

Lesson 29: Public Accompaniment (OA)



This lesson defines and provides examples of public accompaniment, one of the ways a verbal community can teach verbal responses to private stimuli.

- ≡ Four Ways
- ≡ Definition of Public Accompaniment
- ≡ Public Accompaniment Example #1
- ≡ Public Stimuli and Collateral Private Stimuli
- ≡ Public Accompaniment Non-Example #1
- ≡ Review

Four Ways



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There are four major ways in which the verbal community, in trying to teach verbal responses to private stimuli, attempts to overcome the difficulty of not having direct access to them. The first is **public accompaniment**.

Private Stimulus

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

- | | |
|---|---|
| • | Is a physical energy change |
| • | Is capable of affecting a sense organ |
| • | Affects only one individual; other individuals are not affected |

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

•	Type of energy change
•	Function of the stimulus (e.g., reinforcing, discriminative, punishing)

Definition of Public Accompaniment



The method of **public accompaniment** is a way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli. Its defining features include a private stimulus, a collateral public stimulus, and reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus. Irrelevant features of public accompaniment include the type of private stimulus and whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated).

Public Accompaniment

A way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli that has the following features:

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| • | A private stimulus |
| • | A collateral public stimulus |

-

Reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

-

The type of private stimulus

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Whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated)

Public Accompaniment Example #1



If we see an object strike someone, or see damage to the tissue, we assume that these visual stimuli are correlated with private stimuli resulting from stimulation of free nerve endings. If we see a rash on someone's skin, we assume that the rash is correlated with private stimuli associated with itching.



Public Accompaniment

A way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli that has the following features:

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

✓	A private stimulus
✓	A collateral public stimulus
✓	Reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus

DEFINING FEATURES

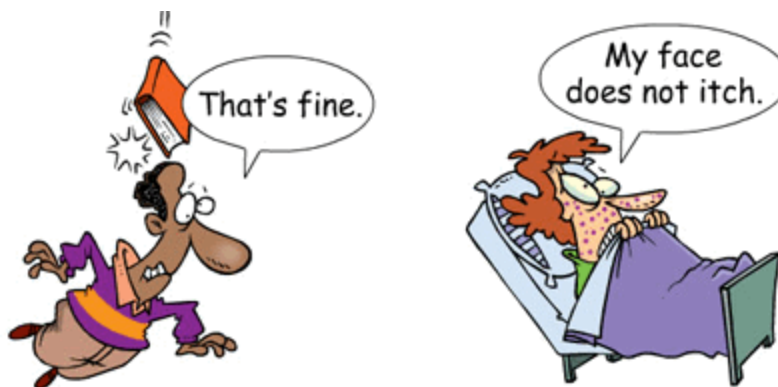
IRRELEVANT FEATURES

•	The type of private stimulus
•	Whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated)

Public Stimuli and Collateral Private Stimuli



Of course, not all public stimuli have collateral private stimuli. A rash may in fact not itch. An area of swollen or bruised skin may not hurt.



Public Accompaniment

A way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli that has the following features:

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

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•	A private stimulus
•	A collateral public stimulus
•	Reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

•	The type of private stimulus
•	Whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated)

Public Accompaniment Non-Example #1



00:09

On the other hand, a person may feel an itch although there is no public collateral stimulus, or a person may have pain without any public accompaniment.



Public Accompaniment

A way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli that has the following features:

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

✓	A private stimulus
✗	A collateral public stimulus
•	Reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus

DEFINING FEATURES

IRRELEVANT FEATURES

•	The type of private stimulus
•	Whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated)

Review



Public accompaniment is a way in which the verbal community brings verbal behavior under the control of private stimuli. Its defining features include a private stimulus, a collateral public stimulus, and reinforcement for a given response contingent upon the presence of the public stimulus.



Features **irrelevant** to public accompaniment include the type of private stimulus and whether or not there is any causal relationship between the public and private stimulus (they need only be correlated).

End of Lesson