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Last Lecture/Mindset/Learning Style

Last Lecture

Out of all the concepts that Randy Pausch discussed, I think I related the most to the concept that “experience is what you get when you didn’t get what you want”. This is something I relate to a lot as a musician and a composer who wasn’t able to organize a tour effectively or premier a piece when I wanted to. When I was in my band, we were achieving a large amount of local success to the point where I thought that I could relocate the band and try to start playing large shows in a city where we might “make it”. Friends from other bands were calling me the “chosen one” due to the fact that if anyone was going to make it, they thought we would. Due to personal reasons in the band and my desire to improve as musician and songwriter through higher education, we split up and no longer play together. However, I’m always reminded about the skills I learned from that band that allowed us to be successful and how I think that if I were to implement those same concepts into a more professional and refined band or project, it would have a far greater and more worthwhile impact. I wasn’t able to achieve my dream as a professional touring rock band but the skills I learned along the way through the experience of organizing and playing shows will always last into my future endeavors as a composer. I was also affected by his idea that if people aren’t criticizing you for improving or getting better, then people no longer care about the goals you are trying to accomplish. This is something I struggle with a lot today as a student composer. Because of my less than conventional background in composition, I can’t help but compare myself to other student composers who always seem to be doing work that is better than my own. However, without the constructive feedback that I receive from my professor and my colleagues, I don’t think I would have made it this far as an academic musician. It’s difficult to keep going when I’m constantly thinking that my work is tangibly lesser than my friends’, but without that criticism I don’t think I would have been able to grow and improve as much as I have in the past 4 years.

Mindset

After taking the mindset quiz, I was given the score of 50 out of 60 with 45-60 representing a strong growth mindset. The results of my mindset test didn’t surprise me too much as I figured they would probably resemble someone with a growth mindset. However, I think if this was maybe 3 or 4 years ago, my results might resemble a more fixed mindset. I definitely learned more about what I can be doing for myself when faced with a challenging concept in my schoolwork though it definitely can be challenging to remember these tools when I am frustrated or distracted by personal things.

Learning Style

Your Scores:

- Auditory: 45%
- Visual: 35%
- Tactile: 20%

You are an **Auditory** learner! Check out the information below, or [view all of the learning styles](#).

Auditory

If you are an auditory learner, you learn by hearing and listening. You understand and remember things you have heard. You store information by the way it sounds, and you have an easier time understanding spoken instructions than written ones. You often learn by reading out loud because you have to hear it or speak it in order to know it.

As an auditory learner, you probably hum or talk to yourself or others if you become bored. People may think you are not paying attention, even though you may be hearing and understanding everything being said.

Here are some things that auditory learners like you can do to learn better.

- Sit where you can hear.
- Have your hearing checked on a regular basis.
- Use flashcards to learn new words; read them out loud.
- Read stories, assignments, or directions out loud.
- Record yourself spelling words and then listen to the recording.
- Have test questions read to you out loud.
- Study new material by reading it out loud.

Remember that you need to **hear** things, not just see things, in order to learn well.

I honestly expected to have the results of a more visual learning style though it makes sense that I am an auditory learner as I am first and foremost a musician/composer. I am always working in visual software when I compose, record, or play with sound so I definitely expected my results to resemble a visual learner. To help my learning, I'm going to try to utilize more auditory and visual styles though to be honest, I think I'm pretty equal in all categories of learning. There isn't really one that I gravitate towards over the other. Any help that I could use would be best optimized by Zoom calls where you could show me how to do things. I could also benefit from more assistance with coding tutorials on Mac.