
PAVLOV THEORY

AJITABH KUMAR

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

CLASSICAL CONDITIONING

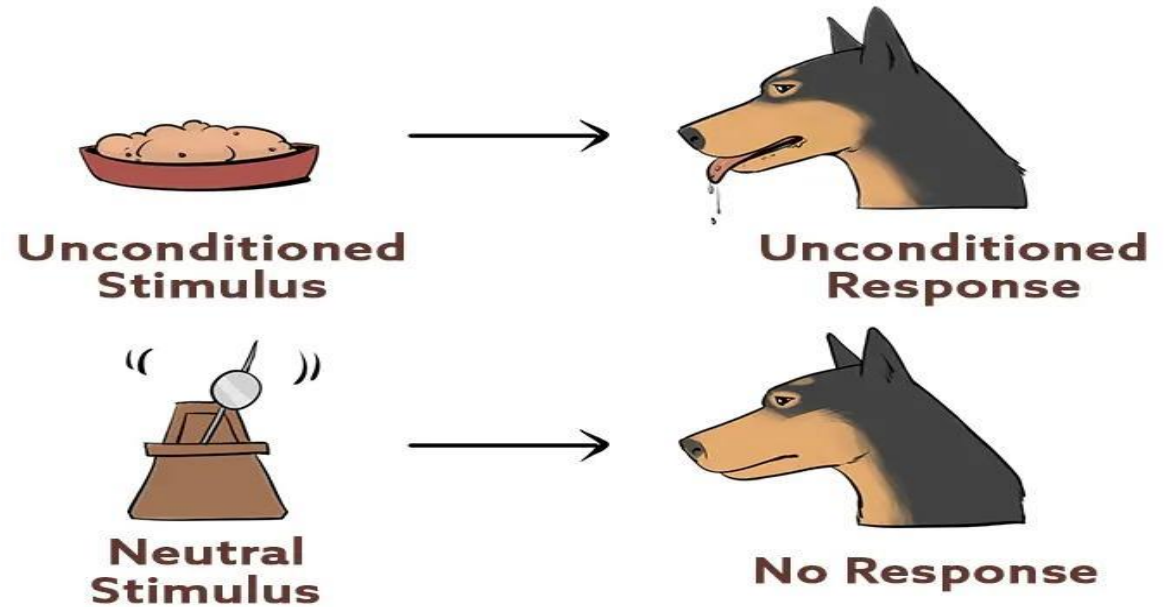
- Ivan Pavlov's classical conditioning theory explains how we learn to associate different stimuli through repeated exposure, fundamentally changing our understanding of human and animal behaviour.
- Classical conditioning, aka Pavlovian conditioning, is a form of learning where an association is made between a neutral stimulus and a naturally occurring stimulus that automatically elicits a response.
- Classical conditioning is unconscious or automatic learning that involves creating an association between an unconditioned stimulus and a neutral stimulus to form a conditioned response.
- In simple terms, classical conditioning involves placing a neutral stimulus before a naturally occurring reflex.

COMPONENTS OF CLASSICAL CONDITIONING

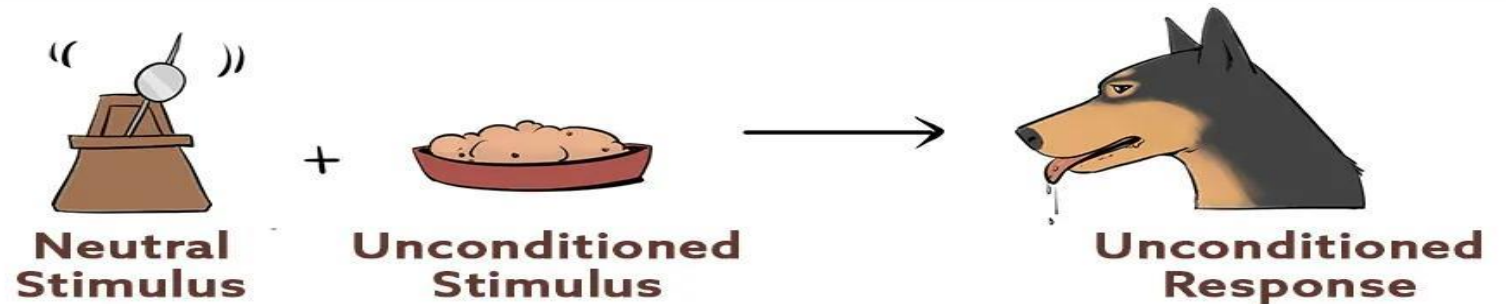
- Unconditioned stimulus:
- Neutral stimulus
- Conditioned stimulus
- Unconditioned response
- Conditioned response

CLASSICAL CONDITIONING THEORY

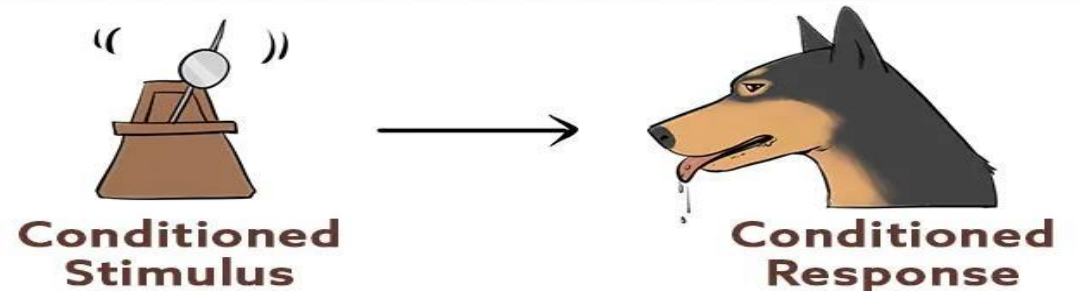
Before Conditioning



During Conditioning



After Conditioning



- **Unconditional Stimulus (UCS)**-This is a stimulus that naturally and automatically triggers a response without any learning needed. In Pavlov's experiment, the food was the unconditioned stimulus as it automatically induced salivation in the dogs.
- **Neutral Stimulus (NS)**-A stimulus that initially does not elicit a particular response or reflex action. In other words, before any conditioning takes place, the neutral stimulus has no effect on the behavior or physiological response of interest. For example, in Pavlov's experiment, the sound of a metronome was a neutral stimulus initially, as it did not cause the dogs to salivate.

- **Conditioned Stimulus (CS)** – This is a previously neutral stimulus that, after being repeatedly associated with an unconditioned stimulus, comes to trigger a conditioned response. For instance, in Pavlov’s experiment, the metronome became a conditioned stimulus when the dogs learned to associate it with food.
- **Conditioned Response (CR):** This is a learned response to the conditioned stimulus. It typically resembles the unconditioned response but is triggered by the conditioned stimulus instead of the unconditioned stimulus. In Pavlov’s experiment, salivating in response to the metronome was the conditioned response.
- **Unconditioned Response (UR):** This is an automatic, innate reaction to an unconditioned stimulus. It does not require any learning. In Pavlov’s experiment, the dogs’ automatic salivation in response to the food is an example of an unconditioned response.