

Prep 2: The Learning Approaches – Behaviourism and Social learning theory

You have already learnt about Behaviourism so most of this prep will focus on the Social Learning theory and the studies from the Learning approaches that you must know in detail (these are on the Approaches checklist)

Task 1: Recapping Behaviourism

a) Free recall task: On a piece of paper, write down everything you know/can remember about classical conditioning and operant conditioning.

b) Now check what you have wrote down against the information in the pack. What did you remember? What did you forget? Why did you forget – try and think of an amusing/interesting way to remember this information (remember we are more likely to learn things that we engage or connect with!)

c) Read the information in the pack on Pavlov and Skinners research (you should be familiar with these however you are now going to look at them in more detail). Have a go at completing the following table from memory:

	Skinner's research	Pavlov's research
Aim		
Method/Procedure		
Results		
Conclusions		

Task 2: Social learning Theory

a) Read about the social learning theory in the pack, then have a go at the fill in the gaps activity below – try to do it without looking at the pack.

Social Learning Theory assumes Behaviour is learned from the environment through the process of _____ learning which involves _____, imitation, identification and _____ reinforcement. In order for social learning to take place someone must carry out the attitude or behaviour and this individual is referred to as a model. Vicarious Learning is when an individual observes someone else being or rewarded or punished for behaviour. *Vicarious reinforcement* would involve seeing someone _____ for acting in a particular way. The consequences of others behaviour is observed and this guides future behaviours. According to Bandura, Behaviourism does not take account of the cognitive aspects of learning, even though humans are likely to have much more complex cognitive processes than animals. _____ (cognitive) processes occur between stimuli (the role model's behaviour) and response (imitation) these include _____ and _____.

b) Bandura's Bobo Doll Experiment

Read about Bandura's study in the pack, then make a revision aid (you can choose from the list below what type of revision aid you want to use) which includes the following aspects of the study.

- **Aim**
- **Methodology** (*research method, conditions, design, sample, procedure- stages*)
- **Results** (detailed findings)
- **Conclusion** (*how does it support SLT- be specific*)

Examples of revision aids:

- Flashcards (either on Quizlet or on card)
- Mind-map
- Grid or table
- Poster
- Diagram or pictures
- Storyboard

(Task 3 on the next page)

Task 3: Evaluating the learning approaches

Remember R.I.A? You can use this to help you think of evaluation points.

- **Research** – *Any supporting or challenging evidence? Evaluation of research methods used within the approach to investigate behaviour*
- **Issues (and debates – more on this later!) & Limitations** – *Are there any problems with using the approach to explain behaviour? Are there any issues with the research evidence (e.g. validity/reliability) Is it a scientific approach?*
- **Application/Alternative** - *Is it useful? What contributions has the approach made? Does it explain something particularly well? Does it have practical applications? What is an alternative approach- is this better and why?*

Using the pack & R.I.A to help you, write one sentence in each box identifying an evaluation point (they can be advantages and/or disadvantages). One has been done for you as an example.

Behaviourist approach	Social Learning Theory (SLT)
	<p>☺ The SLT can explain cultural differences in behaviour.</p> <p>(See how this links to R.I.A – Application/Alternative: it can explain cultural differences well)</p>