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English 1B

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Discover Your Learning Style(s)

I took the Diablo Valley College’s “Learning Style Survey” and it indicated that I am a “visual/non-verbal learner”. I do not agree with the results. While I do believe this survey accurately pointed out that I like to learn visually and non-verbally it failed to recognize that I also like to learn verbally. My “Auditory/Verbal” score was almost as high as my “Visual/Non-verbal” score, yet the output of the quiz said nothing about this. It seems that the algorithm used just picks the category that the survey participant scored the highest in and negates the rest of the results. The scores don't appear to be integrated with each other at all, just absolutes that stand on their own. Just like with most scientific psychological testing, I believe a spectrum model of results would be better. However, creating a test like this would require a lot of experimentation and testing to prove its reliability. It is my understanding that this test is supposed to be thought provoking more than an actual scientific reference. I also found myself asking “in what context, when learning what?” when answering almost every question. Depending on the specific context and subject I am learning, I would answer each question very differently. I believe that this defeats the purpose of the test as a general guideline. The test recommended 6 techniques to improve my learning ability. I found 2 of them to be very helpful. The first is creating charts and diagrams that illustrate key concepts. The second is using a computer to assist in organizing material that needs to be memorized, and using spreadsheet software to further organize the material. I have not used these techniques before and look forward to trying them for this class, English 1B. I believe new methods will be required to help me succeed in English 1B since English has always been by far my weakest subject. I had to take English 1A three times, and even on my third try I barely passed with a C. I would love to explain why I perform so poorly in this subject, but if I knew why then I probably wouldn't have the issue in the first place.