

# 3 Learning: three ways behaviour changes

## – Part 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Vocabulary 词汇

Write each word three times. 把每个单词抄写三遍。

| English                | 中文      | Write it 3 times (English) |
|------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| classical conditioning | 经典条件作用  | _____                      |
| operant conditioning   | 操作性条件作用 | _____                      |
| Reinforcement          | 强化      | _____                      |
| punishment             | 惩罚      | _____                      |
| Observational learning | 观察学习    | _____                      |

### Recall

- You know a dog can learn to come when a tin is opened.
- You have kept doing something because it worked last time.
- You have learned a skill by copying someone before trying it yourself.

### New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

#### ■ 1 Learning by association

In **classical conditioning** 经典条件作用 a neutral signal comes to produce a response because it reliably precedes something that already produces it. The learner does nothing; the association is between two events in the world.

*Worked example.* A tin opener sounds just before food arrives; after enough repetitions the dog salivates at the sound alone.

## ■ 2 Learning by consequence

In **operant conditioning** 操作性条件作用 behaviour changes because of what follows it. **Reinforcement** 强化 makes a behaviour more likely and **punishment** 惩罚 makes it less likely - defined by their effect, not by whether they are pleasant.

*Worked example.* A child tidies up and is praised; the tidying becomes more frequent. Praise counts as reinforcement because the behaviour rose.

## ■ 3 Learning by watching

**Observational learning** 观察学习 means acquiring a behaviour by watching someone else, without performing it or being reinforced. This is why a behaviour can appear fully formed the first time it is tried.

*Worked example.* A learner who has watched an experienced cook chop an onion holds the knife correctly on the first attempt.

**Watch out:** Reinforcement and punishment are defined by what happens to the *behaviour*, not by whether the consequence feels good. A scolding that increases the behaviour is reinforcement, not punishment.

## Practice

2.1 Define classical conditioning. [2]

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2.2 Define operant conditioning. [2]

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2.3 State how reinforcement and punishment are distinguished. [2]

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2.4 A child is scolded for interrupting and interrupts more often. State which term applies and why. [2]

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**2.5** Define observational learning.

[1]

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**2.6** Explain why observational learning is difficult to explain with reinforcement alone.[2]

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