3.4 Animal Studies of Attachment: Lorenz and Harlow: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7182 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Explain what is meant by Lorenz's 'critical period' in the context of gosling imprinting, and give one consequence if imprinting does not occur during this period.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 Outline the procedure of Lorenz's 1935 study of imprinting in greylag goslings, naming the key experimental manipulation and how goslings were exposed to the 'first moving object'.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

3 Outline Lorenz's extension of imprinting to sexual imprinting and give one example of how early imprinting influenced later mate preferences in his observations with greylag goslings.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.4 Animal Studies of Attachment: Lorenz and Harlow: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

explains critical period as a short, biologically determined time after hatching when imprinting can occur oe	**B1**
gives consequence such as the gosling not forming a normal attachment, which can lead to later social or mating problems oe	**B1**

Answer: The critical period is a short biologically determined time after hatching when imprinting must occur; if imprinting does not occur then the gosling may fail to form a normal attachment and can have social or mating difficulties later.

Question 2

states that eggs were divided so some goslings hatched with the mother and others hatched in an incubator with Lorenz present oe	**M1**
states that Lorenz acted as the first moving object seen by incubator-hatched goslings oe	**M1**
states that after hatching the goslings followed the first moving object seen, whether that was the mother or Lorenz oe	**M1**
makes clear this was a controlled comparison between natural maternal imprinting and imprinting on a human experimenter oe	**A1**

Answer: Eggs were split so some goslings hatched with their natural mother and others hatched in an incubator where Lorenz was the first moving object they saw; incubator-hatched goslings followed Lorenz while mother-hatched goslings followed their mother, showing a controlled comparison of first-object exposure.

Question 3

states that Lorenz suggested imprinting can influence later mate choice, called sexual imprinting oe	**B1**
gives an example such as goslings reared to follow Lorenz later attempting to mate with human-shaped objects or showing preference for mates with similar features to the first object oe	**B1**

Answer: Lorenz argued imprinting influenced later mate choice, sexual imprinting; for example, goslings that had imprinted on a human later showed courtship behaviour directed at humans or preferred mates with features similar to the first object.

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