DISC Leadership and Learning Styles

A Dual Evaluation of Behavioral & Learning Styles

Report For: **Sample Report**

Focus: **Work**

Date: **10/24/2019**

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Introduction to the DISC and Learning Styles Combined Report

Congratulations on your decision to take the DISC and Learning Styles Combined Assessment.

Many of us grew up believing the wisdom of treating others the way you would like to be treated — the Golden Rule. We soon realized that another practical rule to live by seemed to be what Dr. Tony Alessandra calls The Platinum Rule® — Treat others the way THEY want to be treated.

With this personalized and comprehensive DISC and Learning Styles Combined report, you have the tools to help you become a better you and help you behave more maturely and productively. Then you can develop and use more of your natural strengths, while recognizing and improving your limitations. This report concentrates on your natural tendencies that influence your behavior and values/motivations.

DISC STYLES

Historical, as well as contemporary, research reveals more than a dozen various models of our behavioral differences, but many share one common thread: the grouping of behavior into four basic categories. *Our DISC System* focuses on patterns of *external, observable* behaviors using scales of directness and openness that each style exhibits. See the table below. Because we can see and hear these external behaviors, it becomes much easier to "read" people. This model is simple, practical, and easy to remember and use.

STYLE	TENDENCIES
Dominance	Tends to be direct and guarded
Influence	Tends to be direct and open
Steadiness	Tends to be indirect and open
Conscientious	Tends to be indirect and guarded

ADAPTABILITY

In addition to understanding your DISC style, Part II (Application of DISC Styles) covers behavioral adaptability - ways you can apply your style strengths or modify your style weaknesses in order to meet the needs of a particular situation or individual. Social scientists call it **social intelligence** (EIQ) which may be just as important, or even more important, as your Intelligence Quotient (IQ) in being successful in today's world.

LEARNING STYLES

How we learn is a topic of thousands of books and articles that are written on the subject from hundreds of different perspectives. One particular, but large, foundational part of this subject area is **learning styles**. Your Learning Styles Profile is designed to measure your learning style in most situations.

This is done in four categories:
1. **ATTENDING**
2. **TRANSLATING**
3. **RELATING**
4. **UNDERSTANDING**

In your learning styles profile, you are scored in all four categories and most, if not necessarily all, of the subscales. In this report we will look at these four categories in more detail.

PART I Understanding Yourself

General Characteristics

The narration below serves as a general overview of your behavioral tendencies. It sets the stage for the report which follows, and provides a framework for understanding and reflecting on your results. We've occasionally provided some coaching ideas so that you can leverage your strengths whenever possible to maximize your personal success.

Sample, you score like those who maintain a high sense of urgency in most things they do. You are always thinking about more efficient or effective ways of getting things done. This urgent tempo can help propel you and your team to new successes, but may sometimes cause frustration on your part when faced with setbacks.

You tend to be assertive and responsive to creative ideas and solutions. When in creative mode, you may tend to withdraw a bit and process information internally. Once the decision has been made, or the solution created, you emerge as a more assertive and mission-focused leader. Sample, you score like those who push the envelope of their own creativity, and tend to lead their teams to optimal performance. To get the most out of this trait, be certain to display a more people-oriented side at times, so that others on the team can see this side of you as well.

You make day-to-day operational decisions very quickly and easily. You put substantially more time, effort, and caution into larger decisions. You score like some who tend to be worriers, in a good sense, because of the level of detail and quality of thought behind the important decisions you make. At times, you may present yourself with "double-bind" situations: "damned if you do, and damned if you don't." You may reduce stress in these types of situations by seeking input from trusted advisors.

Careful analysis of your response pattern indicates that you may tend to have dichotomous ambitions: On one hand, you are driven to achieve quick, visible results, but you are equally motivated by strong quality control and perfection. In an ideal world, these drives could work in harmony, but in reality, they might well prove detrimental to the result. You may sometimes seek quick results at the expense of quality, or vice versa.

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General Characteristics (continued)

Your decisiveness and reaction time may suffer due to a desire to investigate all facets of a problem and all potential solutions before making a final decision. Your detail-oriented nature may work against you by creating an internal bottleneck.

You tend to handle assertive and aggressive people in a blunt and critical way. If someone is "dishing it out," you can take it and also dish it right back to them. This may be somewhat intimidating to those in the workplace who prefer a softer approach, so be careful not to overreact. In your communication with others, you tend to provide just the facts and information needed to get the job done, or the question answered. Sometimes, however, it may be necessary to tolerate some off-topic discussion in order to build a rapport with others on the team.

When in high thought-processing gear, you may be somewhat restrained in sharing ideas or expressing feelings. You score like those who may be perceived by others as somewhat cool or aloof. This is especially true when you are faced with decisions of very high importance. You tend to internalize the thought processes and not share them with others as you are evaluating the possibilities. By opening up a bit, you might reduce the potential for internal stress, and also be perceived as more of a collaborative decision maker.

You like to be perceived as a pacesetter -- one who comes up with new ideas and creative solutions. This theme will emerge in other parts of this report due to its importance. You bring a creative spin to the way you solve problems and find solutions. You have the ability to evaluate the whole range of possibilities, and provide deep mindshare on the decisions you make. This comes from both your decision-making ability and your deep concern for details.

Your Strengths

What You Bring to the Organization

You are likely to display your strength characteristics rather consistently. For the most part, these qualities tend to enhance your effectiveness within your organization. Work Style Preferences provide useful insights as you work in a job or as you work together on a team or family project. They are the talents and tendencies you bring to your job. Check the two most important strengths and the two most important work style tendencies and transfer them to the Summary of Your Style page.

Your Strengths:
- You are able to find solutions quickly, with a high degree of quality control.
- You are able to make decisions having the bottom-line in mind.
- You put hard work and heavy effort into finding the best possible answers to questions or problems.
- You maintain a strong, businesslike focus on problems, ideas, and solutions.
- You tend to be a strong agent of change.
- You consider many alternatives, theories, and possibilities in your problem-solving approach.
- You are a very creative thinker and innovator.

Your Work Style Tendencies That You Bring to the Job:
- You enjoy developing new systems and procedures to increase efficiency or quality control.
- You motivate others on the team with a sense of competition and urgency.
- You are motivated to be creative and tend to become bored with routine work.
- You are able to look at a project from a "big picture" perspective, while keeping track of the details and minutiae that contribute to each step.
- You want to be seen as assertive, and at the vanguard of leadership regarding new ideas and solutions.
- You sometimes hesitate in making decisions due to a desire to investigate all facets of a problem, and all potential solutions.
- You are motivated to be an initiator of creative new ideas, and may be seen as an agent of change within an organization.

Your Motivations (Wants) and Needs

What motivates you? People are motivated by what they want. What do you really want? Our behaviors are also driven by our needs. Each style has different needs. If one person is stressed out, they may need quiet time alone; another may need social time around a lot of people. Each is different and simply meeting their needs. The more fully our needs are met, the easier it is to perform at an optimal level. Check the two most important motivators (wants) and the two most important needs and transfer them to the Summary of Your Style page.

You Tend to Be Motivated By:
- Freedom from control and close scrutiny. A lack of freedom implies a lack of trust.
- High standards of quality that all members of the team honor and support.
- Direct, factual answers to questions, supported by accurate data.
- Time to analyze facts and data prior to making a final decision.
- Time to react to sudden changes, and to analyze the impact on overall quality.
- Efficient methods which get things done faster, without sacrificing quality.
- New experiences, and new challenges to meet.

People With Patterns Like You Tend to Need:
- A minimum of oversight, interference, and organizational politics getting in the way of the creative processes.
- To seek more input from others for a more effective team cooperation.
- To verbalize more of your reasons for decisions, and to include others in the decision-making process.
- Opportunities to use your professional expertise to solve problems by finding creative solutions.
- To be able to trust the competence and high standards of others on the team.
- Fewer daily critical decisions, as you may hesitate when under too much pressure due to the desire for a high-quality result.
- To focus on reaching closure on projects, as you tend to resist finalizing because there is always something that could be improved.

YOUR MOTIVATIONS Ideal Work Environment

Everybody is motivated…however; they are motivated for their own reasons, not somebody else's reasons. By understanding your motivations, you can create an environment where you are most likely to be self-motivated. Check the two most important environment factors and transfer them to the Summary of Your Style page.

You Tend to Be Most Effective In Environments That Provide:

- Freedom from external pressure, while allowing for self-imposed pressure and urgency.
- Challenging assignments that are both detailed and wide in scope.
- Power and authority to make decisions and create change.
- Freedom to create in new and different ways.
- Support of some occasional vacillation in decisions or ideas.
- Opportunities for one to work alone, and to think things through.
- Support which allows you to focus maximum effort on the job tasks, and not to be concerned with social protocol.

The C Style

Under Stress - Perceptions, Behavior and Needs for the C

Stress is unavoidable. The perceptions of our behavior may have a significant impact on our effectiveness - both in how we perceive ourselves and how others perceive us. The way we behave under stress can create a perception that is not what we intend. The descriptions below of perceptions by others may seem somewhat extreme at times (especially if our behavior is an over-extended strength that becomes a weakness or limitation). As you understand these perceptions more clearly, you are able to modify your behavior to maximize your own effectiveness and ensure that others see you as you intend.

Potential Self Perception:
- Quality control driven
- Cautious agent of change
- Creative solutions to problems
- Results-driven

Under Stress, May be Perceived by Others:
- Condescending
- Aloof and blunt
- Creates double-bind situations
- Vacillates

Under Stress You Need:
- Understanding of principles and details
- Guarantees that you are right
- A slow pace for "processing" information

Your Typical Behaviors in Conflict:
- Since you tend to focus on quality and your own high standards, you may become demanding in order to ensure compliance.
- You often resort to various indirect techniques to manipulate the environment to make it more favorable to your position. You may resort to little known rules and procedures, the literal meaning of regulations, the use of committees, and other indirect approaches.
- You appear to acquiesce to the demands of others and, thus, avoid conflict. In reality, however, you are often just withdrawing to prepare for a future, probably covert, attempt to reestablish your position.

Strategies to Reduce Conflict and Increase Harmony:
- Include all the people involved with a project in your decision-making process. Ask for their suggestions as well as their data.
- Be sure to share the reasoning behind your decisions. Failure to do so makes them seem arbitrary.
- Be more open with your friends and coworkers, sharing your feelings, needs and concerns with them.

Communication Tips and Plans for Others

The following suggestions can help others who interact with you understand and be aware of your communication preferences. To use this information effectively, share it with others and also discuss their preferences.

Check the two most important ideas when others communicate with you (do's & don'ts) and transfer them to the Summary of Your Style page.

When Communicating with Sample, DO:

- Motivate and persuade Sample by pointing out objectives and expected results.
- Be specific about what's needed, and who is going to do it.
- Stick to business matters only -- small talk or charm won't be appreciated.
- Give Sample time to verify the issues and potential outcomes.
- Do your homework, because Sample's homework will already be done.
- Beware of indecision, and be sure to keep the "data gate" open for more information.
- Give Sample the opportunity to express opinions and make some of the decisions.

When Communicating with Sample, DON'T:

- Whine about all of the work you have to do.
- Provide incomplete or unclear directions or instructions.
- Use unreliable evidence or testimonials.
- Try to develop "too close" a relationship, especially too quickly.
- Forget or lose things necessary for the meeting or project.
- Fail to follow through. If you say you're going to do something, do it.
- Leave things up in the air, or decide by chance.

Communication Plan with the DOMINANT Style

CHARACTERISTICS:	SO YOU…
Concerned with being #1	Show them how to win, new opportunities
Think logically	Display reasoning
Want facts and highlights	Provide concise data
Strive for results	Agree on goal and boundaries, the support or get out of their way
Like personal choices	Allow them to "do their thing," within limits
Like changes	Vary routine
Prefer to delegate	Look for opportunities to modify their workload focus
Want others to notice accomplishments	Compliment them on what they've done
Need to be in charge	Let them take the lead, when appropriate, but give them parameters
Tendency towards conflict	If necessary, argue with conviction on points of disagreement, backed up with facts; don't argue on a "personality" basis

Communication Plan with the INFLUENCING Style

CHARACTERISTICS	SO YOU…
Concerned with approval and appearances	Show them that you admire and like them
Seek enthusiastic people and situations	Behave optimistically and provide upbeat setting
Think emotionally	Support their feelings when possible
Want to know the general expectations	Avoid involved details, focus on the "big picture"
Need involvement and people contact	Interact and participate with them
Like changes and innovations	Vary the routine; avoid requiring long-term repetition by them
Want others to notice THEM	Compliment them personally and often
Often need help getting organized	Do it together
Look for action and stimulation	Keep up a fast, lively, pace
Surround themselves with optimism	Support their ideas and don't poke holes in their dreams; show them your positive side
Want feedback that they "look good"	Mention their accomplishments, progress and your other genuine appreciation

Communication Plan with the STEADY Style

CHARACTERISTICS	SO YOU…
Concerned with stability	Show how your idea minimizes risk
Think logically	Show reasoning
Want documentation and facts	Provide data and proof
Like personal involvement	Demonstrate your interest in them
Need to know step-by-step sequence	Provide outline and/or one-two-three instructions as you personally "walk them through"
Want others to notice their patient perseverance	Compliment them for their steady follow-through
Avoid risks and changes	Give them personal assurances
Dislike conflict	Act non-aggressively, focus on common interest or needed support
Accommodate others	Allow them to provide service or support for others
Look for calmness and peace	Provide a relaxing, friendly atmosphere
Enjoy teamwork	Provide them with a cooperative group
Want sincere feedback that they're appreciated	Acknowledge their easygoing manner and helpful efforts, when appropriate

Communication Plan with the CONSCIENTIOUS Style

CHARACTERISTICS	SO YOU…
Concerned with aggressive approaches	Approach them in an indirect, nonthreatening way
Think logically	Show your reasoning
Seek data	Give data to them in writing
Need to know the process	Provide explanations and rationale
Utilize caution	Allow them to think, inquire and check before they make decisions
Prefer to do things themselves	When delegating, let them check procedures, and other progress and performance before they make decisions
Want others to notice their accuracy	Compliment them on their thoroughness and correctness when appropriate
Gravitate toward quality control	Let them assess and be involved in the process when possible
Avoid conflict	Tactfully ask for clarification and assistance you may need
Need to be right	Allow them time to find the best or "correct" answer, within available limits
Like to contemplate	Tell them "why" and "how

Potential Areas for Improvement

Everyone has some possible struggles, limitations or weaknesses. Oftentimes, it's simply an overextension of your strengths which may become a weakness. For example, a High D style's directness may be a strength in certain environments, but when overextended they may tend to become bossy.

Check the two most important areas you are committed to improve upon and transfer them to the Summary of Your Style page.

Potential Areas for Improvement:

- You have a strong need for perfection and may not be satisfied until it has been reached.
- You may tend to work in rapid bursts, followed by periods of quiet reflection. This style may be confusing to others who might prefer a more consistent approach.
- You may like to work under pressure, and thus you put others under unwelcome pressure sometimes.
- You tend to be unconcerned about social poise and may appear somewhat abrupt or aloof toward others without being aware of this. You could build more bridges by showing more sensitivity to their feelings.
- Others may have difficulty keeping up with your opposing desires for quick, yet perfect results.
- You may need some improvement on your communication skills. It is important to share ideas with others on the team, allowing them to be a "sounding board" for your thoughts.
- You may appear indecisive to some because of the need to re-examine evidence, or even wait for new evidence prior to making decisions.

Summary of Sample Report's Style

Communication is a two-way process. Encourage others to complete their own DISCstyles Online Assessment and then share the Summary Sheet with each other. By discussing preferences, needs and wants of the people you work with, socialize with and live with, you can enhance these relationships and turn what might have been a stressful relationship into a more effective one just by understanding and applying the DISCstyles information. Complete the worksheet below from the previous pages of this report.

YOUR STRENGTHS: WHAT YOU BRING TO THE ORGANIZATION

1._____
2._____

YOUR WORK STYLE TENDENCIES

1._____
2._____

YOUR MOTIVATIONS (WANTS)

1._____
2._____

YOUR NEEDS

1._____
2._____

YOUR MOTIVATIONS: IDEAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

1._____
2._____

COMMUNICATION DO'S & DON'TS

1._____
2._____

POTENTIAL AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

1._____
2._____

WORD SKETCH Adapted Style

DISC is an observable "needs-motivated" instrument based on the idea that emotions and behaviors are neither "good" nor "bad." Rather, behaviors reveal the needs that motivate that behavior. Therefore, once we can accurately observe one's actions, it is easier to "read" and anticipate their likely motivators and needs. This allows us to predict what will and will not please them which makes for better relationships and a more harmonious and productive workplace! This chart shows your ADAPTED DISC Graph as a "Word Sketch." Use it with examples to describe why you do what you do and what's important to you when it comes to (D)ominance of Problems, (I)nfluence of other People, (S)teadiness of Pace, or (C)ompliance to Procedures and Rules. Share more about the specific needs (now maybe habits) that drive you in each area of FOCUS. Is your DISC point at levels 1 and 2? Then your emotions and needs are the opposite of those whose graph is at Levels 5 and 6 in that area.

	D	**I**	**S**	**C**
DISC Focus	Problems / Tasks	People	Pace (or Environment)	Procedures
Needs	Challenges to solve, Authority	Social relationships, Friendly environment	Systems, Teams, Stable environment	Rules to follow, Data to analyze
Emotions	Anger, Impatience	Optimism, Trust	Patience, Non-Expression	Fear, Concern
Fears	... being taken advantage of/lack of control	... being left out, loss of social approval	... sudden change/loss of stability and security	... being criticized/loss of accuracy and quality

	D	**I**	**S**	**C**
6	argumentative daring demanding decisive domineering egocentric	emotional enthusiastic gregarious impulsive optimistic persuasive	calming loyal patient peaceful serene team person	accurate conservative exacting fact-finder precise systematic
5	adventurous risk-taker direct forceful	charming influential sociable trusting	consistent cooperative possessive relaxed	conscientious courteous focused high standards
4	assertive competitive determined self-reliant	confident friendly generous poised	composed deliberate stable steady	analytical diplomatic sensitive tactful
3	calculated risk moderate questioning unassuming	controlled discriminating rational reflective	alert eager flexible mobile	own person self-assured opinionated persistent
2	mild seeks consensus unobtrusive weighs pro/con	contemplative factual logical retiring	discontented energetic fidgety impetuous	autonomous independent firm stubborn
1	agreeing cautious conservative contemplative modest restrained	introspective pessimistic quiet pensive reticent suspicious	active change-oriented fault-finding impatient restless spontaneous	arbitrary defiant fearless obstinate rebellious sarcastic

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WORD SKETCH Natural Style

DISC is an observable "needs-motivated" instrument based on the idea that emotions and behaviors are neither "good" nor "bad." Rather, behaviors reveal the needs that motivate our behavior. Therefore, once we can accurately observe one's actions, it's easier to "read" and anticipate their likely motivators and needs. This allows us to predict what will and will not please them, which makes for better relationships and a more harmonious and productive workplace! This chart shows your NATURAL DISC Graph as a "Word Sketch." Use it with examples to describe why you do what you do and what's important to you when it comes to (D)ominance of Problems, (I)nfluence of other People, (S)teadiness of Pace, or (C)ompliance to Procedures and Rules. Share more about the specific needs (now maybe habits) that drive you in each area of FOCUS. Is your DISC point at levels 1 and 2? Then your emotions and needs are the opposite of those whose graph is at Levels 5 and 6 in that area.

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DISC Focus	Problems / Tasks	People	Pace (or Environment)	Procedures
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DISCstyles eGraphs for Sample Report

Your Adapted Style indicates you tend to use the behavioral traits of the DIs style(s) in your
selected Work focus. Your Natural Style indicates that you naturally tend to use the behavioral traits of the CD style(s).

Your Adapted Style is your graph displayed on the left. It is your perception of the behavioral tendencies you think you should use in your selected focus (work, social or family). This graph may change when you change roles or situations. The graph on the right is your Natural Style and indicates the intensity of your instinctive behaviors and motivators. It is often a better indicator of the "real you" and your "knee jerk", instinctive behaviors This is how you act when you feel comfortable in your home environment and are not attempting to impress. It is also what shows up in stressful situations. This graph tends to be fairly consistent, even in different environments.

Adapted Style - Graph I
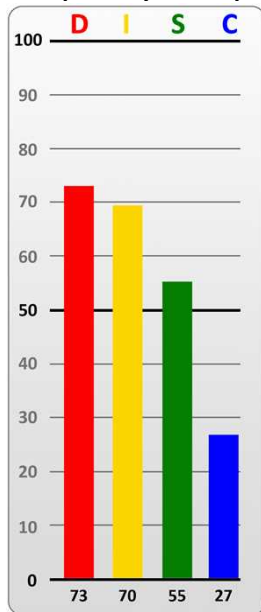
Pattern: DIs (5542)
Focus: Work

Natural Style - Graph II

Pattern: CD (4224)

● = Natural Behavioral Style
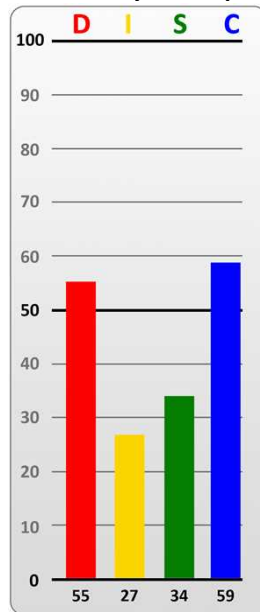
★ = Adapted Behavioral Style
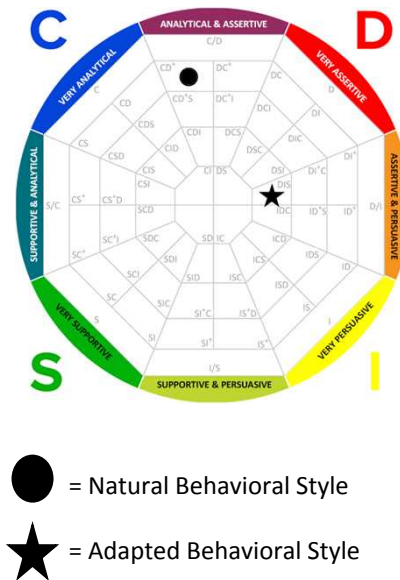
If the two bars are similar, it means that you tend to use your same natural behaviors in that environment. If your Adapted Style is different from your Natural Style, this may cause stress if done over a long period of time. You are then using behaviors that are not as comfortable or natural for you.

The four-digit numbers (under the graphs) represent your segment numbers in DISC order and dictate the adjectives highlighted on the Word Sketch pages.

The higher or lower each D, I, S, C point is on your graphs, the greater or lesser your needs-motivated behavior impacts your results at work and others around you. Once aware, you can adapt your style. Can you change? Of course! You do it every day depending on your situations. However, permanent behavioral change comes only with awareness and practice. Study and practice using the Behavioral Adaptability Charts in this report to gain behavioral flexibility. For further questions or personal coaching, contact your consultant.

12 Behavioral Tendencies - Summary

The primary styles - **D, I, S, and C** - are each influenced by the other three styles in our behavioral expression. You are not just **one** of these styles; you are the result of all four combining and affecting each other. The following behavioral tendencies are scored based on the way your DISC styles combine and influence one another. On this page you'll see all 12 Behavioral Tendencies in Summary, and the following pages deliver more detail about each of these measurements.
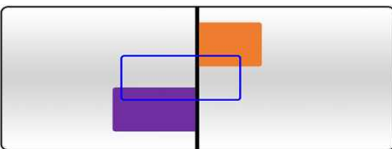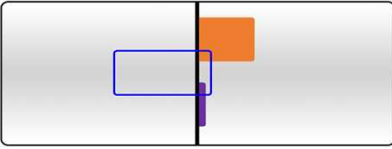
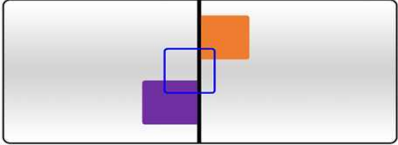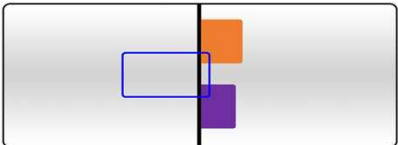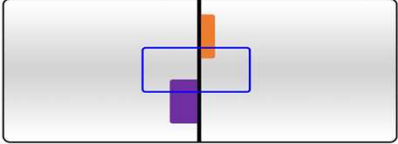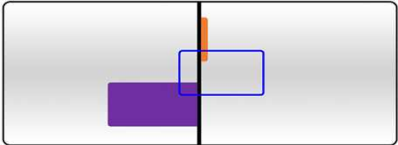| Behaviors	Natural	Adapted
Reasoning *How this individual uses evidence to think through and solve problems.*	**Evidence-based**	**Intuition-based**
Self-Reliance *How this individual works within a team.*	**Directive**	**Situational**
Accuracy *How this individual focuses on correctness and exactness.*	**Precision**	**Predictability**
Personal Drive *How this individual's own goals move things forward.*	**Self-Driven**	**Situational**
Careful Decision Making *How this individual approaches decisions and actions.*	**Situational**	**Situational**
Prioritizing *How this individual determines the order for dealing with items or tasks based on established rules and structure.*	**Situational**	**Results**
Providing Instruction *How this individual dictates directions and expectations.*	**Situational**	**Directive & Compulsive**
Customer & Team Interaction *How this individual engages with customers and stakeholders, internal and external.*	**Situational**	**Situational**
Change Resistance *How this individual resists engaging with change.*	**Drives Change**	**Situational**
Work Process Alignment *How this individual focuses on process to follow through on work.*	**Accuracy**	**Consistency**
Building Rapport *How this individual focuses when interacting with others.*	**Results-Focused**	**Situational**
Expressing Openness *How this individual is most comfortable expressing themselves.*	**Structural**	**Social**

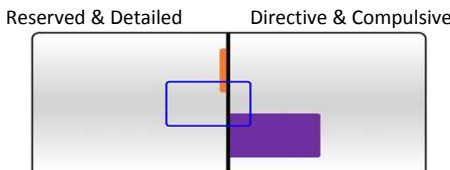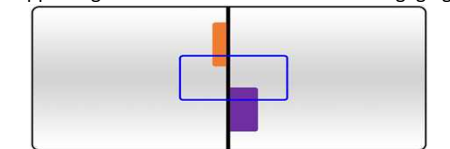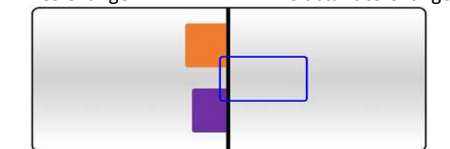18

12 Behavioral Tendencies – Details & Graphs

For each of the 12, you will see a graph and personalized statement for your Natural and Adapted style.
These scores and statements reveal which of your style combinations are most observable and describe how you express that tendency based on your DISC blend.
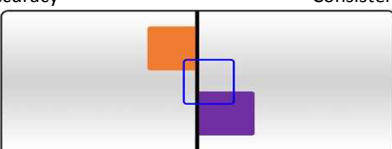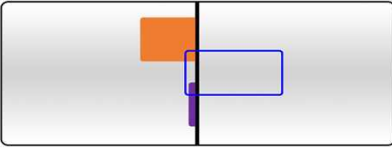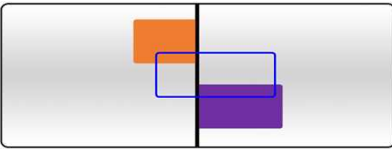
Interpretation Notes:
1. **Frequency Observed**: The behavioral tendencies are presented in the order from Most Frequently Observed to Least Frequently Observed.
   - o **HI** – Clearly observed in most situations, seen more often
   - o **HM** – Frequently observed in many situations
   - o **MOD** – May or may not be observed depending on the situation
   - o **LM** – Sometimes observed in some situations
   - o **LOW** – Absence of the behavior in most situations
2. **Direction of your score** – As the graph **moves to the right or left**, it shows how you will likely express the behavior. If the graphs are near the center, the result is a balancing behavioral effect that will depend on the situation.
3. **General Population Comparison** – The **blue box** represents the general population in this behavioral tendency. Approximately 68% of people score in this range.

	Situational
Reasoning **Natural (HM):** You often rely on data and evidence to ensure decisions reflect the right thing to do, and will seek verification to make complete and accurate judgments. You are likely think through things with careful and thoughtful consideration, often weighing risks and examining the proof and data to make decisions. Remember, the brain and the heart together make a great team. **Adapted (LM):** You often rely on your feelings and interactions with others to make decisions, choosing what is likely to be social acceptable. You are likely to think things through based on emotions over logic, trusting your gut. Be aware that balanced thinking looks at both the emotions and the logic.	Intuition-based Evidence-based
Self-Reliance **Natural (HM):** You are quite results driven, focused on accomplishing things quickly and efficiently and are likely to do so mostly independently and directively. You will likely do your best work independently when you can manage your productivity and efficiency autonomously. Be sure you are not distancing yourself too much. **Adapted (MOD):** You balance results and interaction, getting things done efficiently, but also involving others to get this accomplished as effectively as possible. You are likely to be productive and efficient whether working independently or in collaboration with others, depending on the circumstances and variables of the work.	Collaborative Directive

	Situational
### Accuracy	

Accuracy

Natural (HM): You frequently focus on carefully and deliberately ensuring high-quality outcomes with great importance on accuracy, structure, order and precision in all you do. You are likely to focus on being and doing things right. While doing it the right way can impact success dramatically, it is also helpful to have dependability and uniformity in planning processes.

Adapted (LM): Your planning often focuses on keeping processes and systems as predictable and steady as possible to support others in understanding and reaching the best outcome. You are likely to focus on risk-aversion when planning. Predictability and consistency are incredibly important when taking things from start to finish, but remember correctness is important too.

Predictability   Precision

Personal Drive

Natural (HM): You are somewhat self-determined, often focused on taking actions that achieve results and goals. You will likely be driven to action based on your own needs and motivations and are likely a self-starter. Be aware that it can be appropriate to support and help others as well.

Adapted (MOD): Your determination is balanced between a self-driven and others-driven approach, focusing on actions to achieve results with awareness of risks and consequences of actions. You are likely driven by both a desire to meet your own needs and motivations, and support and help others in the process.

Others-driven   Self-Driven

Careful Decision Making

Natural (MOD): You balance careful attention and consideration of risks, but may also act more impulsively, going with your gut and intuition. Your decisions can be based on a balanced approach of logic and emotion where you will do what feels right and also what makes sense while being attentive to risks.

Adapted (MOD): Consistent with natural style

Impulsive   Cautious

Prioritizing

Natural (MOD): You are attentive to established guidelines to ensure high-quality results now and are focused on actions that target immediate accomplishment. You likely balance both rules and results when prioritizing, recognizing that both have significance in a successful experience and outcome.

Adapted (LM): You often focus specifically and directly on results now and take actions that target immediate accomplishment, and are less concerned with the established guidelines. You will likely prioritize and focus on the results and the bottom line. While the end result is certainly a key component of what should take priority, be sure you are also aware of the rules and constraints of your situation.

Results   Rules

	Situational

Providing Instruction

Natural (MOD): You are able to balance the desire to set the expectations or uphold the protocol based on the situation and what is most relevant. You may follow the established structural and procedural guideline if they support the objectives. Keep in mind that sometimes this may come through as difficult for styles that are less focused on tasks and more focused on relationship.

Adapted (HM): You are somewhat direct and results-focused, and may prefer to set the course and direct others, rather than following the set expectations. Engaging with others for additional thoughts and perspectives can lead to better outcomes.

Reserved & Detailed   Directive & Compulsive

Customer & Team Interaction

Natural (MOD): You can be engaging and persuasive while providing support and stability in your interactions with others. You are likely to balance the needs of others, creating a relationship and ensuring their needs are met. This can effectively create loyal and trusting relationships.

Adapted (MOD): Consistent with natural style

Supporting   Engaging

Change Resistance

Natural (LM): You are likely to be more firm in times of change, preferring to lead and direct activities focused on results and solutions. You are likely to respond/interact in change by driving action and facing it head on as it comes. You may even want to change things just to see how it can be different. Sometimes keeping things consistent is good too.

Adapted (MOD): You can be slow to accept or embrace change or more committed to your own thoughts and ideas during times of change, depending on the level of risk and expected outcome. There may be times when you actively accept and engage in change and other times you feel like more information and planning would be beneficial. You are likely to be on board, as long as things make sense.

Drives Change   Reluctant to Change

	Situational
Work Process Alignment **Natural (LM):** Your process and follow through is often driven by upholding quality standards to be sure what you are doing is accurate and precise. You are likely to process information and follow through with exactness and precision as a focus. There are times when consistency is as important as accuracy. Don't forget to balance them. **Adapted (HM):** Your process and follow through is often driven by a desire to keep things consistent and moving forward at a methodical, steady pace. You are likely to process information and follow through with consistency and predictability as your focus. Don't forget that accuracy is an important part of reliability and stability.	Accuracy Consistency
Building Rapport **Natural (LM):** You are somewhat results driven in your interactions, preferring not to connect socially unless there is a specific outcome or purpose. You are more likely to focus on results with a desire to reach a goal or complete a task, rather than connecting or building relationship. Remember, others may like to get to know you more when working together. **Adapted (MOD):** Your interactions are driven by both a desire to connect with others socially, and to get the work done and reach results. If you can do both at once, that's great!	Results-Focused Relationships-Focused
Expressing Openness **Natural (LM):** You are somewhat comfortable when focused on the structure, detail and accuracy preferring some time for planning and consideration of consequences before acting. You are likely to be more confident with data, information and procedures that ensure accuracy and precision. Remember, there are times when creating connection with others can boost you up as well. **Adapted (HM):** You are somewhat comfortable when interacting with others, quick paced and focused on personal connections, and may tend to elaborate to engage with others. You are likely to be most confident and comfortable when interacting with others, and are likely to trust information passed along through people you trust. Remember, sometimes having the support documentation is important too.	Structural Social

Behavioral Pattern View

The BPV has eight behavioral zones. Each zone identifies a different combination of behavioral traits. The peripheral descriptors describe how others typically see individuals with your style. Plots on the outer edges of the BPV identify that one factor (DISC) of your style will dominate the other three. As you move towards the center of the BPV two and eventually three traits combine to moderate the intensity of your style descriptors within a specific behavioral zone. +The plus sign indicates that the preceding style score is higher, moving you closer to that style zone (i.e. CD+S: The D score is stronger than in CDS so it plots closer to the D behavioral zone).
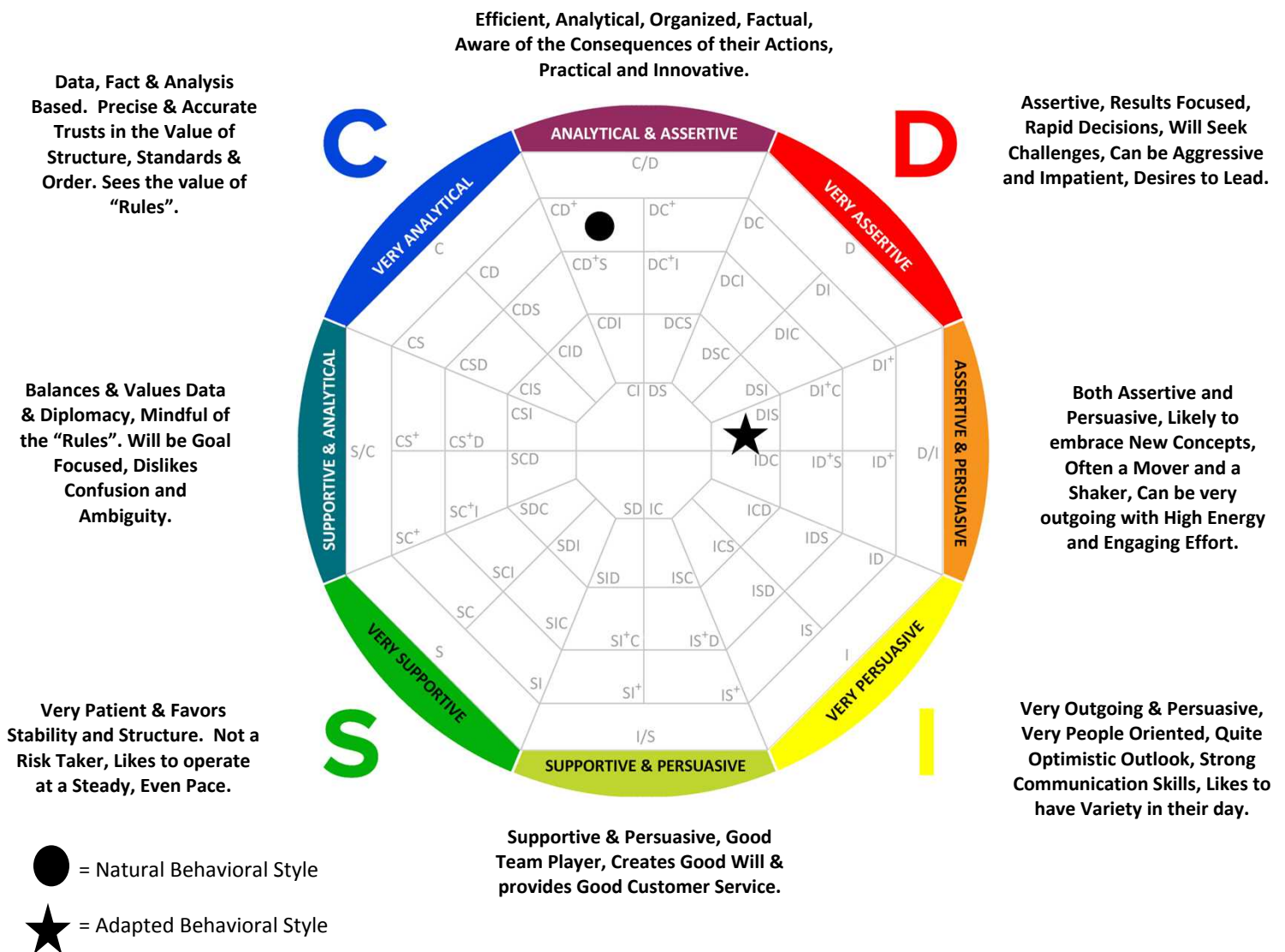
THE SCORING LEGEND

D = Dominance: How you deal with Problems
I = Influence/Extroversion: How you deal with Other People
S = Steadiness/Patience: How you deal with your Activity Level
C = Conscientious/Compliance/Structure: How you deal with the "Organization's Rules" as well as the focus on details, accuracy and precision

Efficient, Analytical, Organized, Factual, Aware of the Consequences of their Actions, Practical and Innovative.

Data, Fact & Analysis Based. Precise & Accurate Trusts in the Value of Structure, Standards & Order. Sees the value of "Rules".

Assertive, Results Focused, Rapid Decisions, Will Seek Challenges, Can be Aggressive and Impatient, Desires to Lead.

Balances & Values Data & Diplomacy, Mindful of the "Rules". Will be Goal Focused, Dislikes Confusion and Ambiguity.

Both Assertive and Persuasive, Likely to embrace New Concepts, Often a Mover and a Shaker, Can be very outgoing with High Energy and Engaging Effort.

Very Patient & Favors Stability and Structure. Not a Risk Taker, Likes to operate at a Steady, Even Pace.

Very Outgoing & Persuasive, Very People Oriented, Quite Optimistic Outlook, Strong Communication Skills, Likes to have Variety in their day.

Supportive & Persuasive, Good Team Player, Creates Good Will & provides Good Customer Service.

● = Natural Behavioral Style

★ = Adapted Behavioral Style

PART II Application of DISC Styles

Understanding your own behavioral style is just the first step to enhancing relationships. All the knowledge in the world doesn't mean much if you don't know how to apply it in real life situations. That's what the rest of this report is all about.

To really begin to use the power of behavioral styles, you also need to know how to apply the information to people and situations. Remember, people want to be treated according to their behavioral style, not yours!

THIS APPLICATION SECTION INCLUDES:

- Overview of the Four Basic DISCstyles
- How to Identify Another Person's Behavioral Style
- What is Behavioral Adaptability
- How to Modify Your Style
- Tension Among the Styles
- How to Adapt to the Different Behavioral Styles

This section will help you understand how to be more effective in relationships and situations. Good relationships can get better and challenging relationships may become good.

After reviewing the information, select a relationship in which things have not gone as smoothly as you would like. Make a commitment to at least take the time to gain an understanding of the other person's behavioral style and take a few steps to adapt your behavior to improve the relationship. Here's how to do it:

1 Identify the behavioral style of the other person using the How to Identify Another Person's Behavioral Style section. You can read about their style in Overview of the Four Basic DISCstyles. The section on What Is Behavioral Adaptability gives you an in-depth insight into what adaptability is, what it is not, and why it's so important to all your interpersonal relationships.

2 Once you know their style and preferences for directness and/or openness, you can use the How to Modify Your Directness and Openness section to adjust these areas when relating to this person. You will be amazed at the difference.

3 To further understand the tension that may exist in the relationship, you can refer to the Tension Among the Styles section and complete the Tension Among the Styles Worksheet. Being aware of the differences in preference in pace and priority, and modifying accordingly, can make a big difference in those tension-filled relationships.

4 And finally, the last section, How to Adapt to the Different Behavioral Styles, will give you suggestions when dealing with each of the four basic styles.

Overview of the Four Basic DISCstyles

Below is a chart to help you understand some of the characteristics of each of the Four Basic DISC Styles, so you can interact with each style more effectively. Although behavioral style is only a partial description of personality, it is quite useful in describing how a person behaves, and is perceived in personal, social and work situations.

	HIGH DOMINANT STYLE	HIGH INFLUENCING STYLE	HIGH STEADY STYLE	HIGH CONSCIENTIOUS STYLE
PACE	Fast/Decisive	Fast/spontaneous	Slower/Relaxed	Slower/Systematic
PRIORITY	Goal	People	Relationship	Task
SEEKS	Productivity Control	Participation Applause	Acceptance	Accuracy Precision
STRENGTHS	Administration Leadership Pioneering	Persuading Motivating Entertaining	Listening Teamwork Follow-through	Planning Systemizing Orchestration
GROWTH AREAS	Impatient Insensitive to others Poor listener	Inattentive to detail Short attention span Low follow-through	Oversensitive Slows to begin action Lacks global perspective	Perfectionist Critical Unresponsive
FEARS	Being taken advantage of	Loss of social recognition	Sudden changes Instability	Personal criticism of their work efforts
IRRITATIONS	Inefficiency Indecision	Routines Complexity	Insensitivity Impatience	Disorganization Impropriety
UNDER STRESS MAY BECOME	Dictatorial Critical	Sarcastic Superficial	Submissive Indecisive	Withdrawn Headstrong
GAINS SECURITY THROUGH	Control Leadership	Playfulness Others' approval	Friendship Cooperation	Preparation Thoroughness
MEASURES PERSONAL WORTH BY	Impact or results Track records and products	Acknowledgments Applause Compliments	Compatibility with others Depth of contribution	Precision Accuracy Quality of results
WORKPLACE	Efficient Busy Structured	Interacting Busy Personal	Friendly Functional Personal	Formal Functional Structured

How to Identify Another Person's Behavioral Style

How do you quickly and accurately identify each of the four behavioral styles in order to practice adaptability? You do this by focusing on two areas of behavior — DIRECTNESS and OPENNESS. So, to quickly identify the styles of other people ask the questions on the following page.

When you combine both scales, you create each of the four different behavioral styles. Individuals who exhibit guarded and direct behaviors are Dominance Styles; direct and open behaviors are Influence Styles; open and indirect behaviors are Steadiness Styles; and indirect and guarded behaviors are Conscientious Styles.

The Whole Picture
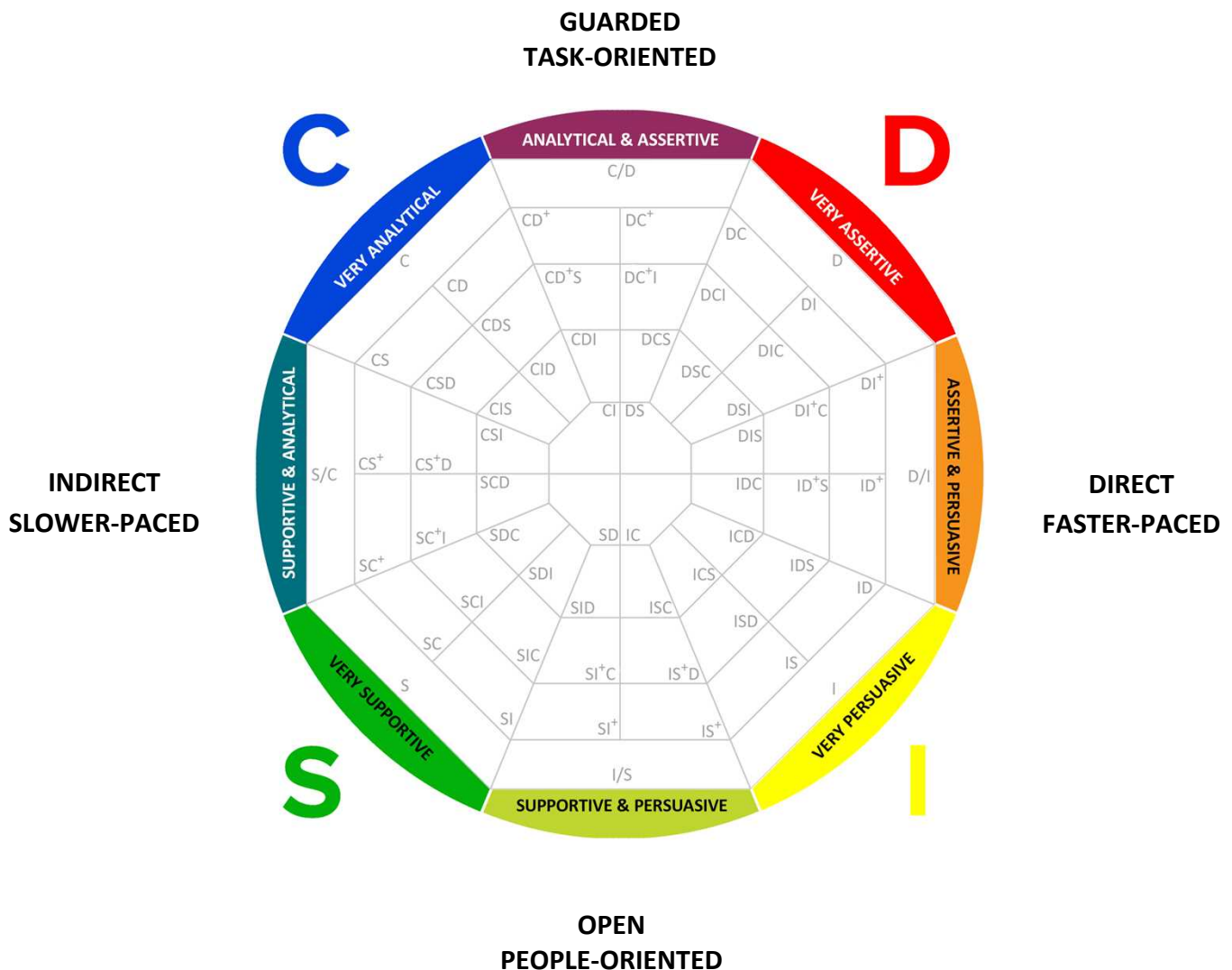
Recognizing another person's Behavioral Style - 2 Power Questions:

1. **Are they <u>DIRECT or INDIRECT</u> in their communications?**
   (Directness is the 1st. Predictor of Style. Direct plot on the right, Indirect on the Left).

2. **Are they <u>GUARDED or OPEN</u> in their communications?**
   (Openness is the 2nd. Predictor of Style. Open plot on the Bottom, Guarded on the Top).
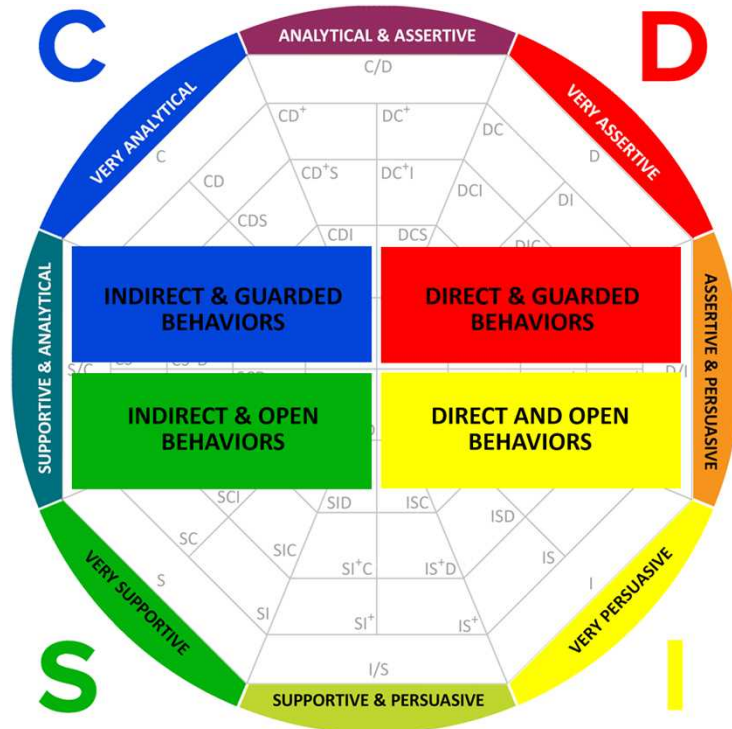
When we integrate both the natural tendency to be either DIRECT or INDIRECT with the natural tendency to be either GUARDED or OPEN it forms the foundation and the basis for plotting each of the four different behavioral styles:

D = Individuals who typically exhibit *direct & guarded behaviors* **define the Dominant Styles**

I = Individuals who exhibit *direct & open behaviors* **define the Influence/Extroverted Styles.**

S = Individuals who exhibit *indirect & open behaviors* **define the Steadiness/Patient Styles.**

C = Individuals who exhibit *indirect & guarded behaviors* **define the Conscientious/Compliant Styles.**

The behavioral intensity of <u>directness or indirectness and being open or guarded</u> is shown in the quadrant you plot. The plots towards the edge of the BPV reflect **MORE INTENSITY** and those plotting closer to the center reflect a **MORE MODERATE INTENSITY** of both characteristics.

What is Behavioral Adaptability?

Adaptability is your willingness and ability to adjust your approach or strategy based on the particular needs of the situation or relationship at a particular time. It's something applied more to yourself (to your patterns, attitudes and habits) than to others.

No one style is naturally more adaptable than another. For any situation, the strategic adjustments that each style needs to make will vary. The decision to employ specific adaptability techniques is made on a case-by-case basis: you can choose to be adaptable with one person, and not so with others. You can choose to be quite adaptable with one person today and less adaptable with that same individual tomorrow. Adaptability concerns the way you manage your own behaviors.

You practice adaptability each time you slow down for a **C** or **S** style; or when you move a bit faster for the **D** or **I** styles. It occurs when the **D** or **C** styles take the time to build the relationship with an **S** or **I** style; or when the **I** or **S** styles focus on facts or get right to the point with **D** or **C** styles. It means adjusting your own behavior to make other people feel more at ease with you and the situation

Adaptability does not mean "imitation" of the other person's style. It does mean adjusting your openness, directness, pace, and priority in the direction of the other person's preference, while maintaining your own identity.

Adaptability is important to all successful relationships. People often adopt a different style in their professional lives than they do in their social and personal lives. We tend to be more adaptable at work with people we know less. We tend to be less adaptable at home and with people we know better.

Adaptability at its extreme could make you appear wishy-washy and two-faced. A person who maintains high adaptability in all situations may not be able to avoid stress and inefficiency. There is also the danger of developing tension from the stress of behaving in a "foreign" style. Usually, this is temporary and may be worth it if you gain rapport with others. At the other end of the continuum, no adaptability would cause others to view someone as rigid and uncompromising because they insist on behaving according to their own natural pace and priority.

Effectively adaptable people meet other people's needs and their own. Through practice, they are able to achieve a balance: strategically managing their adaptability by recognizing when a modest compromise is appropriate, or, when the nature of the situation calls for them to totally adapt to the other person's behavioral style, they do so. Adaptable people know how to negotiate relationships in a way that allows everyone to win. They are tactful, reasonable, understanding, and non-judgmental.

Your adaptability level influences how others judge their relationship with you. Raise your adaptability level and trust and credibility go up; lower your adaptability level and trust and credibility go down. Adaptability enables you to interact more productively with difficult people and helps you to avoid or manage tense situations. With adaptability you can treat other people the way THEY want to be treated.

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How to Modify Your Directness and Openness

In some interpersonal situations, you will only be able to identify another person's directness or openness, but not both. In these situations, you need to know how to practice adaptability, one behavioral dimension at a time. With that in mind, let's look at what you can do to modify YOUR level of Directness or Openness before looking at specific guidelines for being more adaptable with each of the four styles.

Directness

TO INCREASE:
- Speak, move and make decisions at a faster pace
- Initiate conversation and decisions
- Give recommendations
- Use direct statements rather than roundabout questions
- Use a strong, confident voice
- Challenge and tactfully disagree, when appropriate
- Face conflict openly, but don't clash with the person
- Increase your eye contact

TO DECREASE:
- Talk, walk and make decisions more slowly
- Seek and acknowledge others' opinions
- Share decision-making
- Be more mellow
- Do not interrupt
- When talking, provide pauses to give others a chance to speak
- Refrain from criticizing, challenging or acting pushy
- When disagreeing, choose words carefully

Openness

TO INCREASE:
- Share feelings; show more emotion
- Respond to the expression of others' feelings
- Pay personal complements
- Take time to develop the relationship
- Use friendly language
- Communicate more; loosen up and stand closer
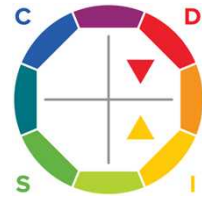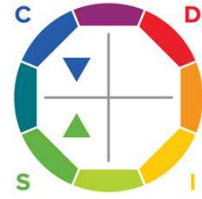- Be willing to digress from the agenda

TO DECREASE:
- Get right to the task – the bottom line
- Maintain more of a logical, factual orientation
- Keep to the agenda
- Do not waste the other person's time
- Do not initiate physical contact
- Downplay your enthusiasm and body movement
- Use businesslike language

Tension Among the Styles

Potential Tensions/Disconnects	Plot Points Example
Double Tensions of Patience vs. Urgency AND People versus Task **Pattern 1:** The High S style's preferred Patient & Slower Pace with a Primary Focus on People rather than on results and task can conflict with the High D style's Sense of Urgency and a focus on Tasks and Results and Now.	**High S + High D** *(Lower Left vs. Upper Right Quadrant)*
Double Tensions of Patience vs. Urgency AND People versus Task **Pattern 2:** The High C style's lack of Urgency with a Primary Focus on Tasks/Results can conflict with the High I style's higher Urgency with a Primary Focus on People vs. Results and Tasks.	**High C + High I** *(Upper Left vs. Lower Right Quadrant)*
Patience vs. Urgency Tensions: The High S style's innate patience can conflict with the High I style's Sense of Urgency.	**High S + High I** *(Lower Left vs. Lower Right Quadrant).*
Patience vs. Urgency Tensions: The High C style's focus on exercising patience to assure accuracy and avoid errors can conflict with the High D style's focus on results, do it NOW solutions, and immediate action.	**High C + High D** *(Upper Left vs. Upper Right Quadrant)*

Tension Among the Styles, continued

Potential Tensions/Disconnects	Plot Points Example
People versus Tasks Tensions: The High D style's focus on Results, Tasks, and Action can conflict with the High I style's Focus on People, Feelings and Sociable Correctness.	 **High D + High I** *(Upper Right vs. Lower Right Quadrant)*
People versus Tasks Tensions: The High C style's focus on Data, Analysis, Accuracy, and Precision can conflict with the High S style's Focus on People, Teamwork, Personal Connection and a Feeling of Family.	 **High C + High S** *(Upper Left vs. Lower Left Quadrant)*

Tension Among the Styles WORKSHEET

Everybody has a few tension-filled relationships. You can have the highest regard and/or loving feelings toward the person. It seems no matter what you do, your interactions are usually stressful. If this is behavior related, applying The Platinum Rule® - Treat others the way THEY want to be treated – may be helpful. Complete this worksheet to gain insights on how to improve the relationship. If you feel comfortable, you may discuss with the other person things you can do to ease the tension.

First, refer to the section on How to Identify Another Person's Style and determine their primary behavioral style. Then refer to the Tension Model to identify their pace and priority preferences. Next, see which preferences are different than yours and note the strategy you will take to modify your behavior. If both preferences are the same as yours, then determine where you will allow their needs to be placed above yours. For example, if you are a High I with fast-pace and people-oriented preferences and the other person is as well, you might let them have the center stage in times when it is not as important for you. A little give and take will go a long way.

JANE DOE'S INFORMATION

STYLE: C

PACE: Slower-paced

PRIORITY: Goal/Task-oriented

RELATIONSHIP

Name: *John Doe*

Style: *High I*

Pace: *Faster-paced*

Priority: *People-oriented*

Difference: *Pace and Priority*

Strategy: *Be more personable, social, upbeat, and faster-paced with John*

RELATIONSHIP 1
Name:_____ _____
Style:_____ _____
Pace:_____ _____
Priority:_____ _____
Difference:_____ _____
Strategy:_____ _____
_____
_____
_____
_____

RELATIONSHIP 2
Name:_____ _____
Style:_____ _____
Pace:_____ _____
Priority:_____ _____
Difference:____ _____
Strategy:_____ _____
_____
_____
_____
_____

How to Adapt to the **DOMINANT** Style

They are time-sensitive; so do not waste their time. Be organized and get to the point. Give them relevant information and options, with probabilities of success. Give them written details to read at their leisure — all on a single page, if possible. Appeal to their sense of accomplishment. Stroke their egos by supporting their ideas and acknowledge their power and prestige. Let them be in charge. If you disagree, argue facts, not feelings. In groups, allow them to have their say, as they will not take a back seat to others. In general, be efficient and competent.

AT WORK, HELP THEM TO…

- More realistically gauge risks
- Exercise more caution and deliberation before making decisions
- Follow pertinent rules, regulations, and expectations
- Recognize and solicit others' contributions
- Tell others the reasons for decisions
- Cultivate more attention/responsiveness to emotions

SALES AND SERVICE…

- Plan to be prepared, organized, fast-paced, and always to the point
- Meet them in a professional and businesslike manner
- Learn and study their goals and objectives – what they want to accomplish, how they currently are motivated to do things, and what they would like to change
- Suggest solutions with clearly defined and agreed upon consequences as well as rewards that relate specifically to their goals
- Get to the point
- Provide options and let them make the decision, when possible

IN SOCIAL SETTINGS…

- Let them know that you don't intend to waste their time
- Convey openness and acceptance of them
- Listen to their suggestions
- Summarize their achievements and accomplishments
- Give them your time and undivided attention
- Appreciate and acknowledge them when possible

IN LEARNING SETTINGS…

- Likes to learn quickly; may be frustrated with a slower pace
- Has own internal motivation-clock, learns for their own reasons, not for anyone else's reasons
- May like to structure their own learning design
- Does okay with independent self-study
- Defines own goals
- May have a short attention span

How to Adapt to the INFLUENCING Style

They thrive on personal recognition, so pour it on sincerely. Support their ideas, goals, opinions, and dreams. Try not to argue with their pie-in-the-sky visions; get excited about them. They are social-butterflies, so be ready to flutter around with them. A strong presence, stimulating and entertaining conversation, jokes, and liveliness will win them over. They are people-oriented, so give them time to socialize. Avoid rushing into tasks. In general, be interested in them.

AT WORK, HELP THEM TO…

- Prioritize and organize
- See tasks through to completion
- View people and tasks more objectively
- Avoid overuse of giving and taking advice
- Write things down

SALES AND SERVICE…

- Show that you're interested in them, let them talk, and allow your animation and enthusiasm to emerge
- Take the initiative by introducing yourself in a friendly and informal manner and be open to new topics that seem to interest them
- Support their dreams and goals
- Illustrate your ideas with stories and emotional descriptions that they can relate to their goals or interests
- Clearly summarize details and direct these toward mutually agreeable objectives and action steps
- Provide incentives to encourage quicker decisions
- Give them testimonials

IN SOCIAL SETTINGS…

- Focus on a positive, upbeat, warm approach
- Listen to their personal feelings and experiences
- Respond openly and congenially
- Avoid negative or messy problem discussions
- Make suggestions that allow them to look good
- Don't require much follow-up, detail or long-term commitments
- Give them your attention, time and presence

IN LEARNING SETTINGS…

- Likes learning in groups
- Interacts frequently with others
- Responds to extrinsic motivation, praise, and encouragement
- Needs structure from the facilitator; may lose track of time
- Needs "what to do" and "when to do it"
- May exceed deadlines if left on their own and learning may be completed late

How to Adapt to the STEADY Style

They are relationship-oriented and want warm and fuzzy relationships, so take things slow, earn their trust, support their feelings, and show sincere interest. Talk in terms of feelings, not facts. The S Styles do not want to ruffle feathers. They want to be assured that everyone will approve of them and their decisions. Give them time to solicit co-workers' opinions. Never back a Steady Style into a corner. It is far more effective to apply warmth to get this chicken out of its egg than to crack the shell with a hammer. In general, be non-threatening and sincere.

AT WORK, HELP THEM TO…

- Utilize shortcuts and discard unnecessary steps
- Track their growth
- Avoid doing things the same way
- Realize there is more than one approach to tasks
- Become more open to some risks and changes
- Feel sincerely appreciated
- Speak up and voice their thoughts and feelings

SALES AND SERVICE…

- Get to know them more personally and approach them in a non-threatening, pleasant, and friendly, but professional way
- Develop trust, friendship, and credibility at a relatively slow pace
- Ask them to identify their own emotional needs as well as their task or business expectations
- Get them involved by focusing on the human element… that is, how something affects them and their relationships with others
- Avoid rushing them and give them personal, concrete assurances, when appropriate
- Communicate with them in a consistent manner on a regular basis

IN SOCIAL SETTINGS…

- Focus on a slower-paced, steady approach
- Avoid arguments and conflict
- Respond sensitively and sensibly
- Privately acknowledge them with specific, believable compliments
- Allow them to follow through on concrete tasks
- Show them step-by-step procedures
- Behave pleasantly and optimistically
- Give them stability and minimum of change

IN LEARNING SETTINGS…

- Accepts a balance between individual and group work
- Shows patience with detailed or technical processes
- Likes journaling and follow-through
- Prefers explicit instructions
- Wants to know the performance outcomes and expectations
- May need help in prioritizing tasks if a long assignment; may take criticism personally

How to Adapt to the CONSCIENTIOUS Style

Be sensitive to their schedules. They need details, so give them data. When working with them, do not expect to become their friend. Support their organized to problem solving. Be systematic, logical, well prepared and exact. Give them time to make decisions and work independently. In groups, do not expect them to be leaders or outspoken contributors, but do rely on them to conduct research, crunch numbers, and perform detailed footwork for the group. When appropriate, set guidelines and deadlines. In general, be thorough, well prepared, detailed and business-like.

AT WORK, HELP THEM TO…

- Share their knowledge and expertise with others
- Stand up for themselves with the people they prefer to avoid
- Shoot for realistic deadlines and parameters
- View people and tasks less seriously and critically
- Balance their lives with both interaction and tasks
- Keep on course with tasks, less checking
- Maintain high expectations for high priority items, not everything

SALES AND SERVICE…

- Prepare so that you can answer as many of their questions as soon as possible
- Greet them cordially, but proceed quickly to the task; don't start with personal or social talk
- Hone your skills in practicality and logic
- Ask questions that reveal a clear direction and that fit into the overall scheme of things
- Document how and why something applies
- Give them time to think; avoid pushing them into a hasty decision
- Tell them both the pros and cons and the complete story
- Follow through and deliver what you promise

IN SOCIAL SETTINGS…

- Use a logical approach
- Listen to their concerns, reasoning, and suggestions
- Respond formally and politely
- Negative discussions are OK, so long as they aren't personally directed
- Privately acknowledge them about their thinking
- Focus on how pleased you are with their procedures
- Solicit their insights and suggestions
- Show them by what you do, not what you say

IN LEARNING SETTINGS…

- Prefers individual work over group interaction
- Accepts more impersonal training, such as remote or on-line
- Has high expectations of their own performance
- Will structure their own activities only with explicit goals and outcomes established
- Emphasizes details, deep thinking, and theoretical bases for the learning
- May get overly bogged down in details, especially if the learning climate is pressured

Building and Maintaining Rapport/Productivity

BUILDING AND MAINTAINING RAPPORT AND PRODUCTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE MANAGEMENT/LEADERSHIP PROCESS

The Platinum Rule (*Do Unto Others as They Would Have You Do Unto Them*) can have a positive effect on almost every aspect of managing/leading others. With each of the four DISC behavioral types, for example, there's a different way to communicate and delegate tasks to them; compliment and correct them; and motivate and counsel them.

Learning these methods can quickly make you a more sensitive, effective leader of people. Sensitivity and tact are constantly demanded of leaders. If, as someone once said, tact is the radar of the mind, The Platinum Rule can be a valuable tune-up of your antenna.

By now, you know your primary DISC behavioral style along with growth opportunities to help you deal better with tasks and people. Keep those thoughts in mind.

Meanwhile, recognize that your power to influence employees springs from two sources. First, there's "position power." That's just what it sounds like, you're the CEO, the department head, the regional manager, and a certain amount of power comes with that title.

But ask any CEO what happens when he tries to get a brand of ketchup changed in the employee cafeteria. Ask the department head what happens when she decides to cut back on overtime. Ask the regional manager what happens when he asks all the store managers to upgrade the signs in their windows. Sometimes the bosses get their way and sometimes they don't.

So even if you have a title, you can't rely on position power alone to get you what you want. You also need "personal power." In fact, it's now generally believed that a leader can't really lead until he or she is genuinely accepted by those who are to be led.

If the CEO, department head, or regional manager gets the cooperation he or she asks for, it's not just because that person has a title. It's because he or she has also gained the confidence and trust of the average employee. It's because he or she has attained personal power.

So position power comes from being anointed by the hierarchy. But personal power comes from earning it, from developing it. Position power is a starting point for influencing people. But it's personal power that turns mere compliance into real cooperation.

The Platinum Rule provides that extra ingredient that leaders and managers can use in endless ways for their firm and for themselves. Being adaptable can help supervisors, managers and leaders build bridges to their employees and make them feel valued. By learning how best to respond to their interests and concerns, their strengths and weaknesses, you can get the most from your people as well as leave them more personally satisfied.

Developing Your People

Developing the C Style	Developing the D Style
• Point out the most important things to remember first. • Demonstrate in an efficient, logical manner, stressing the purpose of each step. • Proceed slowly, stopping at key places to check for their understanding. • Ask for possible input, especially regarding potential refinements. • Build up to the big picture.	• Focus on the big picture. • Cover basic steps/ high points quickly. • Show them the simplest, fastest route to get them to their stated destination. • Tell them what is to be done by when. • Help them find shortcuts Connect concept with their highest value.
Developing the S Style	**Developing the I Style**
• Use one-on-one, hands-on instruction. • Start at the beginning & end at the end. • Let them observe others before trying. • Provide a step-by-step list of procedures or a working timetable/ schedule. • Allow plenty of repetition for their actions to become second nature and more routine. • Use a pleasant and patient approach in small group settings.	• Release information in chunks. • Skip details and boring material. • Get them involved kinesthetically. • Let them show you what they are learning. • Be slow to criticize and quick to praise. • Let them teach concept to others.

Adapt Your Communication Style

Communicating with the C Style	Communicating with the D Style
• Be well organized and clear in your communications. • They search for logical conclusions. • Ask your questions in a more discreet, non-judgmental manner to elicit the points, objectives, or assurances C styles want: "Lenny, I'm not trying to pressure you, but are you not interested in the auditor's position, or in any position?"	• Listen to their suggestions, their course of action and the results they are considering. • Find areas where you already agree. • Work backwards toward gaining agreement on the results you both want—and are willing to either mutually or independently allow the other to achieve: "Sarah, this format will give you the freedom to develop your branch your way and still allow Vern and Ellen to structure theirs another way... without sacrificing time or morale."
Communicating with the S Style	**Communicating with the I Style**
• Be ready to do more talking than listening; they don't feel comfortable when the limelight is focused on them. • Clarify any key agenda items with them. • Stay organized and move forward steadily (but slowly) as you check to make sure they understand and accept what is being said: "Did you want me to stick around the office at a particular time each day in case you need to telephone me for emergency questions on this account, or do you want me to call you?"	• Listen to their personal feelings and experiences. • Their style requires open and responsive interaction with others, preferably in a manner of congenial and unhurried conversation (like that between long-time friends): "Just between you and me, Chris, I feel very uneasy about Jill and Howard handling this account by themselves."

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Helping People Reach Decisions

Helping the C Style Decide	Helping the D Style Decide
• Confirm they are open to discussing the problem or decision. • If they aren't ready, either set a definite time that's better for both of you or explore their concern in even pursuing this subject. • Give them time and space to think clearly. • When the situation is being explored, review your impression of the process: "My understanding is you'd like to think it over and figure out what time commitment you'd be able to make to the group. When may I call you about your decision?"	• D styles tend to make autonomous, no-nonsense decisions. • If the decision will help them meet their goals, they go for it; if not, they say no. • One of the few times they put off reaching a conclusion is when it takes too much time/ effort doing the homework to determine the best alternative. • Prevent this procrastination by simply providing a brief analysis for each option.
Helping the S Style Decide	**Helping the I Style Decide**
• Deal with only one subject or situation at a time, one step at a time. • Before moving on to other items, make sure they are ready, willing, and able to do so. • Remain calm and relaxed. • Encourage them to share their suggestions as to how the decision might be made in a way that is likely to add even more stability to the current conditions: "Would you mind writing down a schedule of your office's activities so I can write my proposal without missing anything?"	• They want to avoid discussions of complex, negative-sounding, messy problems. • Frame suggestions in a positive light. • They are open to your suggestions—as long as they allow them to look and feel good—and not require a lot of difficult, follow-up, detail work or long-term commitments. "You know just about everybody, George. Since we need to get $350 in pledges by the end of February, why not go ahead and wrap up all your calls by Friday? Then you can relax a lot more next week."

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Motivating Your People

Motivating the C Style	Motivating the D Style
• Appeal to their need for accuracy and logic. • Keep your approach clear, clean and procedural. • Better yet, provide illustration and documentation. • Avoid exaggeration and vagueness. • Show them how this is the best available current option.	• Lead with the big picture. • Provide them with options and clearly describe the probabilities of success in achieving goals. • Allow them the opportunity to make choices. • Set boundaries, but let them take charge.
Motivating the S Style	**Motivating the I Style**
• Show how their work benefits others. • Show how the outcome will provide security for their family. • Connect their individual work to the benefit of the whole team. • Get them to see how their follow-through links to a greater good. • Show how it can strengthen their relationships with others.	• Provide "special" incentives to inspire them to go the whole nine yards. • Show them how they can look good in the eyes of others. • Create short-term contests that don't require long-term commitment. • Reward them in front of others. • Let them speak about their achievements.

Complimenting Your People

Complimenting the C Style	Complimenting the D Style
• Mention their efficiency, thought processes, organization, persistence and accuracy. • Don't mix personal and professional comments unless you know them very well. • One C told us: "Compliments don't mean much to me. But I do like genuine, heartfelt appreciation once in awhile." • Keep praise simple and concise.	• Mention their achievements, upward mobility and leadership potential. • Omit personal comments and focus on their track record: "Jones, you've exceeded our company goals every month for the past year and have put in more hours than anybody but the top officials here. The CEO has his eye on you for an upcoming VP slot."
Complimenting the S Style	**Complimenting the I Style**
• Mention their teamwork and dependability. • Remark about how others regard them, how well they get along with co-workers, and how important their relationship-building efforts have been to the company. • Effusiveness can arouse their suspicions, so stick to praising what they've done rather than personal attribute.	• Pay direct personal compliments to them when legitimately deserved. • Mention their charm, friendliness, creative ideas, persuasiveness, and/or appearance (or better yet, all of the above). • They willingly accept "general praise": "We are so lucky to have you with us, Dee. You're a real gem."

Counseling Your People

Counseling the C Style	Counseling the D Style
• Draw them out by asking, "How would you…?" questions about problems. • They express thoughts indirectly, so persist in your attempts to get them to talk. • They need to plan for change so they can identify and bring under control any key considerations that have to be addressed. • When possible, allow them to investigate possible repercussions, especially at the beginning stages. That way they'll become more comfortable with possible changes.	• Stick to the facts. • Draw them out by talking about the desired results; then discuss their concerns. • Focus on tasks more than feelings. • Ask them how they would solve problems: "Anne, we've heard comments that need to be addressed. It seems some of your employees don't feel appreciated for the extra hours they've been putting in for you. They've worked 14-hour days to beat your deadline. How do you think we can bolster their morale?"
Counseling the S Style	Counseling the I Style
• Understand the emotional side of their situation by drawing them out through questioning and listening • They are disrupted by change and the unknown. • Reduce their fears by showing how specific changes will benefit them and others: "Barbara, moving to Dallas will be an adjustment for all of us at first, but 80% of our staff has agreed to go. The company will move you and your family, sell your house, and give you a 10% bonus for loyal service."	• Give them ample opportunity to talk about whatever may be bothering them. • Pay attention to both facts and feelings, but put your primary emphasis on their feelings. • Involve them by asking how they could solve a challenge or problem. • Sometimes, just airing their feelings and thoughts relieves tension for the I style. • Talking allows them to get something off their chests and can even become an end in itself, since their energy is largely influenced by the quality of their relationships.

Correcting Your People

Correcting the C Style	Correcting the D Style
• Show them how to get a job done and they'll master and modify it to suit their needs. • Specify the exact behavior that is indicated and how you would like to see it changed. • Mutually agree on checkpoints and timeframes. • Allow them to save face, as they fear being wrong. "Nelson, your work here is typically done neatly and on time. Now that we're switching to computers, you'll be able to turn out the same quality of work faster. I'd like you to take this computer class…"	• Describe what results are desired. • Show the gap between actual and desired. • Clearly suggest the needed improvement and establish a time to get back to you: "We need to streamline communication so that one hand knows what the other is doing. Last month, we had two separate divisions calling on the same CEO for corporate donations. I want you to work up a plan to keep everybody informed of who's working on what so we don't duplicate our efforts. Get back to me by the end of the week."
Correcting the S Style	**Correcting the I Style**
• Reassure them that you only want to correct a specific behavior, not them personally • They tend to take things personally, so remove the "something is wrong with you barrier" as quickly as possible • Point out in a non-threatening way what they're already doing right while also emphasizing what needs changing: "Norma, I admire your persistence, but we have to add more details to the proposal before we send it out. For example…"	• They avoid facing problems and if pressure persists, may walk away from the problem. • Sometimes stress manifests itself in animated panic. "I can't talk now, Hal. It's really hit the fan this time!" • Let them specifically know the challenge and define the behaviors to solve the problem. • Confirm the mutually agreeable action plan (in writing) to prevent future problems. • Use positive, optimistic questions and phrases: "How'd you like to increase your sales to your normal range and beyond?".

Delegating to Your People

Delegating to the C Style	Delegating to the D Style
• Take time to answer their most critical questions about structure and/or guidance they require in a specific situation. The more they understand the details, the more likely they will be to complete the task properly. • Be sure to establish deadlines. • "Angela, the court date on the Mortimer case has been moved up to Monday, so we have to respond by speeding things up a bit. It will proceed almost as efficiently as if you researched everything by yourself if we enlist two associates to help you work, under your direction, on tasks you delegate to them and then review. Before getting started, do you have any preferences on the who's or how to's of this process that you think are essential to check with me at this time?"	• Give them the bottom line and then let them do their thing. • So that they can be more efficient, give them parameters, guidelines, and deadlines. • "We need to get that mall built a month sooner or we'll lose our shirts. Fourteen tenants are threatening to bail out of their contracts if we don't open in time for the holidays. Don't spend more than another $30,000, keep everything legal and out of the newspapers, and get back to me by Monday morning."
Delegating to S Style	**Delegating to the I Style**
• S styles may be reluctant to ask others to do their own share of the work, so make a personal appeal to their loyalty and sense of sportsmanship. • "Al, you're an example for this company of genuine cooperative spirit. Your staff wants to please you, so by giving everyone in your department just 10 of those names to call, you can all reach the goal together by noon tomorrow. Otherwise, you'll probably have a lot more difficulty reaching all those people by the target date." Give them the task, state the deadlines that need to be met, and explain why it's important to do it that way. "I'll need 500 copies of these summaries typed and collated by 5 p.m. today. Mr. Jeffries is getting back from New York two days early and he wants them by tomorrow morning."	• Receive clear agreements; set up check points/times to avoid long stretches with no progress reports. • I styles are often concept people who come up with plenty of ideas, but not necessarily the means of carrying them out, so steer them toward ways of assuring the implementation of those ideas. • "Olivia, this proposal for the King Company looks good so far, but how about including more direct benefits for each employee. Marian has surveys filled out by each employee. Get together with her, bounce some ideas around, and then include more essential information about the eight or so key people in your proposal. Add some extra plus points on the others…12 pages in all. In this manner, you should do the job very well. And, Olivia, thanks for making the extra effort on this project. It's really important to all of us."

Acknowledging Your People

Acknowledging the C Style	Acknowledging the D Style
• Focus on your realization of how difficult it can be for them to attempt to meet the high personal standards they set for themselves. • Cite specific and appropriate examples which prove this point. • Approach matters with logic in an organized way. • Mention how grateful you are to be working with someone so accurate, systematic and structured.	• When it's appropriate to reward or reinforce their behavior, focus on how pleased you are with their results. • Mention how glad you are to be a part of the process working with them to make things better for both of you through cooperation. • Cite specific results you've seen accomplished. • Mention how grateful you are working with someone so action-oriented, efficient and pioneering.
Acknowledging the S Style	**Acknowledging the I Style**
• Focus on how you sincerely appreciate their willingness to make things good for everyone • Approach matters in a systematic, low-keyed, and understanding manner, and reinforce the importance of them sharing their ideas. • Cite specific and appropriate examples of how their contributions made an impact or difference. • Express how grateful you are to be working with someone so supportive, purposeful and sincere.	• Focus on how glad you are they have succeeded in finding a pleasant solution to their concern or objective. • Show you appreciate them for their openness and willingness to respond to you in a way that allows everyone to end up feeling good about the results. • Cite specific and appropriate examples of how their actions improved connection and inclusion of others. • Express how delighted you are to be working with someone so engaging, interactive and personal.

Adapting Your Leadership Style

When You are the C Style	When You are the D Style
• Modify criticism (whether spoken or unspoken) of others' work. • Check less often, or only check the critical things (as opposed to everything), allowing the flow of the process to continue. • Ease up on controlling emotions; engage in more water cooler interaction. • Accept the fact that you can have high standards without expecting perfection. • Occasionally confront a colleague (or boss) with whom you disagree, instead of avoiding or ignoring them (and doing what you want to do, anyway). • Tone down the tendency to OVER-prepare.	• Allow others to do things without excessive or untimely interference. • Participate in the group without expecting always to be in command. • Modify your tendency to give orders. • Enlist others' input and support through participative, collaborative actions. • Praise and give credit for jobs well done. • Let colleagues and employees know that you realize it's only natural that you and others will make mistakes. • When delegating, give some authority along with the responsibility.
When You are the S Style	**When You are the I Style**
• Stretch by taking on a bit more (or different) duties beyond your comfort level. • Increase verbalization of your thoughts and feelings. • Speed up your actions by getting into some projects more quickly. • Desensitize yourselves somewhat, so that you aren't negatively affected by your colleagues' feelings to the point of affecting your own performance. • Learn to adapt more quickly to either changes or refinements of existing practices. • Bolster your assertiveness techniques.	• Improve your follow-through efforts. • Monitor socializing to keep it in balance with other aspects of business and life. • Write things down and work from a list, so you'll know what to do and when to do it. • Prioritize activities and focus on tasks in their order of importance. • Become more organized and orderly in the way you do things. • Get the less appealing tasks of the day over with early in the day. • Pay attention to your time management. • Check to make sure you're on course with known tasks or goals.

Adapting Your Leadership Style

When they are the C Style, Help Them…	When they are the D Style, Help Them…
• Share their knowledge and expertise. • Stand up for themselves with the people they prefer to avoid. • Shoot for realistic deadlines. • View people and tasks less seriously and critically. • Balance their lives with both interaction and tasks. • Keep on course with tasks, with less checking. • Maintain high expectations for high priority items, not necessarily everything.	• More realistically gauge risks. • Exercise more caution and deliberation before making decisions and coming to conclusions. • Follow pertinent rules, regulations and expectations • Recognize and solicit others' contributions, both as individuals and within a group. • Tell others the reasons for decisions. • Cultivate more attention and responsiveness to emotions.
When they are the S Style, Help Them…	**When they are the I Style, Help Them…**
• Utilize shortcuts; discard unnecessary steps. • Track their growth. • Avoid doing things the same way. • Focus on the goal without attending to other thoughts or feelings. • Realize tasks have more than one approach. • Become more open to risks and changes. • Feel sincerely appreciated. • Speak up; voice their thoughts and feelings. • Modify the tendency to do what others tell them. • Get and accept credit and praise, when appropriate.	• Prioritize and organize. • See tasks through to completion. • View people and tasks more objectively. • Avoid overuse of giving and taking advice (which can result in lack of focus on tasks). • Write things down. • Do the unpleasant, as well as the fun things. • Focus on what's important now. • Avoid procrastination and/or hoping others will do things for them. • Practice and perfect, when appropriate.

There are different ways to interact and lead the different DISC Styles. Being adaptable to the needs of others can build rapport with employees and help them feel valued. By learning how best to respond to others, you can encourage the best results and support personal satisfaction as an effective leader.

The table below provides an overview of suggestions to interact with those you lead/manage:

	With the D Style	With the I Style	With the S Style	With the C Style
Develop	• Focus on the big picture • Cover basic steps/ high points quickly • Show them the simplest, fastest route to get them to the destination • Tell them what is to be done by when • Help them find shortcuts	• Release information in chunks • Skip details • Involve them kinesthetically • Let them share what they learn • Be slow to criticize and quick to praise • Let them teach concept to others	• Use one-on-one, hands-on instruction • Start at the beginning & end at the end • Let them observe others before trying • Provide a step-by-step procedure & working schedule • Allow repetition for creating routine	• Point out most important things first • Demonstrate efficiently, logically – stress purpose of each step • Proceed slowly, stopping to check understanding • Ask for input, especially potential refinements • Build up to the big picture
Communicate	• Listen to their suggestions, and their plans for actions/results • Acknowledge where you already agree • Work backwards toward agreement on the results you both want	• Listen to their personal feelings and experiences • Be open and responsive, preferably through congenial and leisurely conversation (like good friends) • Allow time to socialize	• Be patient, ready to do more talking than listening • Clarify any key agenda items with them • Stay organized and move forward steadily (but slowly) checking to make sure they understand and accept what is being said	• Be well organized and clear in your communication • Provide logical conclusions • Ask questions nonjudgmentally to clarify objectives or elicit agreement
Help Decide	• Expect autonomous, no-nonsense decisions • If the decision will help meet goals, they go for it; if not, they say no • May put off reaching a conclusion when it takes too much time or effort to do the work determining the best choice • Provide a simple, brief analysis for each option	• Avoid discussions of complex, negative-sounding, messy problems • Frame suggestions in a positive light • Provide suggestions that allow them to look and feel good • Do not require a lot of difficult, follow-up, detail work or long-term commitment	• Deal with only one subject or situation at a time, one step at a time • Before moving on to other items, make sure they are ready, willing, and able to do so • Remain calm and relaxed • Encourage them to share their suggestions of how the decision might be made in a way that is likely to add more stability	• Confirm they are open to discussing the problem or decision • If they aren't ready, either set a definite time that's better for both of you or explore their concern in pursuing this subject • Give time and space to think clearly before providing responses
Motivate	• Lead with the big picture • Provide options and clearly describe the probability of success • Allow the opportunity to make choices • Set boundaries, but let them take charge	• Provide "special" incentives or short term contests to inspire follow through • Show them how they can look good to others • Reward them in front of others, let them share achievements	• Show how their work benefits others/team • Show how the outcome will provide security • Show them how their follow-through links to greater good • Show how work strengthens relationships	• Appeal to the need for accuracy and logic • Keep approach clear, clean and procedural, with illustrations and documentation • Avoid exaggeration and vagueness • Show them how this is the best available option

	With the D Style	With the I Style	With the S Style	With the C Style
Compliment	• Mention their achievements, upward mobility and leadership potential • Remove personal comments and focus on their track record	• Mention their charm, friendliness, creative ideas, persuasiveness • Pay direct personal compliments to them when legitimately deserved	• Mention their teamwork and dependability, what they have done • Notice how others respect them, how well they get along, and the importance of effort in relationships	• Mention efficiency, processes, organization, persistence, accuracy • Do not mix personal and professional comments • Keep praise simple and concise
Counsel	• Stick to the facts • Draw them out by talking about the desired results; then discuss their concerns • Focus on tasks more than feelings • Ask them how they would solve problems	• Give opportunity to share what bothers them – they may need to air feelings to relieve tension • Pay attention to both facts and feelings, but put primary emphasis on feelings • Ask how they could solve a challenge or problem	• Understand emotional side of the situation by drawing them out through questioning and listening • Limit disruption by change, ambiguity, and the unknown • Reduce fears by showing how specific changes will benefit them and others	• Draw them out by asking, "How would you…?" questions about problems • Persist in attempts to get them to express themselves more directly • Allow them to investigate potential considerations and plan for change early to increase comfort
Correct	• Describe what results are desired • Show gaps between actual and desired result • Listen to their suggestions, and their plans for actions/results • Clearly suggest needed improvements and establish a time to get back to you with plan or report of new results	• Specifically define challenge and behaviors to solve the problem • Confirm a mutually agreeable action plan (in writing) to prevent misunderstanding • Help them face, not avoid problems • Recognize that stress may cause panic - help decompress fear and anxiety with positive questions and statements	• Reassure them that you only want to correct a specific behavior, not them personally • Help them not to take things personally by removing the "something is wrong with you" barrier quickly • Point out in a non-threatening way what they're already doing right while also emphasizing what needs changing	• Show them how to get a job done - they'll master and modify it to suit their needs • Specify the exact behavior that is indicated and how you would like to see it changed • Mutually agree on checkpoints and timeframes • Allow them to avoid embarrassment and preserve dignity in mistakes
Delegate	• Give them the bottom line and then let them take their own action • Outline parameters, guidelines, and deadlines to help them be efficient • Remind them to engage more with employees when delegating	• Get clear agreements; set up check points to avoid long stretches with no progress reports • Steer them toward implementation of ideas and taking action • Encourage them to engage others in work	• Monitor workload and responses when delegating • Be sure to explain how by delegating work it is a benefit to others - reaching goals together, allowing more time for you to support others • Give specific task/deadline, and justification of why it is important	• Take time to answer the most critical questions about structure • Give guidance they require in a specific situation. The more they understand the details, the more likely they will be to complete the task properly • Establish deadlines
Acknowledge	• Focus on how pleased you are with results • Share how glad you are to be a part of working with them to make things better	• Focus on success in finding solutions • Appreciate them for their openness and willingness to help others feel good about results	• Sincerely appreciate their willingness to make things good for everyone • Reinforce gratitude at the importance of them sharing their ideas to help others	• Recognize how difficult it can be for them to meet the high personal standards they set • Cite specific and appropriate examples of excellence

PART III Learning Styles

Introduction

How we learn is a topic that is covered in thousands of books and articles written on the subject from hundreds of different perspectives. One particular, but large, foundational part of this subject area is learning styles.

Not everyone agrees on a common definition of learning styles. Some prefer to see it as part of overall perception and memory, some see it as part of human cognition and understanding, and some see it as a unique human "stream" of understanding or process for collecting information.

All learners are not equal. They come in a variety of sizes, shapes, and from many cultural backgrounds. In addition, their past experience and existing methods of learning may be quite different. Apart from differences in general background or culture, some people like to process information through text, while others want visual support and images. Some assimilate information individually, while others prefer to work in groups. Some grasp information intuitively and quickly, while others prefer to see a strong sequential path and time to reflect. In the end, the only thing you can say for sure is that every individual learns in their own particular way.

The Learning Styles Questionnaire simply helps individuals understand their relative preferences as they learn and to better manage their transfer process in the future.

It is intended to help determine where people's general preferences, or natural learning biases, might lie. Although this is far from an exact science, the simple view is that the more we can understand about how we perceive new information or new learning, the better and more successful our learning transfer will be. This means using our whole brain to learn, as is illustrated in the diagram on the next page.

Remember:
- This is not a test.
- There are no right or wrong answers.

Learns By

Quiet Reflection

Ordered offering of facts

Wholistic models of information

Logical, planned discussions

Interests
Performance
Efficiency
Function
Value

Type of Person
Technical
Intellectual
Mathematical
Problem Solver
Quantifier
Organizer

Type of Person
Visionary
Risk-Taker
High impulse
Synthesizer
Creative
Artistic

Learns By

Self discovery

Concept construction

Discovering hidden possiblilities

Involvement

Experimental learning

Interests
Exploration
Strategy
Concepts
Fun

CEREBRAL LEFT

CEREBRAL RIGHT

ANALYTICAL (LOGICAL & RATIONAL)

INTUITIVE (OPEN-MINDED)

VERBAL

NON-VERBAL

DETAILED (ORGANIZED & SEQUENTIAL)

KINESTHETIC (EMOTIONAL & EXPRESSIVE)

LIMBIC LEFT

LIMBIC RIGHT

Interests
Quality
Security
Reliability
Standards

Learns By

Theory testing

Practice

Sequential presentation of information

Programmed and structured

Learning experiences

Type of Person
Detailed
Conservative
Traditional
Controlled
Planner
Evaluator

Type of Person
Soft hearted
Personable
Musical
Helpful
Emotional
Spiritual

Interests
Love
People
Communication
Selflessness

Learns By

Listening and sharing ideas

Harmoniously working together

High interactivity

Open discussion

Experiential learning

Your Results

Learning Styles Report For: Sample Report

Attending
Telescopic — **5/8**
Wide-Angled — **3/8**

Translating
Dependent — **5/8**
Collaborative — **5/8**
Autonomous — **2/8**

Relating
Visual — **5/8**
Auditory — **4/8**
Kinesthetic — **3/8**

Understanding
Global — **4/8**
Analytical — **4/8**

Note: The thin gray bars that appear beneath each of your scores reflect the average score or "norm" for all individuals that have completed this instrument in the past.

Using Learning Styles

This instrument is designed to measure the learning style of an individual in most situations. This is done in four categories:

In this instrument, individuals will score in all four categories and most, if not necessarily all, of the sub-scales. Let's look at these four categories in more detail:

1. ATTENDING

The **ATTENDING** category looks at an individual's motivation to learn in the first place, and the levels of commitment or concentration they tend to give when new information is presented to them. This category has two sub-scales: "Telescopic" and "Wide-angled". Telescopic means that they are generally effective at concentrating and keep their mind on the information being shared without worrying about the physical context. Wide-angled means that the individual is often easily affected by environmental factors such as noise, low light, and other physical influences that can easily interfere with any information being shared.

2. TRANSLATING

The **TRANSLATING** category looks at who an individual relies on most in managing the transfer of learning, and to make sense of what they see, hear, or sense. This category has three sub-scales: "Dependent", "Collaborative", and "Autonomous". Dependent means that the individual mainly favors relying on the trainer or facilitator for information. Collaborative means the individual mainly favors relying on group discussions or team activities for learning. Autonomous means that self-reliance is favored to manage the learning transfer process personally.

3. RELATING

The **RELATING** category looks at an individual's perception of data or information, and how it is related to existing knowledge. This has three sub-scales: "Visual", "Auditory", and "Kinesthetic". Visual means that the preference is for information that can ideally be seen with the eyes. Auditory means that the preference is for information that can ideally be heard. Kinesthetic means that the preference is for information that can ideally be physically experienced (mainly through touch, smell, or taste).

4. UNDERSTANDING

The **UNDERSTANDING** category looks at an individual's preferences for synthesizing data or information that they receive. This category has two sub-scales: "Global" and "Analytical". Global means a preference for understanding at a conceptual or "big picture" level. Analytical means a preference for understanding at a detailed or step-by-step level.

Your Individual Score

Once you have plotted your individual score (as long as this has been done honestly and accurately) you should be in a position to:

1. **Review the balance of learning styles that you draw upon.**
2. **Compare your mix of learning styles with other average scores (shown on the graph).**
3. **Consider the implications for your future learning and how you might look to adjust your own approach to look to influence the way that future learning is delivered to you.**

Remember, there are no right or wrong answers in learning styles. In analysis, the essential value in any measurement is the extent to which it provides a useful indicator of your personal way of operating. Ideally, this should help us reflect upon and judge whether any adjustments or changes are necessary or desirable to build effectiveness.

By completing this profile, your scores should provide a useful basis for such a review to take place. Whatever your results, you may want to reflect on your scores on all of the scales. Consequently, on the following pages, you will find some broad information to consider about each category.

INTERPRETING YOUR SCORES ON THE LEARNING STYLE INSTRUMENT

The following pages provide some general information for both high and low scores in each of the four learning style categories, and all ten of the sub-scales. This information provides a broad guide as to how an individual might learn or absorb new information given their score (all other things being equal).

Your scores have translated into four main categories. These are:

1. Attending - How an individual focuses or concentrates on new information or learning: They can be "Telescopic" or "Wide-angled"

2. Translating - How individuals prefer to manage what they see, hear or sense in the learning environment: They can be "Dependent", "Collaborative", or "Autonomous"

3. Relating - How individuals like to relate new knowledge to old knowledge: They can be "Visual", "Kinesthetic", or "Auditory"

4. Understanding - How individuals like to synthesize the learning they receive: They can be "Global" or "Analytical"

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Attending

Reference your scores from the page.

Attending characteristics focus on how an individual focuses or concentrates on new information or learning. Some individuals have a Telescopic perspective. This means that they can focus on the core message without noticing or being distracted by some of the ambient interference. They may, however, miss some of the relevant wider signals. Wide-angled individuals tend to notice the whole learning environment, and can let side issues and distractions interfere with the core message.

Telescopic (55% of People)	Wide-Angled (45% of People)
Physical climate • Is likely to ignore most minor physical distractions without much difficulty. • Will seek to adjust their learning climate themselves, wherever possible. • Usually happy to work in any learning design format and training room design, as long as the course leader can be clearly seen and heard.	**Physical climate** • Is likely to find all but the most minor noises and interruptions irritating and distracting. • Will expect the course leader to adjust the whole learning climate to be optimal. • Will prefer a comfortable and appropriate learning format and layout, with lots of light, air, and a room design that is "fit for purpose".
Motivation • Telescopic individuals are likely to set their own learning goals or objectives and tell others about them. • Motivation is self-generated and paced, and is quickly formed. However, it can just as quickly disappear when not challenged.	**Motivation** • Wide-angled individuals are likely to look for pre-specified holistic learning objectives and goals to be explained early in proceedings. • Motivation is driven by a coordinated effort to get the entire learning environment right, not just the content.
Level of Concentration • High if there is a clear link with personal desires or aims, but potentially low if too much time is taken in straying from the core messages of the learning. • Prefers learning goals and objectives, and a clear path to be described to reach them.	**Level of Concentration** • High if the complete training event is managed as a whole and care is taken to deal with all of the learning style issues (not just trying to process participants). • Prefers learning to be nurtured in many ways with the most appropriate environment possible.

Translating

Reference your scores from the graphs page.

Translating characteristics focus on individual preferences for managing their own personal method for translating what they see, hear, or sense in a learning environment, and make intelligible in terms of their own existing mental models. Dependent learners expect the learning course leader to help them do this; Collaborative learners like to do this by talking about issues raised in groups; Autonomous learners like to challenge assumptions and reflect upon information given by themselves.

The Dependent Learner (52% of people)	The Collaborative Learner (22% of people)	The Autonomous Learner (26% of people)
Characteristics Dependent learners prefer course leader directed information, high structure, and clear focus. Lectures or tutorials are, therefore, more favored. Dependent learners tend to like large groups because the learning format has to be more formal.	**Characteristics** Collaborative learners tend to favor discussion oriented sessions, small group seminars, or even project work that can provide assignments and a chance for social interaction. Games, simulations, case studies, and role plays are, therefore, more favored.	**Characteristics** The autonomous learner prefers to exercise an influence over the content and structure of the program and see the course leader/facilitator as a broadly guiding resource. Guided reading and distance learning are, therefore, comfortable formats.
Likes • Tutorials. • Lectures. • Presentations. • Bulletins. • Manuals. • Procedures. • Work instructions. • Guidelines. • Outlines. • Summaries.	**Likes** • Seminars. • Workshops. • Group discussions. • Role plays. • Think tanks. • Brainstorming. • Sessions. • Projects. • Games. • Simulations. • Clubs.	**Likes** • Reading. • Writing. • Distance learning. • Simulations. • One-to-one counseling. • Models. • Individual. • Assignments. • Loose idea. • Big picture concepts.
Dislikes • Conceptual models. • Doodles. • Complex charts. • Data without notes. • Unsupported ideas/opinions.	**Dislikes** • Working alone. • No interaction. • Long lectures. • Individual reading. • Distance learning.	**Dislikes** • Technical presentations. • Detailed lectures. • Policies and procedure. • Fixed procedures and work instructions. • Workbooks/manuals.

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Relating

Reference your scores from the graphs page.

Relating characteristics focus on how individuals like to relate what is taught to their existing shared knowledge (both in short and long-term memory). The three primary methods are "Visual", "Kinesthetic", and "Auditory". It should be noted that individuals use all three methods, but given a preference will elect to use one more than the other two.

Visual Learners (45% of people)	Kinesthetic Learners (25% of people)	Auditory Learners (30% of people)
Characteristics • When relaxing, prefer to watch a film or video, go to the theatre, or read a book. • Prefer to talk to people face-to-face. • Are often fast thinkers and talkers. • Forget names, remember faces. • If lost or need directions, prefer a map. When inactive, tend to doodle or watch someone/something. • Reward people with a note, letter, or card. **Learn best by** • Writing down key facts. • Visualizing what they are learning. • Creating pictures/diagrams from what they are learning. • Using time lines for remembering dates. • Creating their own strong visual links. • Using pictures, diagrams, charts, film, video, graphics, etc.	**Characteristics** • When relaxing, prefer to play games and sports. • Prefer to talk to people while doing something else. • Slow talkers, use gestures and expressions. • Shake hands with people they meet. • If lost or need directions, prefer to be shown the way. • Reward people with a pat on the back. • Cannot sit still for long periods of time. **Learn best by** • Coping demonstrations. • Making models. • Recording information as they hear it, perhaps in a Mind Map. • Walking around while they read. • Underlining/highlighting new information/key points. • Putting key points on index cards and sorting them into order. • Getting physically and actively involved in their learning.	**Characteristics** • When relaxing, prefer to listen to music or radio. • Prefer to talk to people on the phone. Enjoy listening to others, but impatient to talk; talk in a rhythmic voice. • Forget faces, remember names. • If lost or need directions, prefer to be told. • When inactive, tend to talk to themselves or others. • Reward people with oral praise. **Learn best by** • Hearing a seminar, presentation, or explanation. • Reading aloud to themselves. • Reading with emotion or accent. • Making a tape of key points to listen to in the car, while ironing, etc. • Verbally summarize in their own words. • Explain the subject to someone else. • Use their own internal voice to verbalize what they are learning.

Understanding

Reference your scores from the graphs page.

Understanding characteristics focus on how individuals like to ultimately synthesize the learning that they receive, and the way in which they extrapolate it for their own theoretical or practical use. The two styles by which most people do this synthesizing is either "Globally", in which case they are likely to take a big picture and conceptual view and broadly absorb information, or "Analytically", in which case they are likely to make sense of learning by breaking it down logically and in step-by-step fashion.

| Global (53% of people)	Analytical (47% of people)
Strengths • Seeing the big picture. • Seeing relationships. • Co-operating in group efforts. • Reading between the lines. • Seeing many options. • Paraphrasing. • Doing several things at once. • Reading body language; getting others involved.	**Strengths** • Details. • Focus. • Organization. • Remembering specifics. • Direct answers. • Consistency. • Objectivity. • Individual competition. • Doing one thing at a time.
Style • Often more sensitive to other people's feelings. • Flexible. • Goes with the flow. • Learns by discussion and working with others. • Needs reassurance and reinforcement. • Future focused and expansive in thinking. • Tries to avoid conflict. • May skip steps and details.	**Style** • Likes things ordered in a step-by-step way. • Pays close attention to details. • Must be prepared. • Needs to know what to expect. • Often values facts over feelings. • Prefers to finish one thing at a time. • Rarely becomes personally or emotionally involved. • Logical. • Finds the facts but sometimes misses the main idea.
Frustrations • Having to explain themselves analytically. • Not getting a chance to explain themselves. • Not knowing the meaning for doing something. • Having to go step-by-step without knowing where they'll end up. • Not being able to relate what they are learning to their own situation. • Having to show the steps they used to get an answer.	**Frustrations** • Having opinion expressed as fact. • Not understanding the purpose for doing something. • Listening to an overview without knowing the steps involved. • Listening to an explanation when all that's needed is a "yes" or a "no" answer. • Dealing with generalities. • Having to find meaning in all that they learn. • Not finishing one task before going to the next.

The Effective Learning Cycle in Four Steps

Actually evaluating what we hear, see, or experience is a complex process for every individual who will bring their own past history, preferences, biases, skills, and many other factors to bear in each new situation. However, we have suggested that this mental learning evaluation cycle is a four-step process:

Step 1: ATTENDING

A pre-condition of learning is an ability on the part of the individual to filter out inhibitors and attend to the subject with their full attention. This is predominantly a right-brained activity in which we appraise the broad context within which the information should be evaluated (ATTENDING).
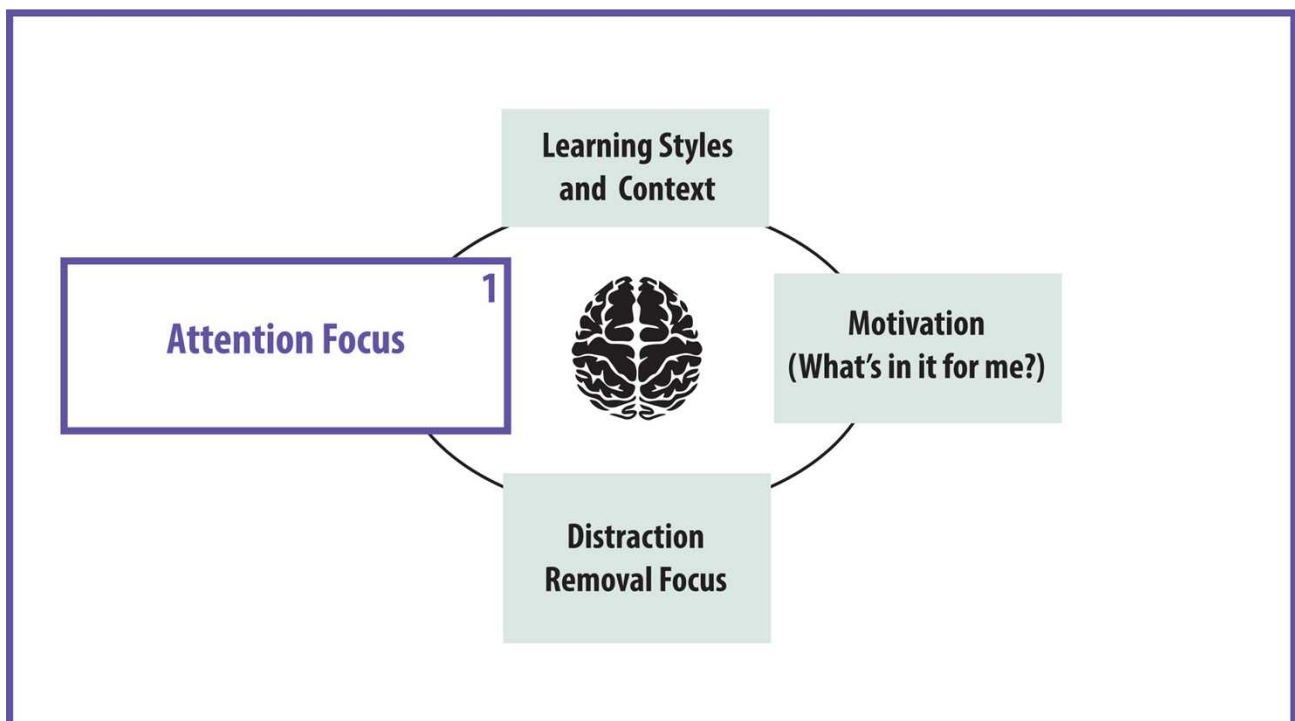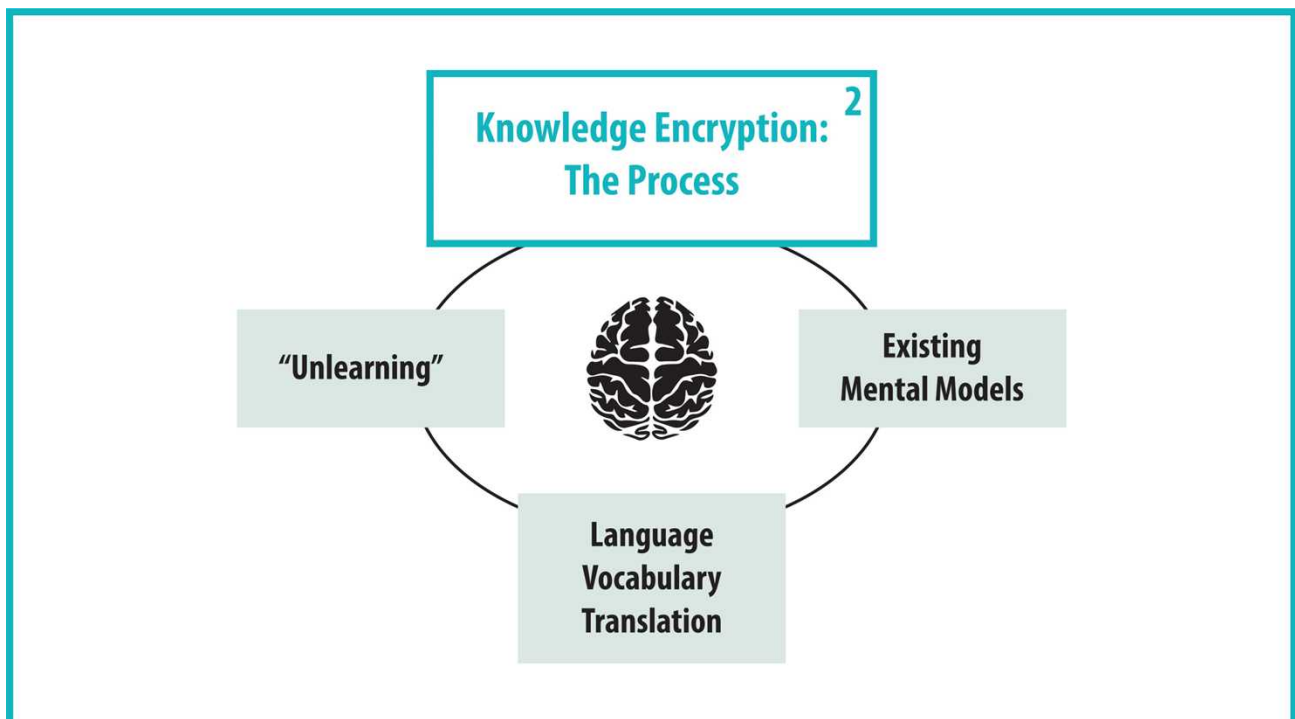
The Effective Learning Cycle in Four Steps

Step 2: TRANSLATING

We need to translate the information in a way that matches our existing knowledge or mental models of the way things work. In some cases, we may have to unlearn something before we can encode or encrypt the new learning to be meaningful. This is predominantly a left-brain activity connected with logic and reason (TRANSLATING).
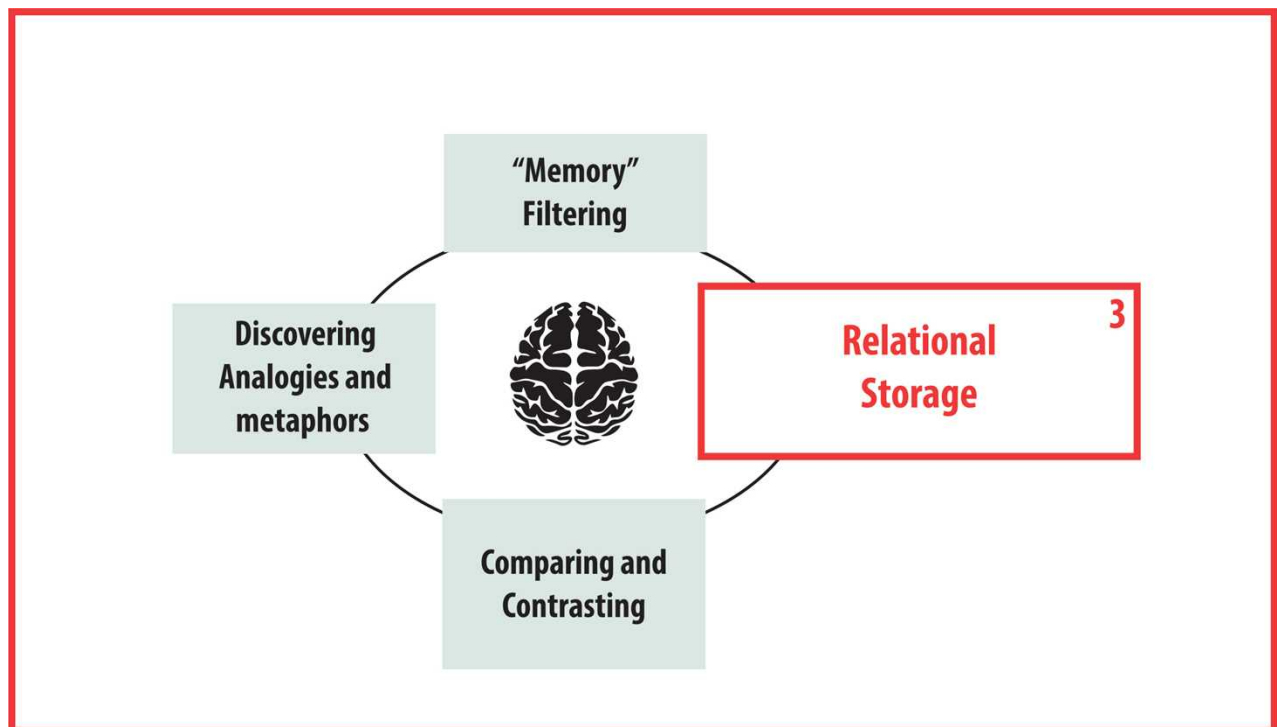
The Effective Learning Cycle in Four Steps

Step 3: RELATING

We need to relate the information to existing patterns or "blocks" of knowledge, in either short or long term memory, in order to connect new information with old information in the same place. This is predominantly a right-brained activity connected with associated general ideas and relationships (RELATING).
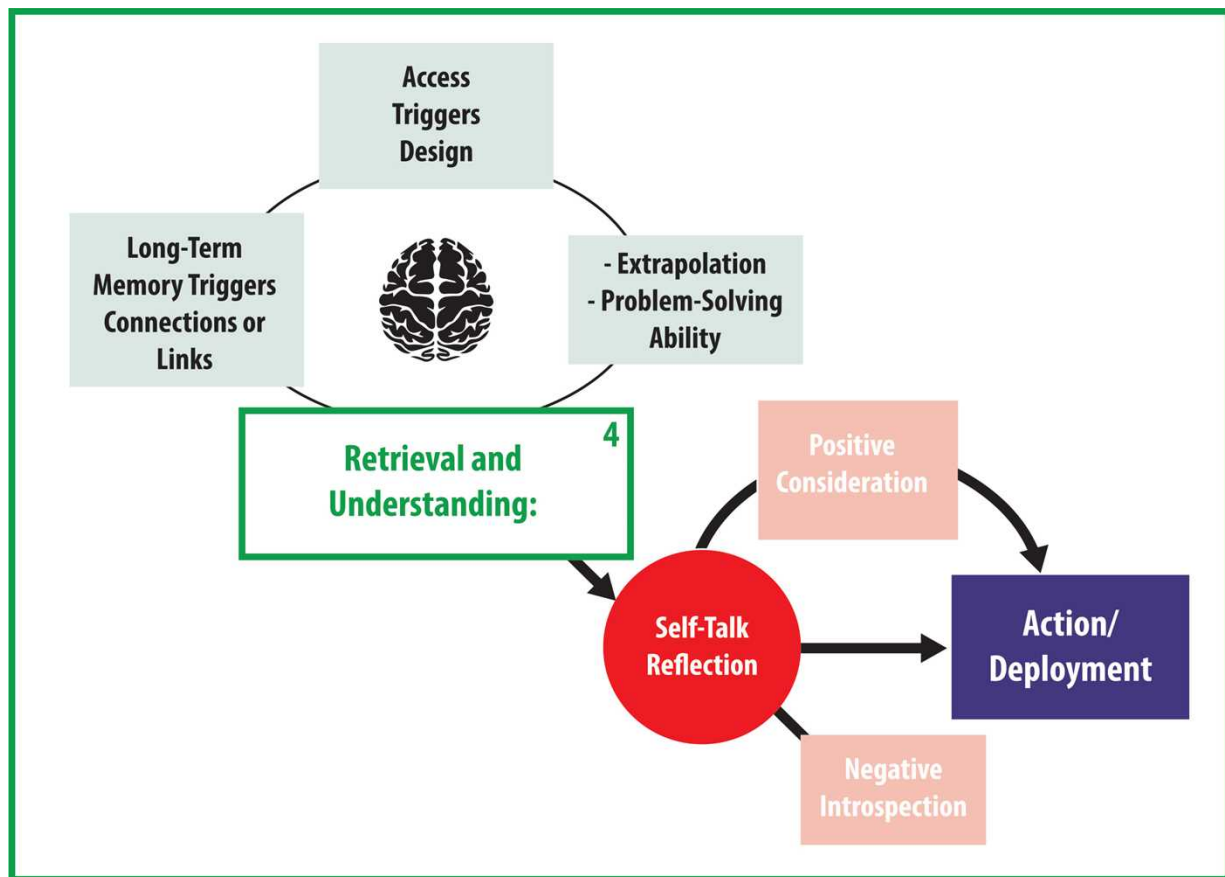
## The Effective Learning Cycle in Four Steps

Step 4: UNDERSTANDING

We need to summarize the new information in connection with the old, and to refine it for access and use when we need it. This is predominantly a left-brain activity connected with induction and deduction processes (UNDERSTANDING).

This learning evaluation cycle may be travelled in a few seconds in many cases, or may take much longer if the information is complex or confusing. If we travel the cycle successfully, our "self talk", or internal reflection, is positive and we can add it to our knowledge and action if we so choose. However, if we stall at any of these steps or travel this cycle with difficulty, our self talk may be negative, or at least confused, and we introspectively travel the cycle again to see if we can work out the problem.

Hopefully, this instrument will have provided some useful guidance to every individual on how they personally travel through these four steps in their learning cycle.

The Effective Learning Cycle Summary
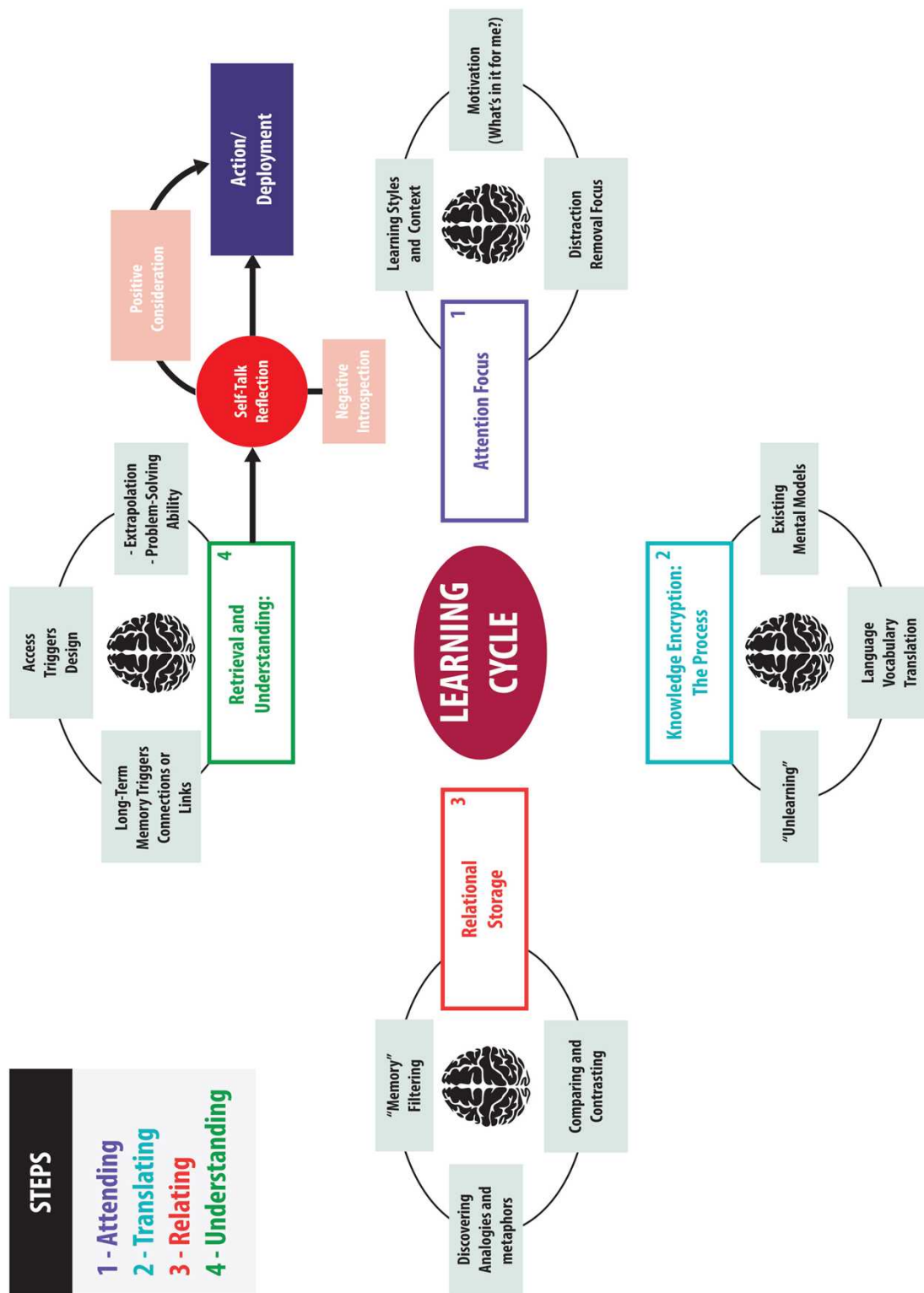
Pulling It All Together - Facilitating Learning Transfer

Our simple point in this profile has been that if individuals understand their overall learning cycle and their individual strengths and weaknesses, biases, and preferences, they will more readily be able to adjust their whole approach to learning and building knowledge. Some individuals may still want more information than we have been able to cover here. The desire to further understand learning styles is the first step in determining your own personal "recipe" for effective learning in the future.

- Once your level of understanding about the subject is as broad and as deep as you would like it to be, the next step will be to consider how much of this thinking fits or is relevant to you, and what appeals less or does not seem to apply at all. This means looking at all four of the stages in the Learning Styles Questionnaire carefully, and at the results in all ten of the sub-scales.

- Because most of the learning style theory and research is based on large groups of people which provides averaged and generalized results, even concepts that have been internalized and accepted may need to be modified to be as effective for you as possible. Adapting these concepts to more accurately reflect how people learn or like to be taught individually is the next step toward effectiveness and applicability.

- With any luck, some learning style concepts will be of sufficient interest to individuals to try out or experiment. Deploying some of the recommended approaches and activities is the final step in developing the right recipe for an individual to use and gain future benefit. In this sense, it is understanding ourselves that is suggested to be the most important consideration in managing our learning journey in the future.

There are many metaphors and analogies that are often used for the training or the learning process. Such analysis usually reflects that individuals are "filled up" with information in some way, such as a computer that progressively fills its memory with information until it is full. While we can buy more memory for our computers, as humans when we have more information than space, our only alternative is to free up some space in order for new learning to take place. This is typically referred to as the "unlearning" process. The unlearning process simply means identifying what information or previous training might now be redundant or conflicting with the new, and having clear strategies to address it. While this is a simple concept in mechanical or non-complex learning (like learning to complete a new task), it can become more complex when seeking behavioral-type changes.

Kurt Lewin, a social psychologist, writing in the 1940's and 50's, suggested that the most appropriate learning change model should be as follows:

UNFREEZE ▶ **CHANGE** ▶ **REFREEZE**

In this model, he suggested that energy should be directed towards clearing the path, or unfreezing old habits and notions, in the most direct way possible. The trick is to "delete" what is no longer needed or to relate new knowledge to existing knowledge or experience. This cannot happen by accident; it must be planned.

There are two ways in which this whole process of effective learning transfer can be planned:
- Either the learning facilitator or trainer can take account of individual learning styles and vary their delivery styles and formats to optimize the transfer;
- Alternatively, the individual learner can recognize their own preferred learning styles and make the necessary interventions and adjustments.

While both approaches performed together are likely to create the best overall approach, it is the second of these two options that each individual can always control as they seek to learn something new or different.

My Contract for Change

1. My personal goals to learn more effectively in the future are:
     a) _____
     b) _____
     c) _____

2. As a result, I will make more time to achieve the goals by giving less priority to:
     a) _____
     b) _____
     c) _____

3. Each week I will record my progress by:
_____
_____
_____

4. My support person(s) will be:
_____
_____
_____

5. My support person(s) will help me by:
_____
_____
_____

6. I will use the following methods to maintain my momentum and learn along the way:
     a) _____
     b) _____
     c) _____

7. I will reward myself for achieving my milestones by:
_____
_____
_____

8. My end reward will be:
_____
_____
_____

Signed _____ Dated _____

So Now What?

This report is filled with information about each of your four DISC and Learning Style categories. Now you have a profile that will truly help you understand your own unique DISC and Learning Style patterns.

There are many suggestions in each of the sections of this report, presenting opportunities for you to apply this valuable information. Take the next action steps required to make improvements that are most important to you and your success.

Do not put this report on a shelf or in a file. You have the opportunity to use this information to open a meaningful dialogue with others and improve the way you learn new information. Use this report as a reference tool. It contains a lot of information and it wasn't designed to be digested in a single reading.

Have fun making the minor changes in the way you attend, translate, relate and understand new material and immediately experience improved results. Have fun with making a few minor changes in your behavior and experience the results. You will be pleasantly surprised!

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