

Review Sheet Test 1: The Definition of Psychology, Philosophy of Behaviorism, Operant Conditioning

Test will be multiple-choice and true-false

Interesting Studies in Psychology (I will ask True-False for these)

- Handout on my website with all of these.

The Definition of Psychology

- What is difficult to study scientifically, and why?
 - o Psychology's questionable reputation as a science
- Empiricism
- How do the Behaviorists define Psychology?

The Philosophy of Behaviorism

- 3 key Ideas
- The Yanomamo – why did we learn about them?
- Watson's Quote and how it reflects the ideas of Behaviorism
 - o Know specifically Watson's goal to create a PHOBIA (people thought phobias were inborn)
- Skinner's Beyond Freedom and Dignity
 - o What does he mean by "Beyond Freedom?"
 - o What does he mean by "Beyond Dignity?"
 - o What was Skinner's solution to all of the world's problems?
- Skinner's Walden II
 - o What was this about?

Operant Conditioning

- Skinner boxes
- Thorndike – Law of Effect – experiment with cat
- Shaping (remember, how do you get me to teach on one side of the room?)
- extinction
- **Types of Operant Conditioning**
 - o positive reinforcement
 - o negative reinforcement
 - o positive punishment
 - o negative punishment
- I give you a specific example, you tell me what type of operant conditioning
- **Punishment**
 - o B.F. Skinner's views on punishment versus positive reinforcement
 - Side effects of punishment
 - o How to move to a world based on positive reinforcement
 - o Guidelines for effective use of punishment
- **Schedules of Reinforcement**
 - o fixed ratio
 - o variable ratio
 - o fixed interval
 - o variable interval
 - o What is more effective, partial or continuous reinforcement? Why?
 - o Which schedule out of the 4 schedules is most effective in getting lots of responses and fast responding?
 - o Know the response patterns of each schedule
 - o Know some of the examples of schedules we talked about in class and which schedule they demonstrate – for example, slot machines / gambling uses variable ratio.