim
Responses that earn this point: The response provides specific, accurate, and correctly cited evidence relevant to the claim that is from a different source than the one used in Part B.