Econ 838/445

Homework 2 – Reading

Due before class on Sept. 24

Please read the paper “Monkeys Reject Unequal Pay” (Brosnan & Waal 2003 | Nature) and answer the following questions.

1. Concisely describe the goal of this paper and explain why it is important.

2. Precisely state the hypotheses.

3. Concisely describe the experimental design and how it allows inferences with respect to the hypotheses. What kind of confounds do “effort control” and “food control” can preclude? Can you think of better design to preclude these confounds?

4. What are the sources of error in this design? Does this design effectively control these errors? If so, how? If not, why not?

5. What sort of statistical tests are used and why? Are these tests reasonable given the nature of the design? If you are not familiar with the statistical tests they used, search and make sure you have a basic idea about under what condition these tests are used before we learn them.

6. Detail the conclusions. Do you think the conclusions are overstated? Or are they reasonable and appropriate given the data as presented in the paper?