Name: Date:

Types of reinforcement and punishment exercise

*In learning theory, remember that positive means* ***adding*** *something and   
negative means* ***subtracting*** *something. Reinforcement will increase the   
likelihood of a response in the future; punishment will* ***decrease*** *the   
likelihood of a response in the future.*

Identify each of the following examples as either:

positive reinforcement

negative reinforcement

positive punishment

negative punishment

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy's father gives him $5 for washing the car.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Maria was fighting with her sister. Her mother says she can't watch TV tonight.

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Keila is 4 years old. Her mother spanks her for running out into the street.

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Your teacher says you don't have to take the final exam if you have a "B" average at the end of the semester.

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You receive a $100 incentive bonus from your boss for completing a project early.

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You are assigned 10 hours of trash pick up after being caught smoking in the campus library restroom.

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lelani's parents don't allow her to use the family car for 2 weeks after she received a "D" in her high school chemistry class.

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You always put on your seat belt so that the annoying buzzer will stop.   
 

Schedules of reinforcement exercise

Fill in the blanks with the following reinforcement schedule types:

Two Types: Continuous reinforcement and Partial reinforcement

1. Interval schedule (of partial reinforcement). Define the following terms

***Fixed interval***

***Variable interval***

1. Ratio schedule (of partial reinforcement) Define the following terms

***Fixed ratio***

***Variable ratio***

1. After you have defined the words above, identify the reinforcement schedule that best suits the following situations.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You go to Atlantic City and play the slot machines. Sometimes you win money after putting in 3 quarters, sometimes after 15 quarters, sometimes after putting in 7 quarters.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You get a paycheck every Tuesday.

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A psychologist gives a rat a food pellet each time it pushes a lever in its cage.

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You go fishing in the Chesapeake Bay every weekend. Sometimes it takes 1 hour to catch a fish, sometimes 15 minutes, sometimes 45 minutes.

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A college student's mother sends her a box of fudge every Thursday.

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ George works in a factory putting fenders on cars. He gets paid $100 for every 4 fenders he finishes.

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Michael's mother gives him an M & M for each toy he puts away in his toy box.

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teri collects empty soda cans. The recycling center gives her $1 for every 30 cans.

9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Shaina delivers newspapers in her neighborhood. Sometimes Mrs. Lewis pays her for 2 weeks at a time, sometimes she pays for 1 week, and sometimes she pays for a month.

10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You start playing the lottery. You win $10 the first time you play. You play 12 more times before you win again.   
 