

## Classical Conditioning Examples

These are not required (I won't check them for completion). However, the skill learned here will be a big help on the quiz. I'd like you to complete as many as you can and then go over them in your group on the first day of the week.

For each example below, what is the US, UR, CS, and CR? It may help to identify the US and UR first. Remember the US automatically elicits the UR. So start by asking yourself in each case: what automatically elicits what? Then it should be easier to identify the CS. Remember the CS was neutral at first before conditioning (didn't elicit any response). Remember the CR is the same as the UR or at least a milder version of it.

1. After repeatedly pairing the appearance of a nurse in a white uniform with the painful experience of getting a vaccination, the patient will react every time they see a nurse in a white uniform enter the room

US \_\_\_\_\_ UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_ CR \_\_\_\_\_

2. College students have learned that if they flush a toilet while someone is taking a shower, it will cause the water in the shower to become scalding hot. Naturally, the shower victim screams as his reflexes cause him to leap backward in pain. After this had occurred on several occasions, college students began to twitch involuntarily whenever they heard a toilet flush.

US \_\_\_\_\_ UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_ CR \_\_\_\_\_

3. Five-year-old Samantha is watching a storm from her window. A huge bolt of lightning is followed by a tremendous thunderclap. Startled, Samantha jumps at the noise. This happens several times. As the storm moves farther away, Samantha jumps at the sight of lightning bolt.

US \_\_\_\_\_ UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_ CR \_\_\_\_\_

4. Jade spends her allowance on sour lemon gummy candies even though they always make her mouth water. The clerk always puts the candies in a little white bag. One day as Jade is walking down the street, she sees a girl carrying a little white bag that looks like the candy bag. She finds her mouth watering.

US \_\_\_\_\_ UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_ CR \_\_\_\_\_

5. As an infant, Stephanie received many penicillin injections from the doctor and because of the pain, they always made her cry. When she later saw a photographer in a white coat that was similar to the doctor's coat, she started to cry.

US \_\_\_\_\_

UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_

CR \_\_\_\_\_

6. Every time Maricella goes to work in the morning, she notices that he sulks in the corner of the room and looks very sad. Over several weeks, she notices that the dog gets unhappy when she picks up her car keys immediately before leaving the house.

US \_\_\_\_\_

UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_

CR \_\_\_\_\_

7. Hector went to the dentist and he will never forget the sound of that drill as it broke into his tooth, cracking it in pieces and left him screaming in pain. Now whenever he sees a dentist's drill, he gets scared, dizzy, and feels pain.

US \_\_\_\_\_

UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_

CR \_\_\_\_\_

8. Researchers wanted to see if they could classically condition a high blood pressure response. They had subjects listen to a tone while giving them a shock. Once consequence of the shock was a rise in blood pressure. After conditioning, the researchers presented subjects with the tone alone and it elicited an increase in blood pressure.

US \_\_\_\_\_

UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_

CR \_\_\_\_\_

9. Elvyra is going on a first date with boy she met at school. She really wants him to like her so she finds a perfume that her friends tell her makes them feel warm and fuzzy. She dabs it on. She continues to wear the perfume over the next several months. It works and now whenever her date sees her, he feels attracted to her because of warm and fuzzy feelings he can't describe.

US \_\_\_\_\_

UR \_\_\_\_\_

CS \_\_\_\_\_

CR \_\_\_\_\_

## Answers to classical conditioning examples handout

1. US=vaccination UR=pain  
CS=nurse CR=anxiety, fear
2. US=hot water on you UR=pain  
CS=toilet flushing CR=fear
3. US= loud thunderclap UR=fear  
CS = lightening CR=fear
4. US = lemon candies UR = mouth watering  
CS = white bag CR = mouth watering
5. US=injection UR = pain  
CS=white coat CR=fear, anxiety, crying
6. US=someone you love leaving you UR = sadness  
CS = car keys CR= sadness
7. US=cracking tooth UR=pain  
CS=sound of drill CR=fear
8. US=shock UR=pain  
CS=tone CR = fear
9. Us=smell of pleasant perfume UR=good feelings  
CS= her presence CR=good feelings