

Chapter 5

Conceptual Work Sheets for

Penalty

**Prepared by Jennifer Abernathy
for her Honor's Thesis 1993¹**

Definition: Principle

Punishment Contingency

- Immediate response-contingent presentation of an aversive condition
- resulting in a decreased frequency of that response.

Definition: Principle

Penalty Contingency

- Immediate response-contingent removal of a reinforcer
- resulting in a decreased frequency of that response.

Definition: Principle

Response Cost Contingency

- Immediate response-contingent removal of a tangible reinforcer
- resulting in a decreased frequency of that response.

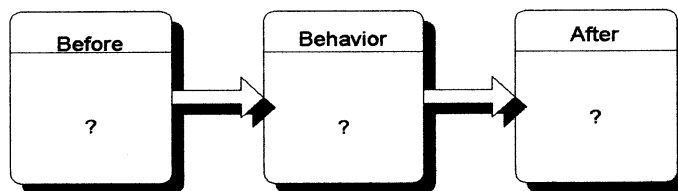
Definition: Principle

Time-out Contingency

- Immediate response-contingent removal of access to a reinforcer
- resulting in a decreased frequency of that response.

Punishment For The Puss, Part 1

Daisy the kitten jumps onto the kitchen table. Her owner (a former PSY 360 student) immediately sprays Daisy with water. Daisy then jumps down from the table and runs underneath the bed.



1. Whose behavior?
 - A. the brilliant owner
 - B. Daisy the kitten
 - C. the spray bottle

[Hint: Whose behavior is being punished? Whose behavior do we want to decrease?]

2. What is the behavior?
 - A. Daisy jumps onto the kitchen table
 - B. Daisy jumps down from the kitchen table
 - C. the brilliant owner sprays Daisy

[Hint: 1) It must be Daisy's behavior because she is who is being punished. 2) What behavior do we want Daisy to decrease?]

¹ Revised by Bill Boettcher and Elaine Foss (1994), Teela Troth-Renda (1995), Melissa Daws (1995), Jennifer K. Rudowske (1995, 1996), and Nathalie Witt (2002, 2003) as partial fulfillment of the MA Project requirement.

3. What is the before condition?

[Hint: Since this is a punishment contingency, which means there is a presentation of an aversive condition, it may be easier to look at the after condition prior to looking at the before condition.]

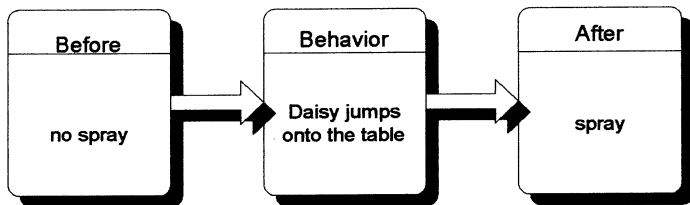
- A. Daisy jumps onto the kitchen table
- B. Daisy doesn't get sprayed by the brilliant owner
- C. the brilliant owner takes Psy 360

[Hint: Remember the related-outcomes test from the pink sheet.]

4. What is the after condition?

- A. Daisy jumps down from the kitchen table
- B. Daisy runs underneath the bed
- C. Daisy gets sprayed by the brilliant owner

[HINT: What does Daisy's owner do to her?]



This is a correct contingency diagram because... The response (Daisy jumping onto the kitchen table) decreases because an aversive condition (spray of water) has immediately followed it in the past.

Punishment For The Puss, Part 2: Penalty Prevails

Macy, Daisy's sister and very best friend, is playing with her favorite toy—a plastic milk ring. Macy throws the ring around until it lands in the plant, which Macy is not allowed near. Macy jumps up into the plant to retrieve her ring but gets caught in the act by her psychologically sophisticated owner. The owner moves Macy to the floor and takes her ring away for five minutes.

5. Whose behavior?

- A. Macy's
- B. Daisy's
- C. the owner's

[Hint: Whose behavior is being punished/penalized? Whose behavior do we want to decrease?]

6. What is the behavior?

- A. the owner took away the milk ring
- B. Macy plays with the milk ring
- C. Macy jumps into the plant

[HINT: 1) It must be Macy's behavior because that's whose behavior is being punished/penalized. 2) What behavior do we want Macy to decrease?]

7. What's the before condition?

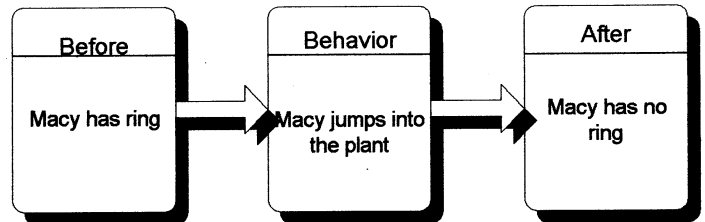
- A. Macy has her ring (to play with)
- B. Macy jumps into the plant
- C. the owner sprayed Daisy with water

[HINT: Remember the related-outcomes test from the pink sheet.]

8. What is the after condition?

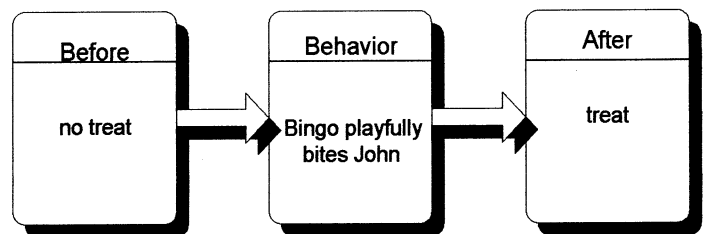
- A. Macy jumps back out
- B. Macy has no ring (because the owner takes away her ring)
- C. Macy joins Daisy under the bed

[HINT: What does the brilliant owner do?]



Here We Go, You Try It!!

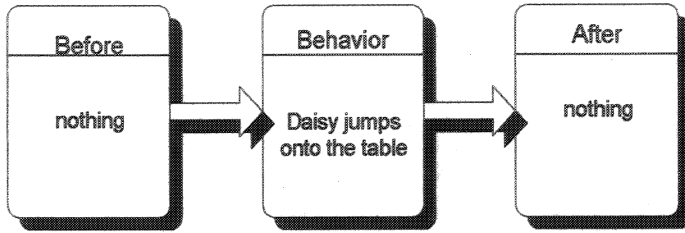
Bingo is playing with his owner, John. Bingo playfully bites John, and John gives Bingo a doggie treat.



9. What is the contingency?

- A. punishment
- B. reinforcement
- C. penalty
- D. avoidance

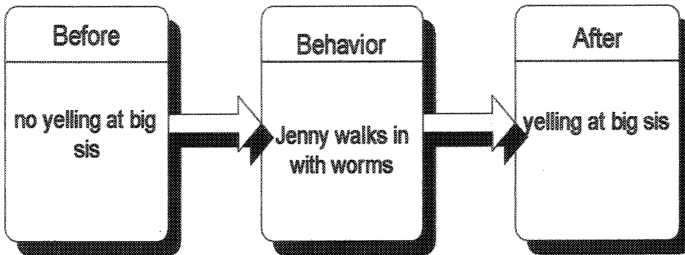
Daisy jumps onto the kitchen table while her overworked owner takes a cat nap.



10. What is the contingency?

- A. Punishment by the presentation of an aversive condition
- B. Reinforcement by the presentation of a reinforcer
- C. Punishment by the removal of a reinforcer
- D. none of the above

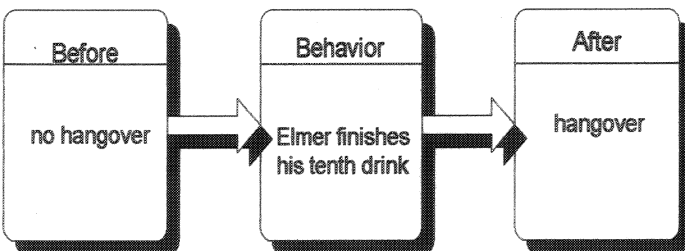
When little Jenny walks into her house carrying her newly dug up pet worms, which are not allowed in the house, her mother immediately yells at Jenny's big sister.



11. Which criterion does this punishment contingency violate?

- A. related outcomes test
- B. receiver test
- C. action test
- D. none of the above

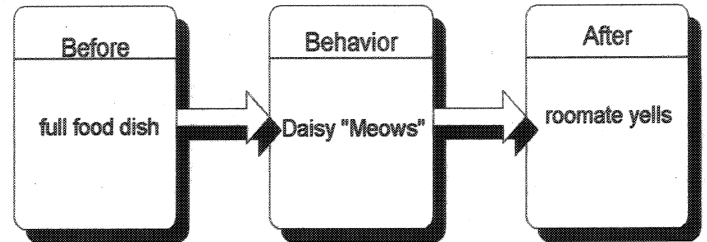
Elmer goes into Waldo's on Friday night to grab a few drinks. Elmer drank his tenth drink and finally called it a night. He woke up Saturday afternoon with the worst hangover of his life. (Not-for-extra-credit question: Is Elmer a light weight??? Circle one: YES NO)



12. This punishment contingency violates which criteria?

- A. related outcomes test
- B. sixty-second test
- C. causality test
- D. none of the above

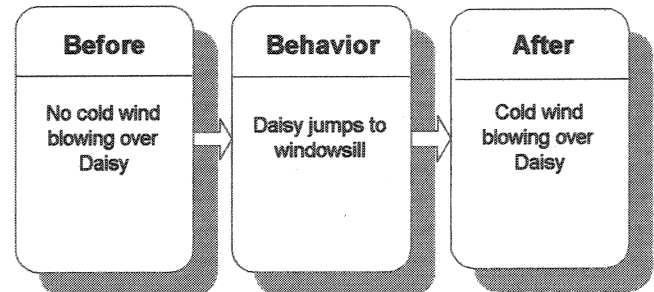
Daisy is in the kitchen with her owner's roommate. Daisy stands by her food dish which is still completely full and cries, "Meeeeeooooow," repetitively. Finally, the frustrated and anxiety ridden roommate yells at poor little Daisy.



13. This punishment contingency violates which criteria?

- A. related outcome test
- B. causality test
- C. sixty-second test

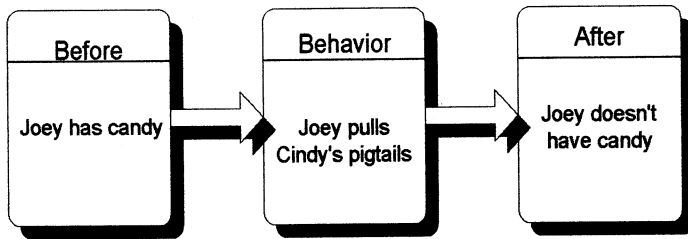
Daisy the kitten jumps onto the windowsill of an open window. A chilling wind is blowing and it makes Daisy shiver with cold.



14. This contingency violates which criteria?

- A. receiver and specific behavior tests
- B. receiver and dead-man tests
- C. dead-man and causality tests
- D. none of the above

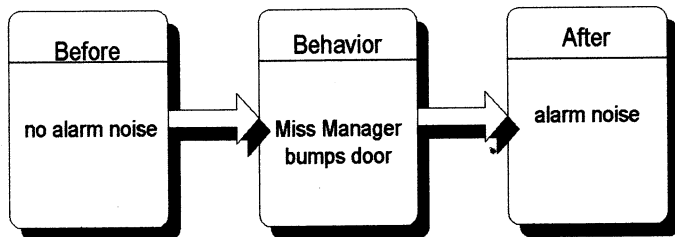
Joey is eating his favorite candy when he reaches over and pulls Cindy's pigtails. His teacher, Ms. Battle-ax, promptly walks over and removes Joey's candy.



15. What kind of contingency is this?

- A. Punishment
- B. Reinforcement
- C. Penalty
- D. none of the above

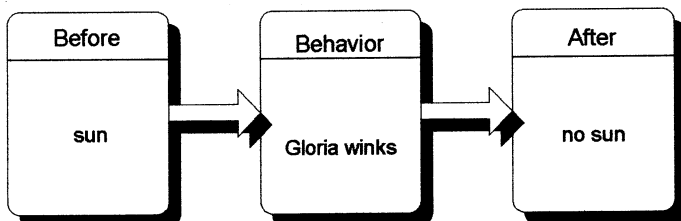
Miss Manager is bringing in some supplies through the back door of her pet store. Whenever she bumps into the door, the faulty alarm system goes off making an extremely irritating noise.



16. What kind of contingency is this?

- A. punishment
- B. reinforcement
- C. penalty/time-out
- D. penalty/response cost

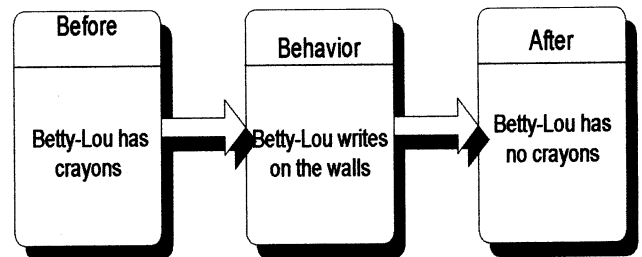
Gloria is in love with George. During recess the sun begins to shine, and Gloria decides to make her move. She skips over to where George is playing tether-ball, catches his attention, and winks. All of a sudden the sun goes under the clouds (symbolism?!). Superstitious Gloria now "knows" her love is doomed.



17. This penalty contingency violates which criteria?

- A. related-outcomes test
- B. sixty-second test
- C. causality test
- D. none of the above

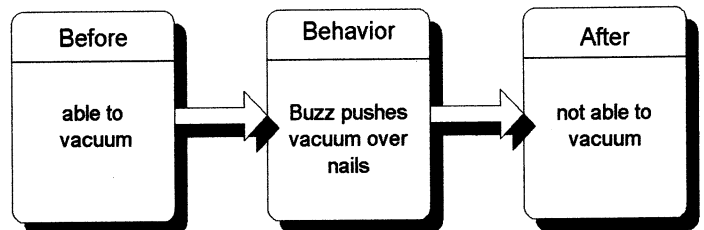
Betty Lou is quietly playing with her crayons, doing what any five-year-old with a lack of paper and an abundance of curiosity would do--drawing on the walls. Immediately, Betty Lou's mother walks in, sees the artwork (ingenious as it is), and takes away the young budding artist's crayons.



18. This penalty contingency violates which criteria?

- A. receiver test
- B. causality test
- C. stimulus, event or condition test
- D. none of the above

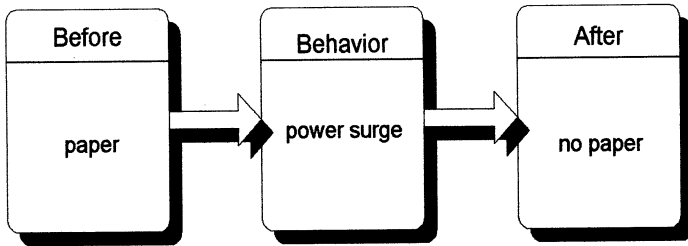
Buzz hates his nightly task of vacuuming at his job. Buzz sees some nails in his path and vigorously runs the vacuum over them. Of course, the vacuum cannot handle the nails and is dead for the rest of the night. Once again Buzz got out of his hateful task.



19. This escape contingency violates which criteria?

- A. dead-man test
- B. related-outcomes test
- C. sixty-second test
- D. none of the above; it's OK

Chucky, whom we could classify as somewhat computer illiterate, is trying to type his term paper on a computer. He hasn't been saving his paper. Suddenly there is a power surge to the computer, and the screen goes blank. Chucky has lost all of the eleven pages he has been typing for three hours.



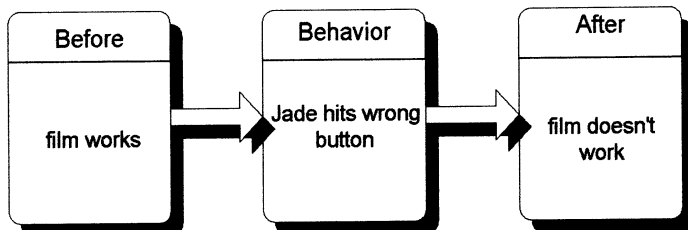
20. Which criteria does this penalty contingency violate?

- A. Behavior test
- B. receiver test
- C. causality test
- D. none of the above

Response Cost vs. Time-Out	
Response Cost	Time-out
Removal of the reinforcers themselves	Removal to access to reinforcers
Loss of earned reinforcers	Loss of opportunity to earn reinforcers
Lost forever	Lost temporarily
Tangibles	Activities

Jade is taking pictures with her brand-new, very expensive, automatic camera. Since she refused to read the directions, she accidentally hits the wrong button and her half-used roll of film pops out.

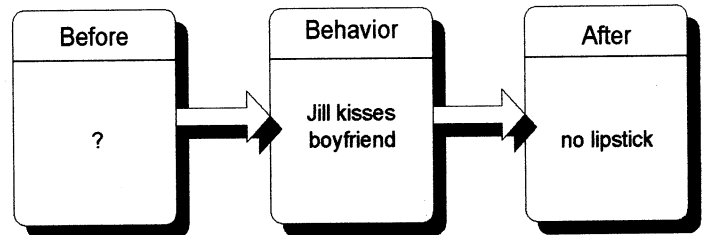
Jade has good film, etc. is response cost because, although you still have the physical film, you have lost it as a functional reinforcer. She's lost the pictures taken and the opportunity to take more pictures with this film.



21. What kind of contingency is this?

- A. punishment
- B. reinforcement
- C. penalty/time-out
- D. penalty/response cost

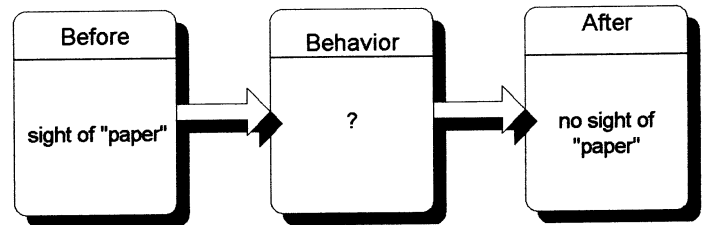
More than anything, Jill loves to wear lipstick. However she loses all of the lipstick from her lips when she kisses her boyfriend.



22. What is the before condition in this penalty contingency?

- A. lipstick
- B. no kisses
- C. no lipstick
- D. Jill misses her boyfriend

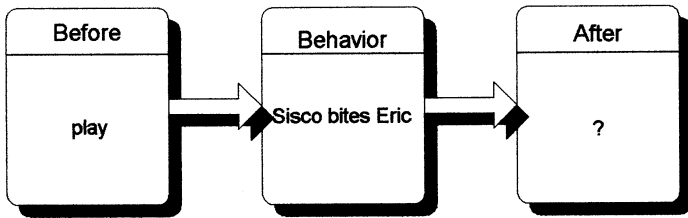
Scooter is writing his term paper, due in one hour, on his computer. When he's almost finished, he accidentally hits a button that deletes the whole unsaved thing.



23. What is the behavior in this penalty contingency?

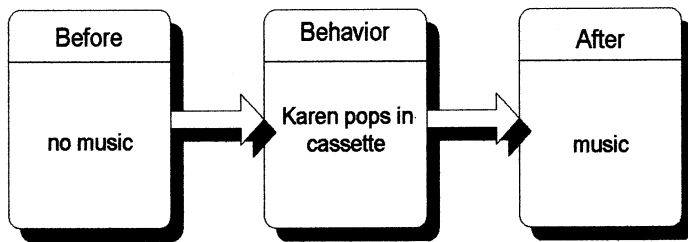
- A. Scooter is writing
- B. Scooter almost completes his paper
- C. Scooter hits a deleting button
- D. the computer deletes the paper

Eric is playing with his cat, Sisco, when Sisco grabs Eric's hand and bites down hard. Eric stops playing with Sisco for five minutes.



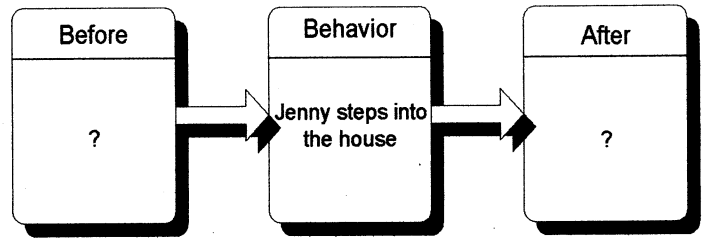
24. What is the after condition for this penalty contingency?
- A. no bite
 - B. no play
 - C. Eric is angry
 - D. no treats

Karen is driving to Chicago by herself and is bored out of her mind. Her radio doesn't work, but the cassette player does. Karen pops in her favorite tape, thankful to have something to keep her amused.



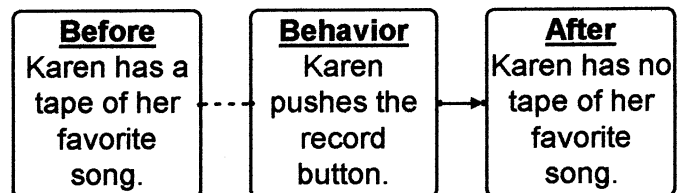
25. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty/time-out
 - D. penalty/response cost

Once again, little Jenny attempts to bring her pet worms inside the house (to keep them from catching a cold out in the rain). As soon as Jenny steps into the house her mother grabs the worms away, reminding Jenny that they belong outside.



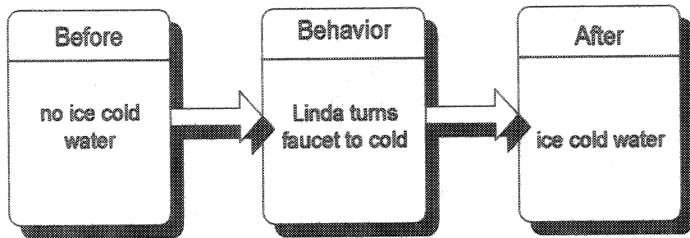
26. What is the before condition?
- A. Jenny is cold
 - B. Jenny has her pet worms
 - C. the worms are cold
27. What is the after condition?
- A. no rain
 - B. Jenny is warm
 - C. Jenny doesn't have her pet worms

Karen's favorite song begins to play on her tape. Karen accidentally pushes the record button (she meant to push the rewind button so she could hear the beginning two lines again), and because her record button cannot be turned off, her favorite song is erased.



28. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty/time-out
 - D. penalty/response cost

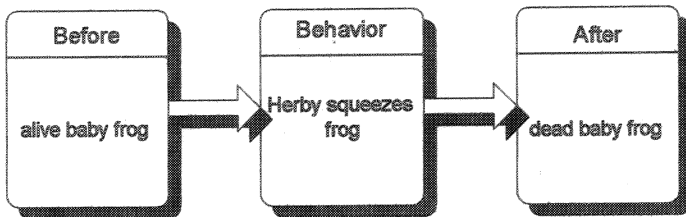
When Linda takes a shower the water is really hot, so she turns it down. The problem is that her faucets are very touchy. When Linda turns the faucet, the water becomes painfully freezing cold after a few minutes.



29. What kind of contingency is this and which criteria does it violate?

- A. punishment, sixty-second test
- B. reinforcement, response unit and sixty-second tests
- C. penalty/time-out, sixty-second test
- D. penalty/response cost, response unit and sixty-second tests

Herby caught a baby frog whom he finds reinforcing to play with. He doesn't want him to get away, so he holds him tightly in his hands. Unfortunately, Herby held on a little bit too tightly and the baby frog died. Now poor Herby no longer has his live baby frog.



30. What kind of contingency is this?

- A. punishment
- B. reinforcement
- C. penalty/time-out
- D. penalty/response cost

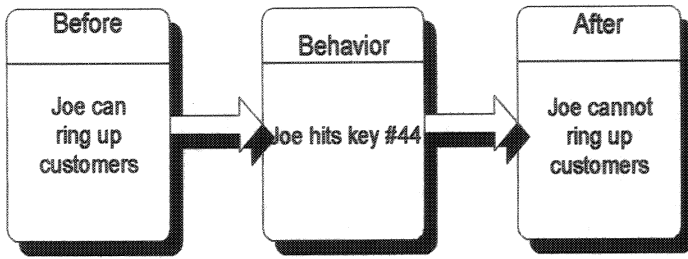
We already know that losing the frog to death is an aversive condition. So why is the dead frog a response-cost penalty contingency? If the baby frog is dead, there is no way it will come back. If the dead frog can't come back to life, then there is no way it could be in time-out.

Little Cindy Lou was drinking a glass of water when she let go of the glass to reach for a piece of candy. All Cindy Lou had left was the sight of the water all over the floor.

31. What is the before condition for the penalty contingency?

- A. no candy
- B. little Cindy wants candy
- C. water
- D. no water

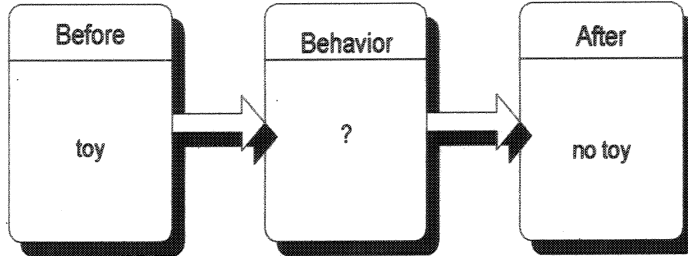
Joe Cashier is happily ringing up customers when he makes a mistake and hits key #44. Now Joe has to wait a few minutes for Miss Manager to come up from her eternal coffee break to fix his mistake before he can continue ringing up customers.



32. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty/time-out
 - D. penalty/response cost

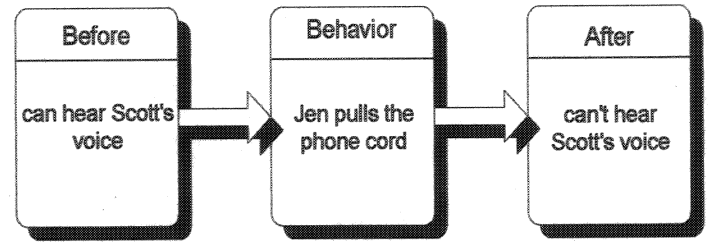
Non example of Time-Out:

Daisy the cat is playing with her catnip toy. Getting a little carried away, she bites into it and breaks it all apart. The toy is ruined, and the cat cannot play with it anymore.



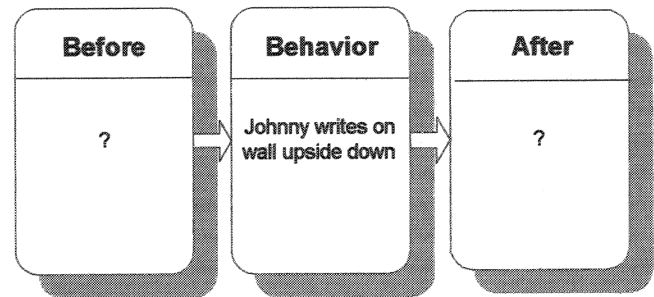
33. What is the behavior?
- A. Daisy is playing with the toy
 - B. Daisy gets carried away
 - C. Daisy bites the toy apart
 - D. the toy breaks apart

Jen is talking to Scott, her fiancée, on the phone. Her phone has an unusually short cord, so when she pulls it just a little too far, the phone disconnects.



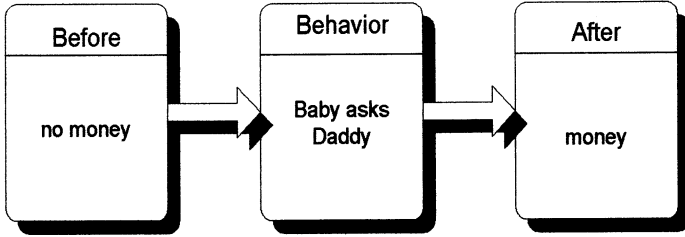
34. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. Punishment
 - B. Reinforcement
 - C. Penalty
 - D. none of the above

Johnny Angle is writing on the bathroom wall with an ink pen, tilting it upside-down. After a few seconds the ink won't come out anymore.



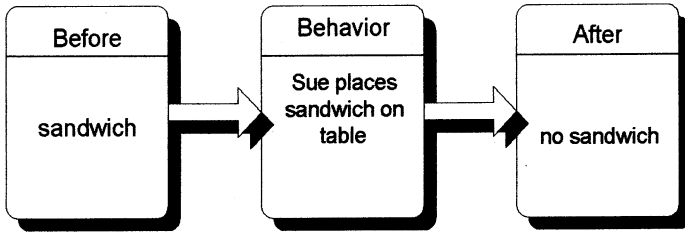
35. What is the before condition?
- A. ink
 - B. clean walls
 - C. upside-down pen
 - D. none of the above
36. What is the after condition?
- A. right-side-up pen
 - B. no ink
 - C. ink
 - D. none of the above

Baby has no money. She politely asks Daddy for five dollars, and he hands it to her.



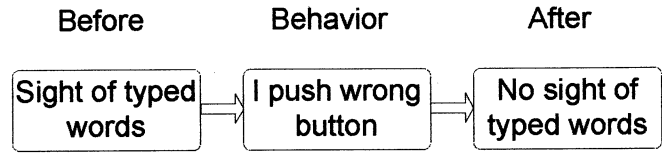
37. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty
 - D. none of the above

Suzanna is eating a tuna sandwich. She places it on the table beside her and a few seconds later it is gone. (Don't tell her that Daisy the kitten ate it!)



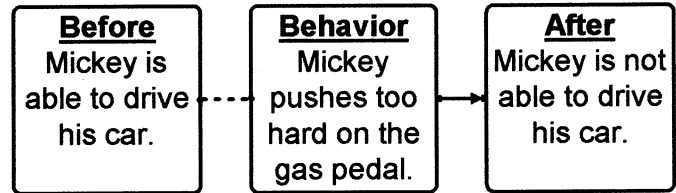
38. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty/time-out
 - D. penalty/response cost

When I'm typing on the computer and I push the wrong button, the whole computer screen goes blank and whatever I was typing is lost.



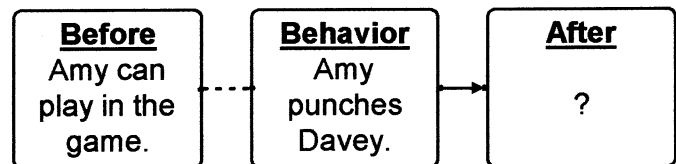
39. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. penalty/time-out
 - C. penalty/response cost

Mickey Mouse drives an old beat-up Edsel. He has to be careful because when he pushes on the gas pedal too hard the car stalls. Then Mickey must wait thirty minutes before he can drive again.



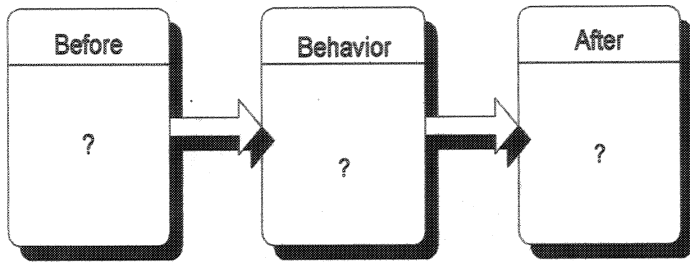
40. What kind of contingency is this?
- A. punishment
 - B. reinforcement
 - C. penalty/time-out
 - D. penalty/response cost

Amy is playing a game with her classmates when Davey calls her a sissy. Amy punches Davey, and the teacher, Ms. Meanee, makes Amy sit out the rest of the game.



41. What is the after condition?
- A. Ms. Meanee is angry
 - B. Amy cannot play in the game
 - C. Davey laughs at Amy
 - D. none of the above

Billy is playing dodge ball with his classmates when he throws the ball and hits Geneva in the face. Billy is taken out of the game.



42. What is the before condition for this penalty contingency?
- A. Geneva is OK
 - B. Billy is in the game
 - C. Billy wants to hit Geneva's face
 - D. none of the above
43. What is the behavior?
- A. Billy is taken out of the game
 - B. Geneva is hit in the face
 - C. Billy throws the ball that hits Geneva
 - D. none of the above
44. What is the after condition?
- A. Billy is out of the game
 - B. Geneva's face hurts
 - C. none of the above

Now it's time to make your own original examples. Make sure you are not removing the underlying reinforcer in the penalty contingency.

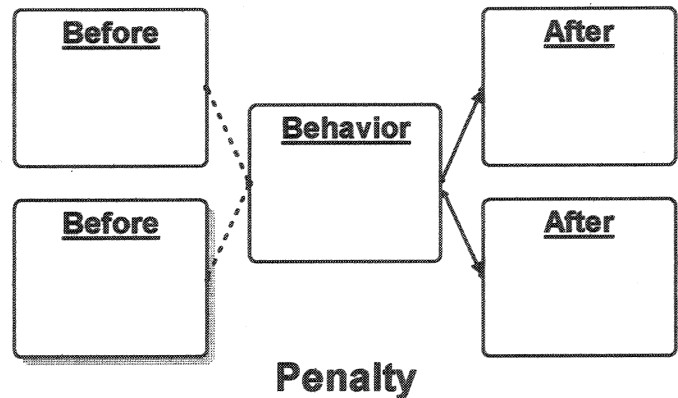
Make your own original examples:

45. Give an original example of penalty/time-out.

Include the reinforcement contingency that established the behavior as well as the penalty contingency.

Describe the situation and explain why it fits the required contingency.

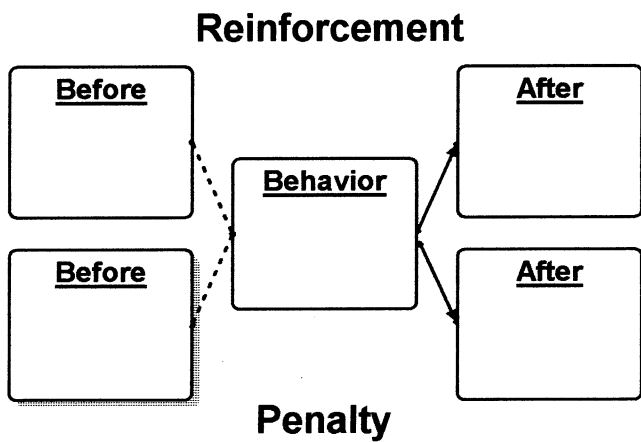
Reinforcement or Escape



46. Give an original example of penalty/response cost.

Include the reinforcement contingency that established the behavior as well as the penalty contingency.

Describe the situation and explain why it fits the required contingency



Chapter 4 and 16

(Note: remember to put your two examples on transparencies to share with your class.)

TA use only: 53 learning opportunities