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Homework 2

Learning Styles

Do learning styles really matter?

It seems there is little scientific evidence to support the traditional ‘learning styles’ theory. These styles compartmentalize learning strategies into: visual, auditory, reading/writing, kinesthetic leaning, while people are not classifiable into such narrow categories.

Do learning styles reflect how we best learn?

Many people have preferred methods of learning. This is not the same thing as the most effective method(s) for learning, but simply how people are most comfortable. The most successful learning strategies happen to be strategies that apparently most students do not identify as such!

My thought- ‘learning styles’ talk lines up nicely with some of the examples of ‘fixed mindset’ behaviors. A perceived proclivity for a learning style might connect back to the idea of talent in a field as an indicator of their own inevitable success or failure. If a subject or teaching method is not connected to their learning style, in other words they don’t have a talent for it, why try? Or the notion that a person has these fixed traits that cannot change. Someone with a fixed mindset may say that a learning style defines them, and their intelligence cannot grow in other ways over time.

BUT NO! We grow through effort and difficulty. ☺

**What's Your Learning Style? The Results**

For many of the questions, more than one or even all the options are true for me. That feels correct as far as my own self-view. I learn best through multiple mediums. Approaching a new topic from more than one perspective really helps me grasp it. I was quite surprised by my quiz result! I would’t have guessed I was an ‘auditory learner’.

**Your Scores:**

* Auditory: 50%
* Visual: 35%
* Tactile: 15%

You are an **Auditory** learner! Check out the information below, or [view all of the learning styles](http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles-styles.shtml).

**Auditory**

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

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

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

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

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