

# Lesson 27: Mand Extension (OA)



This lesson defines and provides examples of mand extension.

☰ Review of Types of Extension

☰ Review of the Mand

☰ Mand Extension Example #1

☰ Mand Extension Example #2

☰ Mand Extension Example #3

☰ Mand Extension Example #4

☰ Review

# Review of Types of Extension

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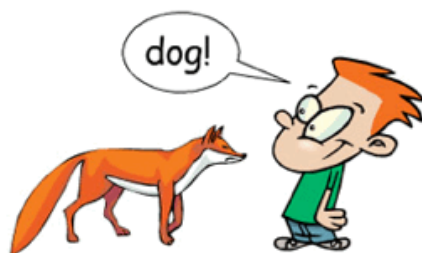


00:13

All of the extensions of verbal behavior presented up to this point have been the result of a novel stimulus sharing either relevant or irrelevant features with a stimulus which has previously acquired control over the response that is now evoked.



**GENERIC EXTENSION**  
shares **all** relevant  
features



**METAPHORICAL  
EXTENSION**  
shares **some** relevant  
features



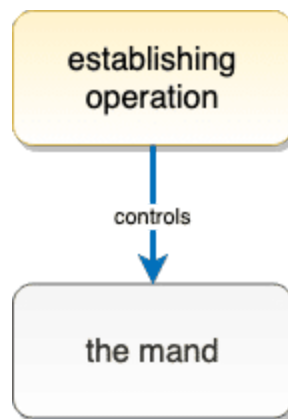
**METONYMICAL  
EXTENSION**  
shares some **irrelevant**  
features

# Review of the Mand

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The form of the **mand**, however, is not determined by a prior stimulus. Therefore, there are no relevant stimulus features. Whether or not those environmental events which we call establishing operations have features that can be called either relevant or irrelevant is a complex matter and is beyond the scope of this introductory tutorial. Although the form of the response is not controlled by a prior stimulus, other stimuli, including audience variables, may determine whether or not the specific response form is emitted.



## Mand

A form of verbal behavior with the following features:

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**DEFINING FEATURES****IRRELEVANT FEATURES**

●	The response is verbal
●	The form of the response is controlled by an establishing operation

**DEFINING FEATURES****IRRELEVANT FEATURES**

●	The musculature with which the response is executed (vocal, written, gestural, etc.)
●	The type of reinforcement made currently effective by the establishing operation (may be conditioned or unconditioned, etc.)
●	Whether or not the current response is followed by reinforcement

# Mand Extension Example #1

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00:09

For example, a girl may learn to mand “candy” from her parents and then have a fairly strong tendency to mand candy from strangers who may in some way resemble her parents.



parents



stranger danger

## Mand Extension Example #2

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Similarly, a boy who has learned to mand water in his own kitchen may also begin to mand water in other people's houses or any place that has a faucet or fountain that resembles the faucet in his own kitchen.



# Mand Extension Example #3

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We may also begin to mand in the presence of listeners who are not really capable of reinforcing us. The process of extinction minimizes this tendency; however, we still retain some tendency to mand the behavior of dolls, small babies, or untrained animals. In such cases, the establishing operations are likely to be virtually identical to those that evoked the same response forms in the presence of reinforcing audiences.



## Mand Extension Example #4

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A final type of mand extension occurs when we make a mand that has never been reinforced before. Having successfully manded “water,” we mand “milk” for the first time. For this to occur, the speaker must have acquired a generalized mand form such as “May I have some \_\_\_\_\_?” In addition, the response form, the vocal response “milk,” must already have been learned as part of another elementary relationship, usually a tact.





# Review

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**Mand extension** is different from the extension of other elementary verbal relationships because mands are not controlled by a prior stimulus, so relevant and irrelevant stimulus features do not provide a clear criteria for classifying mand extension.



Other stimuli, including **audience variables**, may determine whether or not a mand is extended to novel situations.

*End of Lesson*