What Moves Maya?

Trace how needs, thoughts, and situations shape behavior.

SS24.P.15 "Explain the role of motivation and emotion in human behavior.* 15a Describe theories that explain how biological, cognitive, and social factors influence motivation, including Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, arousal theory..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one biological signal and circle one example of thinking or social influence. Number the three situational cues that lead to anger, curiosity, and anxiety so you can trace what shapes each response.

A Busy Day at the Fair

1. At a student innovation fair, Maya has skipped lunch to finish her project. Her stomach growls, and she finds it hard to focus. Drive-reduction theory explains this motivation: when the body moves away from its usual balance, or homeostasis, biological signals can produce a need. Hunger can create a drive to eat, and eating can reduce that drive. Maya considers waiting until her presentation ends, but a friend offers her a snack. Her decision depends on more than biology: she thinks about timing and responds to her friend's offer.

2. After the snack, Maya wants to present her project well. Maslow's hierarchy describes several kinds of needs, from physiological needs and safety to belonging, esteem, and personal growth, sometimes called self-actualization. A supportive team may meet Maya's need for belonging, while praise for her work may support esteem. The hierarchy can help explain priorities, but people do not always meet needs in a fixed order. Arousal theory adds another angle: people seek a useful level of alertness or stimulation. Maya feels bored during practice in an empty room, yet too tense before a packed auditorium. A smaller audience helps her concentrate.

3. At the fair, a judge accidentally knocks Maya's model off the table. Maya feels angry because she interprets the mistake as unfair. Later, she notices an unfamiliar mechanism on another team's project. That unexpected detail sparks curiosity, so she asks how it works. Before the final awards, she hears that judges will call names without warning. Uncertainty about being evaluated makes her anxious. Each event is a situational cue, but interpretation matters: another student might focus on repairing the model, ignore the mechanism, or feel excited by the surprise announcement.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do biology, Maya's thinking, and her friend's action each help explain her decision about the snack?

2. Which two needs in Maslow's hierarchy could Maya's team and praise for her work help meet? Why should the hierarchy not be treated as a fixed sequence?

3. Use arousal theory to explain why neither the empty practice room nor the packed auditorium helps Maya concentrate as well as a smaller audience.

4. Identify the cue for each of Maya's three emotions: anger, curiosity, and anxiety. Explain how she responds to or interprets each cue.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a situation outside a school fair. In four sentences, describe a person's behavior, explain it with drive-reduction theory, Maslow's hierarchy, or arousal theory, and identify a situational cue for anger, curiosity, or anxiety and explain its effect.

What Moves Maya?

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one biological signal and circle one example of thinking or social influence. Number the three situational cues that lead to anger, curiosity, and anxiety so you can trace what shapes each response. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do biology, Maya's thinking, and her friend's action each help explain her decision about the snack?	**Hunger creates a biological drive to eat. Maya thinks about the timing of her presentation, and her friend's offer gives her a chance to eat.**
2	Which two needs in Maslow's hierarchy could Maya's team and praise for her work help meet? Why should the hierarchy not be treated as a fixed sequence?	**The team could support belonging, and praise could support esteem. People do not always meet needs in a fixed order.**
3	Use arousal theory to explain why neither the empty practice room nor the packed auditorium helps Maya concentrate as well as a smaller audience.	**The empty room leaves Maya bored, while the packed auditorium makes her too tense. A smaller audience gives her a more useful level of alertness.**
4	Identify the cue for each of Maya's three emotions: anger, curiosity, and anxiety. Explain how she responds to or interprets each cue.	**A judge knocks over her model, which Maya interprets as unfair, prompting anger. An unfamiliar mechanism sparks curiosity and a question. The unannounced order of the awards creates uncertainty about evaluation, prompting anxiety.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After a long hike, Leo feels hungry and stops to eat a sandwich. Drive-reduction theory explains how hunger can create a drive for food that eating reduces. When Leo hears thunder and sees dark clouds, he becomes anxious because he expects a dangerous storm. He takes a shorter trail back to the parking lot.

Accept other passage-supported explanations of Maya's choices and emotions. For Your Turn, check that the invented situation includes an accurate theory-based explanation and a distinct situational cue linked to an emotion.