Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

**Please read the following scenario:**

Imagine you are a paraprofessional in a high school English class. Tamara is a student in the class, and she constantly talks out of turn during class lectures and discussions. Tamara never raises her hand and instead shares her ideas without regard for the other students or the teacher. The teacher wants Tamara to raise her hand before speaking. He decides to reinforce Tamara’s appropriate behavior (hand-raising) with points that she can later exchange for computer time. The teacher asks you to help him develop a schedule of reinforcement to use with Tamara.

Based on what you have learned in this lesson, what do you think would be the most effective schedule of reinforcement to use with Tamara? Consider the following options, and then decide which schedule of reinforcement, or combination of schedules, you would use in this situation:

1. Continuous reinforcement schedule - Give Tamara points every time she raises her hand.

2. Fixed ratio reinforcement schedule followed by variable ratio reinforcement schedule - First, give Tamara points every third time she raises her hand. Then change to a variable ratio schedule and give Tamara points after she raises her hand an approximate number of times.

3. Continuous reinforcement schedule followed by fixed ratio reinforcement schedule - Give Tamara points every time she raises her hand. Then change to a fixed reinforcement schedule and give Tamara points every fifth time she raises her hand.

4. Use another schedule of reinforcement, or a combination of schedules.

**Describe the behavior:**

1. What does the behavior of concern look like when it happens?

2. What should the behavior look like (i.e., what behavior should you teach)?
Describe the conditions around the behavior:

3. When does the behavior take place?

4. What specifically occurs before the behavior takes place?

5. How do people respond to the behavior after it takes place?

Consider the options presented for the above scenario:

6. Which of the options (above) would you choose to use to address the challenging behavior? What is your reasoning for choosing this option over the other options?

7. Would you apply this strategy before, during, or after the challenging behavior occurs? What is your reasoning for this?

8. Imagine that you need to tell another paraprofessional how s/he should respond to the challenging behavior described in the scenario. Describe in detail, step by step, how this paraprofessional should carry out the strategy that you chose to use.