# Chapter 22
## Conceptual Work Sheets for
## Rule-Governed Behavior: Concepts

First, skim through the work sheets so you can come up with one big example that handles all the questions, if possible. Also, if possible, take your examples from your professional life.

**Danger!**
For the first four questions,
make sure the outcomes are TOO delayed
to reinforce the behavior you're analyzing.

**Cutting Some Slack**
In the real world, most rule-governed analog contingencies involve response units that contain gaps greater than 60 seconds. (Let's call such response units *analogs to reinforceable response units*.) And, unless otherwise indicated, for the rest of this course, you may now use analogs to reinforceable response units in your original examples. Ain't that cool.

**Analogs to Avoidance Contingencies**
The following homework assignments are in transition from looking at all life in terms of analogs to reinforcement to what we now think is a more realistic view--analogs to avoidance. So, if you want to make your original examples real cool, you'll make them analog to avoidance contingencies by adding a deadline.

## The contingency diagram for my example of an Analog to Avoidance

First, check out the definition:

*Definition: Concept*
**Behavioral contingency**
- The occasion ($S^D$) for a response (behavior),
- the response (behavior),
- and the outcome of the response (behavior).

So let's include the $S^D$ and $S^\Delta$, if there are any, in our examples, something we haven't usually done in analyzing analog contingencies. However, you may not have an $S^D$ and $S^\Delta$. For example, a Christmas tree in the living room is not an $S^D$ for decorating it. Why not? The Christmas tree is more like an operandum, the lever that must be in the Skinner box before a response is even possible, let alone reinforceable. It would be nice if your examples have an $S^D$ and $S^\Delta$ but not necessary.

**My example:** In order to get started on my long overdue practicum project I must meet with my notoriously absent minded advisor. (Excuse the loose use of the term forget, I am well aware there's no such thing as forgetting.) Due to my advisor's busy schedule and forgetfulness (we're calling him Dr. M. for anonymity's sake), if I set up an appointment with him while his laptop computer is open with its calendar/appointment, he will meet me at our agreed upon time several days later. If, however, he does not have his computer open, it is most probable he won't show for our appointment.