

Learning Approaches – Questions by Topic

Q1.

Outline Skinner's research into reinforcement.

(Total 3 marks)

Q2.

Explain **two** strengths of the behaviourist approach in psychology.

(Total 4 marks)

Q3.

A psychology student made the following observation to his teacher.

'The behaviourist approach has been presented to us as helpful in understanding human behaviour. However, most of the data have been obtained from research using animals.'

Briefly discuss the value of behaviourism in helping us to understand human behaviour.

(Total 5 marks)

Q4.

What do social learning theorists mean by *imitation*?

(Total 1 mark)

Q5.

Discuss **two** limitations of social learning theory.

(Total 6 marks)

Q6.

A young woman says: "When I was 5 years old, I was at a party and a balloon burst with a loud bang in my face. Even after all these years, I cannot bear to go into a room where there are balloons. They terrify me!"

Use your knowledge of classical conditioning to explain why the young woman is terrified of balloons.

(Total 3 marks)

Q7.

Mr Benson is a primary school teacher. He has noticed that some of the children in his class push to the front of the queue when it is time to leave the classroom.

Suggest how Mr Benson might use vicarious reinforcement to alter the behaviour of these children. Explain your answer with reference to social learning theory.

(Total 3 marks)

Q8.

Outline Pavlov's research into classical conditioning and describe how classical conditioning might explain a child's fear of school.

(Total 8 marks)

Q9.

Samira and John are talking.

Samira says, 'Look at your little sister. She's pretending she's got a mobile phone like yours and is making a call.'

John replies, 'Yes. But when she saw me get told off for using my Dad's favourite pen, she never copied me doing that!'

Describe and evaluate social learning theory. Refer to the conversation above as part of your answer.

(Total 12 marks)

Q10.

Outline the behaviourist approach. Compare the behaviourist approach with the biological approach.

(Total 16 marks)

Q11.

Discuss the contribution of behaviourist psychologists such as Pavlov and Skinner to our understanding of human behaviour.

(Total 16 marks)