

## **differential reinforcement techniques** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Type of Speech:**

noun <sup>[2]</sup>

### **Definition:**

interventions other than punishment that a teacher uses when a student consistently behaves inappropriately in the classroom. Instead of immediately using punishment, the first interventions to try when a teacher observes inappropriate student behavior consistently occurring in a classroom are the differential reinforcement techniques. These include differential reinforcement of low rates of behavior (DRL), differential reinforcement of other behavior (DRO), and differential reinforcement of incompatible behavior (DRI).

### **Additional Information:**

Instead of immediately using punishment, the first interventions to try when a teacher observes inappropriate student behavior consistently occurring in a classroom are the differential reinforcement techniques. These include differential reinforcement of low rates of behavior (DRL), differential reinforcement of other behavior (DRO), and differential reinforcement of incompatible behavior (DRI).

- The DRL procedure involves reduction of an inappropriate student behavior that occurs far too frequently, and the goal is to reduce it to a level that is typical of most others in the classroom who behave appropriately most of the time.
- Differential reinforcement of other (DRO) behavior is very similar to DRL except that the teacher reinforces only the student's complete absence of the target inappropriate behavior (or zero demonstrations).
- With differential reinforcement of incompatible (DRI) behavior, the teacher reinforces the student for engaging in behavior that is physically incompatible with the target behavior to be decreased or completely eliminated.

### ***For further explanation:***

Reinforcement 101 <sup>[3]</sup>- this article provides six primary reinforcement rules as well as the use of differential reinforcement.

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**Source URL:**<https://ncpedia.org/glossary/differential-reinforcement>

### **Links**

[1] <https://ncpedia.org/glossary/differential-reinforcement> [2] <https://ncpedia.org/category/parts-speech/noun> [3] <http://appliedbehavioralstrategies.com/reinforcement-101.html>