Praise, punishment, good, and evil

Andy Wills



Praise and punishment



- What improves performance more:
 - Praising people when they do well?
 - Criticising them when they do badly?



Shove ha'penny

Get into pairs. Each pair needs:

- One computer.
- A piece of paper and a pen/pencil.



Shove ha'penny

- Hold the space bar down to shove the coin.
- The longer you hold it down, the further it goes.
- Try to score the highest number of points!



How to play... part 1.

- 1) Split into pairs.
- 2) Decide who plays first.
- 3) If you're the **player**, press the key, try to get 100pts!
- 4) If you're not the player, you're the **games teacher**:
 - 1) If your pupil gets 100pts, yell "Woo, yeah, well done!"
 - 2) Otherwise, say nothing.
- 5) Player: take your next go.
- 6) **Games teacher:** If you praised last time, note down whether they did just as well this time (100 pts), or did worse this time (less than 100 pts).
- 7) Repeat until the **player** has had 30 goes.



Recording behaviour...

Go	Score	After 100pts
1	100	-
2	20	WORSE
3	100	-
4	100	SAME
29	100	-
30	100	SAME

WORSE = 1

SAME = 2

SAME > WORSE

SAME = WORSE

WORSE > SAME

How to play... part 2.

WAIT! Do not start this part of the activity until asked to do so!

- 1) Swap over, so the player is now the games teacher, and vice versa.
- 2) If you're the **player**, press the key, try to get 100pts!
- 3) If you're not the player, you're the **games teacher**:
 - 1) If your pupil gets 0 pts, yell "That was bad! Do better next time!"
 - 2) Otherwise, say nothing.
- 4) Player: take your next go.
- 5) **Games teacher:** If you criticised last time, note down whether they did just as badly this time (0 pts), or did better this time (more than 0 pts).
- 6) Repeat until the **player** has had 30 goes.



Recording behaviour...

Go	Score	After 100pts
1	0	-
2	20	BETTER
3	0	-
4	0	SAME
29	0	-
30	0	SAME

#BETTER = 1

SAME = 2

SAME > BETTER

SAME = BETTER

BETTER > SAME

Praise and criticism



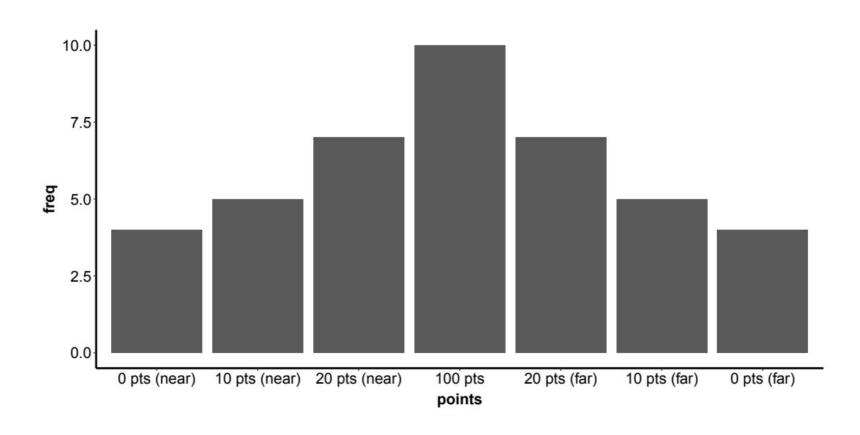
- When you praised your partner, what tended to happen?
- When you criticised your partner, what tended to happen?
- What does this tell us about praise versus critcisim?



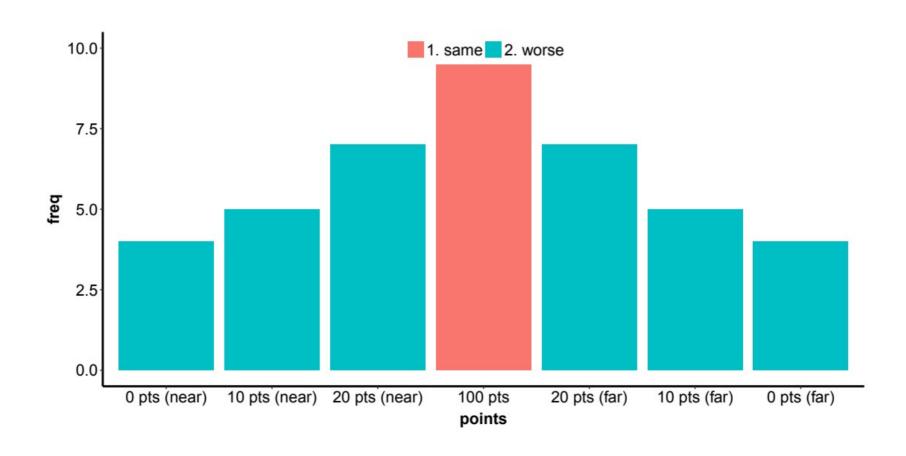
A secret is revealed...

...come to class to find out what it is!

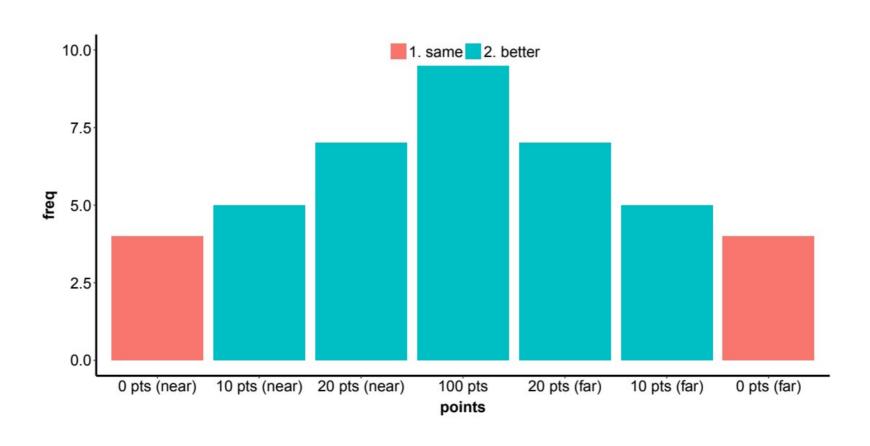
Distribution of scores



When you praise...



When you criticise...



Regression to the mean

Other areas it (may) apply to:

- OFSTED school inspections
- "Difficult" second film / second novel.

Good and evil

- Each *person* needs:
 - To be able to see one of the classroom screens



How to play

- 1) Watch the slides closely.
- 2) After all slides have been shown, complete the Mentimeter poll.

Spoiler alert!

DON'T LOOK AT THE LAST SLIDE UNTIL AFTER YOU HAVE ANSWERED THE QUESTIONAIRE !!!



The same information in a table...

	Group A	Group B
Desirable	18	9
Undesirable	8	4

18: 8 = 9 : 4