

STUDY GUIDE:Animal Behavior

KEY TERMS

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| 1. ethology | 10. pheromones | 20. taxis |
| 2. anthropomorphism | 11. supernormal stimuli | 21. social behavior |
| 3. ultimate vs.proximate causes | 12. drives | 22. agonistic behavior |
| 4. innate | 13. habituation | 23. dominance hierarchy (pecking order) |
| 5. instinct | 14. classical conditioning | 24. promiscuous |
| 6. fixed action pattern | 15. operant conditioning | 25. monogamous |
| 7. sign stimulus | 16. insight | 26. polygamous |
| 8. releaser | 17. parental imprinting | 27. polygynous |
| 9. innate releasing mechanisms(IRMs) | 18. critical period | 28. polyandrous |
| | 19. parental imprinting | 29. altruistic behavior |

QUESTIONS

1. What is anthropomorphism? Why do behaviorists try to avoid it?
2. Define the terms innate and instinct.
3. Describe, citing the experiments of Lorenz and Tinbergen, some of the characteristics of sign stimuli and releasers, and indicate their role in animal behavior. Explain why sign stimuli are biologically adaptive, and why they can be disadvantageous as well.
4. Define "learning". What is habituation?
5. Describe the processes of parental imprinting and explain what is meant by the critical period.
6. Describe classical conditioning. What famous Russian and what animals are associated with classical conditioning?
7. Describe operant conditioning. Who is B.F. Skinner and what is a Skinner box?
8. What kinds of animals are capable of insight?
9. Discuss the two navigational strategies used by birds to navigate on long flights. Then, describe the various cues that migratory birds and homing pigeons use to orient themselves on long flights.
10. What is "search image"?
11. What is a dominance hierarchy(a.k.a. pecking order)? Give two examples of dominance hierarchies.
12. Describe territoriality.
13. Describe the role of ritualized behavior in the courtship of animals. How do animals recognize a mate?
14. How do these terms differ? Promiscuous, monogamous and polygamous. Polygyny and polyandry.
15. What are pheromones? Give two examples.
16. What is meant by altruistic behavior? Why was altruistic behavior a puzzle to ethologists who are interested in evolution?