

# [B.f skinner’s learning theory (final)](https://assignbuster.com/bf-skinners-learning-theory-final/)

What theories did B. F Skinner reject? rejected implicit " S-O-R" psychology of Hull and classical behaviorists. " S-C-R" psychology of TolmanWhy did Skinner reject Hull? it had no appeals to implicit unobservable physiological responses inside the organism, or to underlying neural connections in organism ONB. F SKINNER’ S LEARNING THEORY (FINAL) SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUFOR ONLY$13. 90/PAGEOrder NowWhy did Skinner reject Tolman? no appeals to intervening cognitive phenomoena or mental statesWhat theory did SKinner accept: only observable " S" ad " R" events, moreso than any other behaviorist " empty organism" view" Skinner vs. Thorndike(1) Skinner assumes no neural model or brain states explaining S-R connections
(2) Skinner does NOT believe reinforcement strengthens an S-R connection - responses are not caused by stimuli, but rather are selected and produced for their reinforcing consequencesSkinner's operant conditioning goalCumulative recorda learning curve plotting cumulative number of responses against time (so it can only go up or stay flat) - slope is " response rate", the main Skinnerian dependent variableReinforcementincreases rate of responding:
Positive= delivering a stimulus the animal " want" (e. g. food)
Negative = taking away a stimulus the animal " doesn't want" (e. g. shock)Punishmentdecreases rate of responding;
positive= delivering a stimulus the animal " doesn't wear" (e. g., shock)
Negative= taking away a stimulus the animal " wants" (e. g., parental attention in " time-out" procedure)Responsemolar: an " operant" is a class of behaviors which include any response that is controlled by the reinforcement (i. e., any response that brings about a given consequenceStimulusevent correlated with the production of a response ; event is occasion for, not cause of, responseStimulus controldiscriminative stimulus SD indicates response will be reinforced; S delta is the stimulus indicating the response will NOT be reinforcedConditioned reinforcement (secondary reinforcement for Hull)a stimulus associated with reinforcement eventually becomes reinforcing itself, works like higher order conditioning must be backed up with primary reinforcement or extinction will resultgeneralized reinforcera stimulus associated with many primary reinforcers, not tied to any particular motivational state (ex. money, social approval)Chainingall SD are conditioning are reinforcer because responding in their presence always leads to reinforcementShapingmethod for producing new responses in an animal, consisting of differential reinforcement of successive approximations to a desired response using shaping techniquesSchedules of reinforcementpartial reinforcement effect says that response is stronger when animal is NOT reinforced EVERY trial, measuring the strength of the response by its resistance to extinctionMotivationno " drive-reduction" or other theoretical entity is hypothesized - there is just an empirical observation that food-deprived rats respond at a higher rate for food reinforcementextinctionnot necessarily the disappearance of a response, but rather a return to the response's " operant level" (the rate at which the response appears without any reinforcement)spontaneous recovery: recognized as an empirical phenomenon with out much explanation of its mechanismgeneralizationwhen a stimulus complex sets the occasion for a response, the response also occurs when the animal encounters stimulusinhibitionthe unobserved theoritical entity/intervening variable employed by Pavlov and Hull plays no role for Skinner