

Verbal Operants

(Verbal Behavior response examples: sign, gesture, write, say)

Verbal Operant	Brief Definition	Teaching Example	Student Response Example	Consequence
Mand	Asking for something you want (demand/request). (Item, activity, action, edible, answer to a question, removal of something, etc.) MOTIVATION has to be present for the mand to occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wanted item is present Contriving motivation for present or non-present Capturing motivation 	Student says "cookie" because they want one (teacher gives cookie)	Reinforcement is <u>specific</u>
Tact	Labeling something you see, hear, smell, taste, or feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is this? This is a _____ It's a _____ Tell me what you hear? What do you see? How does it taste? 	Student says "cookie" because they see a picture of a cookie. (example: say, sign, write)	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)
Echoic	Repeating <u>vocally</u> what someone else says.	"Say Cookie"	Student says "cookie" because teacher said "cookie"	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)
Intraverbal	Saying, signing, writing something related to what someone else said or answering questions (i.e. fill-in responses, word associations, conversation).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which one do you ___ with? You ___ with a ___ Something you ___ is a ___ Tell me the one that has ___ The (animal) says ___ What does the (animal) say? 	Student says "cookie" when teacher says "tell me something sweet that you eat". (example: say, sign, write)	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)
Not verbal behavior but behaviors taught that are necessary to the successful development of verbal behavior				
Listener Responding (Receptive)	Following directions and or receptive identification (discrimination).	Point to the _____ Show me the _____ Can you find the _____ Where's the _____? Touch the _____ Give me the _____ Find the _____	Student touches the cookie when teacher asks "do you see a cookie?"	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)
Motor Imitation (Mimetic)	Copying someone else's motor movement.	"Do This" "Can you do this?" "Try this one" 'Do what I do" "You do this"	Student signs "cookie" when teacher signs "cookie"	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)
Match to Sample	Scanning an array and matching identical or non-identical stimuli	"match" "put with same" "find same"	Student matches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Object to object Picture to object Object to picture 	Reinforcement is non-specific (such as praise or other reinforcer)