Learning Practice Exam

1. The most crucial ingredient in all learning is:
   A. shaping.
   B. modeling.
   C. maturation.
   D. experience.
   E. continuous reinforcement.

2. By directly experiencing a thunderstorm, we learn that a flash of lightning signals an impending crash of thunder. This best illustrates:
   A. operant conditioning.
   B. spontaneous recovery.
   C. observational learning.
   D. classical conditioning.
   E. generalization.

3. Which of the following is an unconditioned response?
   A. salivating at the sight of a lemon
   B. raising your hand to ask a question
   C. jerking your hand off a very hot stove
   D. walking into a restaurant to eat

4. In Pavlov's experiments, the taste of food triggered salivation in a dog. The food in the dog's mouth was the:
   A. UCS.
   B. UCR.
   C. CS.
   D. CR.

5. The initial stage of classical conditioning during which a response to a neutral stimulus is established and gradually strengthened is called:
   A. acquisition.
   B. association.
   C. observational learning.
   D. shaping.

6. When a CS is not followed by a UCS, the subsequent fading of a CR is called:
   A. discrimination.
   B. generalization.
   C. delayed reinforcement.
   D. extinction.

7. The reappearance, after a time lapse, of an extinguished CR is called:
   A. generalization.
   B. spontaneous recovery.
   C. secondary reinforcement.
   D. latent learning.
   E. shaping.

8. Long after being bitten by a stray dog, Allen found that his fear of dogs seemed to have disappeared. To his surprise, however, when he was recently confronted by a stray dog, he experienced a sudden twinge of anxiety. This sudden anxiety best illustrates:
   A. delayed reinforcement.
   B. latent learning.
   C. spontaneous recovery.
   D. shaping.

9. Two-year-old Philip was recently clawed by the neighbor's cat. Philip's newly developed tendency to fear all small animals demonstrates the process of:
   A. generalization.
   B. latent learning.
   C. shaping.
   D. spontaneous recovery.
   E. secondary reinforcement.

10. After receiving a painful shot from a female nurse in a white uniform, 3-year-old Vaclav experiences fear of any woman wearing a white dress. Vaclav's reaction best illustrates:
    A. latent learning.
    B. extinction.
    C. shaping.
    D. generalization.
    E. spontaneous recovery.

11. An allergy attack triggered by the sight of plastic flowers best illustrates the process of:
    A. generalization.
    B. latent learning.
    C. delayed reinforcement.
    D. the overjustification effect.
    E. spontaneous recovery.

12. Some of Pavlov's dogs learned to salivate to the sound of one particular tone and not to other tones. This illustrates the process of:
    A. shaping.
    B. latent learning.
    C. secondary reinforcement.
    D. discrimination.
    E. extinction.

13. After recovering from a serious bicycle accident, Gina was afraid to ride a bicycle but not a motorcycle. Gina's pattern of fear best illustrates:
    A. shaping.
    B. secondary reinforcement.
    C. spontaneous recovery.
    D. discrimination.
    E. negative reinforcement.
14. Research on the role of cognitive processes in learning indicates that the strength of a conditioned response depends primarily on the ________ of the CS-UCS association.
   A. frequency
   B. distinctiveness
   C. duration
   D. predictability

15. Garcia and Koelling's findings on taste aversion in rats challenged the previously accepted principle that:
   A. positive reinforcement is more effective than punishment in changing behavior.
   B. the UCS must immediately follow the CS for conditioning to occur.
   C. learning is influenced by the frequency of association between the CS and UCS.
   D. learning occurs only if a response is followed by reinforcement.

16. For drug addicts, the location in which a drug is frequently taken, for instance, a particular room, is likely to become a:
   A. primary reinforcer.
   B. cognitive map.
   C. UCS.
   D. CS.

17. Learning associations between one's own personal actions and resulting events is most relevant to the process of:
   A. classical conditioning.
   B. latent learning.
   C. observational learning.
   D. operant conditioning.
   E. habituation.

18. Because Andrew was spanked on several occasions for biting electric cords, he no longer does so. Andrew's behavior change best illustrates the value of:
   A. negative reinforcement.
   B. classical conditioning.
   C. secondary conditioning.
   D. operant conditioning.
   E. observational learning.

19. The process of reinforcing successively closer approximations to a desired behavior is called:
   A. shaping.
   B. partial reinforcement.
   C. generalization.
   D. secondary reinforcement.
   E. modeling.

20. In order to teach an animal to perform a complex sequence of behaviors, animal trainers are most likely to use a procedure known as:
   A. classical conditioning.
   B. delayed reinforcement.
   C. latent learning.
   D. generalization.
   E. shaping.

21. Teachers who effectively shape their students' study habits are most likely to:
   A. avoid the use of negative reinforcement to motivate effective study.
   B. reinforce effective study with primary rather than secondary reinforcers.
   C. reinforce effective study on a fixed-interval schedule.
   D. reinforce even minor improvements in students' study skills.

22. Because Carol would always pick up her newborn daughter when she began to cry, her daughter is now a real crybaby. In this case, picking up the infant served as a(n) ________ for crying.
   A. negative reinforcer
   B. conditioned stimulus
   C. positive reinforcer
   D. unconditioned stimulus

23. A negative reinforcer tends to ________ the behavior it follows.
   A. strengthen
   B. eliminate
   C. suppress but not eliminate
   D. have unpredictable effects on

24. Julie drinks alcohol in the early evening because it relieves her anxiety. Her drinking is likely to continue because it is followed by a ________ reinforcer.
   A. secondary
   B. negative
   C. partial
   D. positive

25. Both the receipt of monetary rewards and the suspension of monetary fines most clearly serve as ________ reinforcers.
   A. partial
   B. primary
   C. negative
   D. secondary
   E. continuous

26. Money is to food as ________ is to ________.
   A. delayed reinforcer; immediate reinforcer
   B. secondary reinforcer; primary reinforcer
   C. discrimination; generalization
   D. partial reinforcement; continuous reinforcement
   E. operant conditioning; classical conditioning
27. As a hungry dog runs ever closer toward a bowl of food, the less likely it is to stop running until it reaches the food. This best illustrates that the dog’s running behavior is most strongly affected by _______ reinforcers.
A. secondary
B. immediate
C. partial
D. negative

28. A trainer wants to train a parrot to peck a key to obtain food. If she wants the parrot to learn this trick quickly and also to be resistant to extinction, she should use _______ reinforcement until the response is mastered and then follow with a period of _______ reinforcement.
A. positive; negative
B. negative; positive
C. continuous; partial
D. partial; continuous

29. When the Zantays eat dinner, the family dog begs for food. Sometimes, but not often, the children give in to the dog’s begging and pass their pet a tasty morsel. You would be most justified in predicting that:
A. the dog is eventually going to stop begging for food.
B. as soon as the children stop reinforcing the dog’s begging, it will stop begging.
C. the dog is going to be quite persistent in its begging in the future.
D. the dog will always beg for food even if the Zantays never reinforce the begging.

30. People paid on a piecework basis are reinforced on a _______ schedule.
A. fixed-interval
B. variable-interval
C. fixed-ratio
D. variable-ratio

31. Jennifer proofreads manuscripts for a publisher and is paid $10 for every three pages she reads. Jennifer is reinforced on a _______ schedule.
A. fixed-interval
B. fixed-ratio
C. variable-interval
D. variable-ratio

32. A variable-ratio schedule of reinforcement is one in which a response is reinforced only after a(n):
A. specified time period has elapsed.
B. unpredictable time period has elapsed.
C. specified number of responses have been made.
D. unpredictable number of responses have been made.

33. Which of the following behaviors is typically reinforced on a variable-ratio schedule?
A. studying for unexpected quizzes
B. inserting coins into a slot machine
C. paying a cashier for a candy bar
D. checking the mailbox to see if the mail has arrived

34. Basketball players are typically reinforced with game points for their shots on a _______ schedule.
A. fixed-interval
B. fixed-ratio
C. variable-interval
D. variable-ratio

35. A variable-interval schedule of reinforcement is one in which a response is reinforced only after a(n):
A. specified time period has elapsed.
B. unpredictable time period has elapsed.
C. specified number of responses has been made.
D. unpredictable number of responses has been made.

36. Masako was hit with a baseball bat last week during practice and now refuses to play. This behavior best illustrates the effects of:
A. latent learning.
B. punishment.
C. primary reinforcers.
D. delayed reinforcers.
E. negative reinforcers.

37. Most psychologists think that the use of punishment is:
A. ineffective in even temporarily restraining unwanted behavior.
B. more effective than negative reinforcers in shaping behavior.
C. the opposite of positive reinforcers and thus is its psychological equivalent in terms of changing behavior.
D. less effective than positive reinforcers in promoting desirable behavior.

38. Some psychologists believe that rats develop mental representations of mazes they have explored. These representations have been called:
A. perceptual sets.
B. successive approximations.
C. discriminative surveys.
D. cognitive maps.
E. geographic heuristics.

39. What is the greatest danger associated with using small bribes to entice children to read good books?
A. latent learning
B. delayed reinforcement
C. the overjustification effect
D. respondent behavior
E. discrimination
40. Pigeons learn to flap their wings to avoid shock _______ easily than they learn to peck a disk to avoid shock. They learn to flap their wings to obtain food _______ easily than they learn to peck a disk to obtain food.
A. more; more  
B. less; less  
C. more; less  
D. more; less  
E. less; more

41. B. F. Skinner discounted the role of _______ in learning.
A. negative reinforcement  
B. punishment  
C. cognitive processes  
D. secondary reinforcement  
E. effective parenting

42. Mr. Schlenker has improved worker productivity at his furniture manufacturing plant by occasionally sending notes of appreciation to his hard-working employees. Mr. Schlenker has improved productivity by means of:
A. latent learning.  
B. classical conditioning.  
C. modeling.  
D. operant conditioning.

43. Although 5-year-old Susy is not really thirsty, she frequently begins whining for a glass of water about 10 minutes after being put to bed. Her parents would be best advised to:
A. simply ignore her complaining.  
B. provide her with a very small drink of water.  
C. close her bedroom door to indicate that they disapprove of her whining.  
D. read her a short story so she forgets about wanting a drink.

44. In order to modify your own behavior using operant conditioning principles, you should:
A. monitor and record the actual frequency of the operant behavior you wish to promote.  
B. formulate goals for behavior change that are a bit more ambitious than what you can actually accomplish.  
C. carefully observe and imitate the specific behaviors practiced by others who have successfully achieved your goals.  
D. systematically reinforce the operant behavior you wish to promote with delayed rather than immediate reinforcers.

45. The tendency for children to imitate behaviors seen on television best illustrates the importance of:
A. shaping.  
B. modeling.  
C. respondent behavior.  
D. immediate reinforcement.  
E. spontaneous recovery.

46. Reinforcement is to operant conditioning as _______ is to observational learning.
A. prosocial behavior  
B. punishment  
C. respondent behavior  
D. modeling

47. Pavlov is to classical conditioning as _______ is to _______.
A. Bandura; observational learning  
B. Skinner; latent learning  
C. Thorndike; modeling  
D. Garcia; computer-assisted instruction

48. Bandura's experiments indicate that _______ is important in the process of learning.
A. shaping  
B. generalization  
C. modeling  
D. respondent behavior  
E. secondary reinforcement

49. Mr. Zandee has stopped smoking because he wants to model healthy behavior patterns for his children. Mr. Zandee is apparently aware of the importance of _______ in his children's development.
A. shaping  
B. observational learning  
C. generalization  
D. delayed reinforcement  
E. spontaneous recovery

50. European Christians who risked their lives to rescue Jews from the Nazis and civil rights activists of the 1960s had parents who:
A. consistently used reinforcement in combination with punishment to shape their children's moral behavior.  
B. consistently used permissive rather than authoritarian child-rearing practices.  
C. consistently used psychological punishment rather than physical punishment in shaping their children's behavior.  
D. modeled a strong moral or humanitarian concern.  
E. consistently explained to their children the harsh consequences of immoral behavior.
Answer Key for Test "learning practice.tst", 12/16/2002
1  D
2  D
3  C
4  A
5  A
6  D
7  B
8  C
9  A
10 D
11 A
12 D
13 D
14 D
15 B
16 D
17 D
18 D
19 A
20 E
21 D
22 C
23 A
24 B
25 D
26 B
27 B
28 C
29 C
30 C
31 B
32 D
33 B
34 D
35 B
36 B
37 D
38 D
39 C
40 C
41 C
42 D
43 A
44 A
45 B
46 D
47 A
48 C
49 B
50 D