

Visual Learners

Individuals who fall into this category typically learn through what they are able to see with their own eyes. Visual learners are those students who jockey for the positions at the front of the class, must have front row theater seats and love to be right up front for sporting events in order to obtain the best view.

Visual learners have a tendency to describe everything that they see in terms of appearances. These learners love visual aids such as photos, diagrams, maps and graphs. Visual learners frequently are good writers and will commonly perform quite well on written assignments.

Visual learners tend to exhibit these characteristics:

- Loves magazines, books and other types of reading materials
- Relate best to information that is written, such as graphs, maps, diagrams, charts, highlighted notes, flashcards, etc.
- Feel frustrated when unable to take notes
- May demonstrate outstanding photographic memory
- Can remember precisely where information is located on a page
- Must have a quiet place to study
- Benefits from making their own notes, even from information that is already printed
- Has difficulty following lectures that are long
- Tends to be good at spelling
- Tends to be detail oriented
- Typically tidy and organized
- Often asks for verbal directions to be repeated

- Must observe instructor's body language and facial expressions
- Concentrates better with a clear line of sight to visual aids

Visual Learning Tips

In order to maximize your learning style, concentrate on these tips:

- Ask for written directions
- Utilize diagrams and flow charts for note taking
- Color code notes
- Visualize spelling of words or facts that must be memorized
- Write down key points
- Copy what is on the board
- Sit near the front of the classroom
- Watch videos
- Use highlighters to mark important points in notes
- Use graph paper in order to make diagrams and charts for key points
- Utilize illustrations to remember important material
- Utilize visual metaphors to associate relevant content
- Write down explanations for points that are difficult

Preferred test styles for visual learners are essays, maps and diagramming.

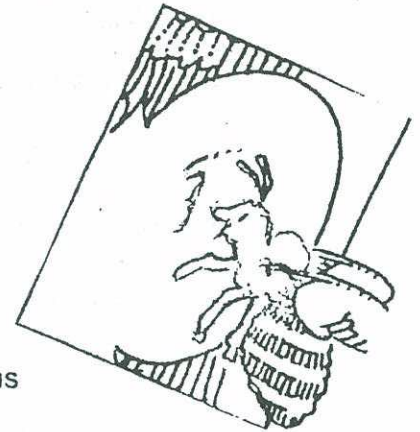
Worst test type for visual learners-listen and respond style.

Auditory Learners

Auditory or verbal learners are those who prefer to hear materials as they are spoken, such as in a lecture format. It is estimated that auditory learners comprise about 30% of the population. These learners commonly find they are best able to recall information after it has been spoken rather than through reading it.

Individuals with an auditory or verbal learning style typically exhibit the following characteristics:

- Frequently talkative in class
- Learn most effectively through audio books, lectures, oral presentations and verbal instructions
- Information usually has little relevance unless it is heard
- Prefer presenting oral reports rather than written reports
- Enjoy debates and discussions
- Benefits from reading aloud
- Able to follow verbal directions better than written directions
- Tends to memorize well
- Able to remember names well
- Prefer listening to the news
- Does not automatically understand maps, diagrams or graphs
- Enjoys speaking with others
- Enjoys music
- Sings frequently
- Often good at foreign languages



- Must repeat information such as phone numbers
- Benefits from study groups
- Reads slowly
- Tends to be an articulate speaker
- Unable to keep quiet for very long

Learning Tips for Auditory Learners

Individuals who are auditory learners may be able to benefit from the following study strategies:

- Utilize audiotapes for learning
- Read information aloud when studying
- Ask questions
- Watch videos
- Use word association techniques to remember facts
- Participate in class discussions
- Record directions and notes
- Listen to taped notes
- Avoid auditory distractions
- Participate in a study group or study with a study partner
- Make up songs or rhymes to go along with the pertinent material
- Use rhymes to recall dates, names, facts, etc.
- Write out steps in sentence form and then read them out loud

Kinesthetic/Tactile Learning Style

It is estimated that about 5% of the population are kinesthetic or tactile learners. The kinesthetic learning style refers to the ability to absorb information best by experiencing, touching, doing, moving and being active in some manner. Persons who fall into this category prefer situations which are hands-on and which provide them with the opportunity to assemble parts and take part in a physical activity.

Kinesthetic learners tend to be touchers or feelers. They process information through the sense of touch, such as by feeling shapes and textures. While they may take a lot of notes or doodle while attending lectures or even while simply thinking something through, often they will not refer to the notes again.

Kinesthetic learners often exhibit the following characteristics:

- Enjoy action, experiences, discovery
- Remember best by manipulating things, using tools, etc.
- Enjoy concept demonstrations
- Able to master skills through practice and imitation
- Benefits from hands-on teaching techniques
- Learns well from excursions and field trips
- Tends to collect items
- Handwriting often not good
- Weak at spelling
- Uses hands to communicate and talks fast
- Benefits from role-playing situations
- Good at sports
- Enjoys having music playing in the background while working or studying
- Takes frequent breaks while studying
- Often good at playing a musical instrument
- Often good at dance, martial arts

