

CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING: THEORIES OF ALTRUISM

Reciprocal altruism model

Read pages 405–406 and use external sources if needed. Find answers to the following questions:

- What is the gist of reciprocal altruism model? How does it explain altruism?
- Do a TEACUP analysis of reciprocal altruism model:
 - **Testable:** Is it possible to set up experimental study to test the theory?
 - **Empirical evidence:** Is there empirical evidence to support the theory? Is there research that challenges the theory?
 - **Application:** Can the theory be used to explain or change behaviour?
 - **Construct validity:** Are the concepts that make up the theory well defined? Can the concepts be operationalized and observed/measured?
 - **Unbiased AND Uncertainty:** Is the theory ethnocentric? Androcentric? Is the research upon which the theory is based representative of a global population? Are there any areas of uncertainties or unknowns within the theory?
 - **Predictive validity:** Does the theory enable us to predict behaviour? Can we use it to predict trends in behaviour in a larger population or can we use it to predict an individual's behaviour?

When you have found out effective answers to the questions above, find a way to teach the answers to other groups.

Produce a brief and effective teaching material that you can upload to OneNote.

In the teaching phase, groups of three are formed. Each group contains one representative of reciprocal altruism model, kin selection theory and empathy altruism hypothesis. Make sure that every member in your group is able teach the contents.

After the teaching phase, engage in conversation and evaluate which theory explains human altruism the best.

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Kin selection theory

Read pages 406–407 and teacher's additional materials. Pay close attention to the **Essock-Vitale and Maguire (1985)** and **Madsen et al. (2007)** studies. Find answers to the following questions:

- What is the gist of kin selection theory? How does it explain altruism?
- Do a TEACUP analysis of kin selection theory:
 - **Testable:** Is it possible to set up experimental study to test the theory?
 - **Empirical evidence:** Is there empirical evidence to support the theory? Is there research that challenges the theory?
 - **Application:** Can the theory be used to explain or change behaviour?
 - **Construct validity:** Are the concepts that make up the theory well defined? Can the concepts be operationalized and observed/measured?
 - **Unbiased AND Uncertainty:** Is the theory ethnocentric? Androcentric? Is the research upon which the theory is based representative of a global population? Are there any areas of uncertainties or unknowns within the theory?
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Empathy-altruism hypothesis

Read pages 407–409 and teacher's additional materials. Pay close attention to **Toi, Batson and Steiner (1982)** and **Batson et al. (1981)** studies. Find answers to the following questions:

- What is the gist of empathy-altruism hypothesis? How does it explain altruism?
- Do a TEACUP analysis of empathy-altruism hypothesis:
 - **Testable:** Is it possible to set up experimental study to test the theory?
 - **Empirical evidence:** Is there empirical evidence to support the theory? Is there research that challenges the theory?
 - **Application:** Can the theory be used to explain or change behaviour?
 - **Construct validity:** Are the concepts that make up the theory well defined? Can the concepts be operationalized and observed/measured?
 - **Unbiased AND Uncertainty:** Is the theory ethnocentric? Androcentric? Is the research upon which the theory is based representative of a global population? Are there any areas of uncertainties or unknowns within the theory?
 - **Predictive validity:** Does the theory enable us to predict behaviour? Can we use it to predict trends in behaviour in a larger population or can we use it to predict an individual's behaviour?

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