Aversive stimulus Noxious or unpleasant stimulus that elicits aversion and/or withdrawal responses.

Discriminated avoidance An avoidance conditioning procedure in which the occurrence of an aversive unconditioned stimulus is signaled by a warning signal or conditioned stimulus. Responding during the conditioned stimulus terminates that stimulus and prevents the delivery of the aversive unconditioned stimulus.

Feedback cue A stimulus that results from the performance of a response.

Free-operant avoidance An avoidance conditioning procedure in which the aversive stimulus is not signaled by an external warning signal. Rather, the aversive stimulus is scheduled to occur periodically, as set by the S-S interval. Each occurrence of the avoidance response prevents the delivery of the aversive stimulus for a fixed period, which is called the R-S interval. Same as *Nondiscriminated avoidance.*

Negative reinforcement An instrumental conditioning procedure in which there is a negative contingency between the instrumental response and an aversive stimulus. If the instrumental response is performed, the aversive stimulus is terminated or prevented from occurring; if the instrumental response is not performed, the aversive stimulus is presented.

Negative reinforcer Same as *Aversive stimulus* (see above).

Nondiscriminated avoidance Same as *Free-operant avoidance*.

One-way avoidance An avoidance conditioning procedure in which the required response to avoid shock is always to cross from one compartment of a shuttle box to the other in the same direction.

Predatory imminence The perceived likelihood of being attacked by a predator. Different species-typical defense responses are assumed to be performed in the face of different degrees of predatory imminence.

Proprioceptive cue An internal response feedback stimulus that arises from the movement of a muscle and/or joint.

R-S interval The interval between the occurrence of an avoidance response and the next scheduled presentation of the aversive stimulus in a nondiscriminated avoidance procedure.

S-S interval The interval between successive presentations of the aversive stimulus in a nondiscriminated avoidance procedure when the avoidance response is not performed.

Safety signal A stimulus that signals the absence of an aversive event.

Shuttle box An apparatus for the study of avoidance behavior consisting of two adjacent compartments. The avoidance response involves moving from one compartment to the other (i.e., shuttling between the compartments).

Species-specific defense reactions Species-typical responses individuals perform in aversive situations. The responses may involve freezing, fleeing, or fighting.

SSDR Abbreviation for *Species-specific defense reaction.*

Temporal cues Stimuli indicative of the passage of time.

Two-factor theory A theory of avoidance learning involving two forms of conditioning: (1) Pavlovian conditioning of fear to a stimulus that signals aversive stimulation, and (2) instrumental conditioning of the avoidance response by fear reduction.

Two-way avoidance A shuttle avoidance procedure in which trials can start in either compartment of a shuttle box; the avoidance response consists of going back and forth from the occupied compartment to the unoccupied compartment.