THE THEORY OF CONNECTIONISM : Connectionism is a theory of learning which is based on the importance of the association of ideas. It is based on the concept that bonds or connections are formed between situations and responses. This theory emphasizes that the behavior begins with reflexes and natural responses and new behaviours result from the acquisition of new bonds through experience. Those factors which facilitate bond formation are frequency, regency, intensity, vividness, mood of the subject, resulting in satisfactions, and similarity of situations and capacity of the subject. This theory is also known as S-R theory.

THE THEORY OF CLASSICAL CONDITIONING : This theory has been presented by the Behaviourists Psychologists like Watson, and Pavlov. It maintains that learning is the result of conditioning of our natural, unlearned responses to some other stimulus. Such a behavior or response is called unnatural or conditioned response. This conditioned response is said to be the result of learning.

OPERANT CONDITIONING THEORY : This theory of learning was subscribed by Prof. B.F Skinner of Harvard University of the U.S.A. It was a slight modification of Pavlov's conditioning theory. It maintains that response or behavior of the organism in learning is not mechanical, passive or involuntary, but active, purposive and goal oriented.

GESTALT THEORY : Gestalt theory which is based on perception is another important theory of learning. According to Gestalt Psychologists learning takes place neither as a result of trial and error nor as a conditioned response to a conditioned or artificial stimulus. Two Gestalt Psychologists Kohler and Koffka are of the view that all learning consists in perception of the total situation or whole by insight. Gestalt psychologists criticize the conditioning theory and the theory of connectionism and put emphasis on interrelation and interdependence of the aspects of learning situation.

FIELD THEORY OF LEARNING : Field theory is propounded by Lewin. According to the advocates of this theory "Learning is the organization and reorganization of behaviour which results from many interesting influences

on the developing organism acting in its shifting environment." This theory emphasizes the phenomenon of perception and organization.

GUTHRIE'S THEORY OF SUBSTITUTION : This theory propounds that when an individual is performing activities due to the simulation of a stimulus then in future also the same stimulus will help in repeating the activity.

HALL'S THEORY OF REINFORCEMENT : This theory advocates that essence of learning lies in what occurs between the stimulus and the response. In other words the diminution in need reinforces the Stimulus-Response (SR) connections which are present at the time of diminution.

TOLMAN'S THEORY OF PURPOSIVISM : This theory emphasizes the importance of purpose or goal in learning. Tolman's theory is also known as sign or cue learning.

Ans to Q No.4 : Goldstein, Hopkins and Strube.

Ans to Q No.5: Maze learning helps the teachers to explore the minds of every student in the classroom learning. It helps the teachers to know about their behavioural aspect and helps to detect their cognitive and emotional areas too. It helps in the use of sensory integration movement, processes with students with academic and behavioral deficiencies who do not receive special education services.



1.10 MODEL QUESTIONS

A) Very Short Questions (Answer each question in about 50 words)

Q1: Define learning.

Q2: What are the characteristics of Learning?

Q3: How will you differentiate Theory of Classical Conditioning from Operant Conditioning?

B) Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q1: Discuss the different theories of learning.

Q2: Discuss the different ways to make learning more effective.

C) Long Questions (Answer each Question in about 300-500 words)

Q1: 'Learning by mirror drawing apparatus improves the learning habit of every learner'. Do you agree with the statement? Give your own view points in this context?

Q2: Proceeding from part to whole is a maxim of learning. According to you, which method of learning is more suitable for learners? Give your own view points.

Q3: How maze learning can help a teacher in the classroom teaching? With the help of a simple experiment without using the apparatus show how a teacher can apply the maze learning to know the mental ability of the learner.

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