

## TYPES of STIMULUS

original

A *stimulus* produces a response in an organism. Examples of responses range from pain and an “ouch” when a needle pricks our finger to the desire to sleep when we are tired.

**Unconditioned Stimulus:** An *unconditioned stimulus* is a natural event that produces a natural response—the meat scent producing salivation in the dog.

**Conditioned Stimulus:** A *conditioned stimulus* is an artificial event to which the test subject becomes conditioned over time and repetition.—the ringing bell alone eventually causing the dog’s mouth to water.

## TYPES of RESPONSE

A *response* is an organism’s reaction to a stimulus—eating when we are hungry or fleeing when we feel threatened.

**Unconditioned Response:** An *unconditioned response* is a natural (instinctive) reaction to a natural event—salivation when the nose senses the meat scent.

**Conditioned Response:** A *conditioned response* is a learned (non-instinctive) reaction to a stimulus acquired through training or conditioning: in the dog’s case, being trained and learning to salivate when the ringing bell is heard.

Pavlov’s research led him to the brain’s cerebral cortex which acts as a translator between the animal and its environment—in other words, the cerebral cortex stores and controls the stimulus-response relationships the animal forms with its surroundings. Further experiments revealed that, through repetition, conditioned responses or reflexes become part of the cerebral cortex’s “programming.”

## STEPS to CONDITIONING

Classically conditioning a subject involves four general steps: getting the subject’s attention, introducing the unconditioned and conditioned stimulus together, monitoring the subject’s response, and repeating the process until the conditioning is acquired.

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EX of stimulus

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Reason why it works

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①  
②  
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What is a stimulus?

What are types?

EX of uncond S  
EX of cond S

What is response?

What are types?

EX. of uncond R  
EX of cond. response

Steps to conditioning