

# Learning Styles

Revisiting the Learning Styles and exploring the relationship between them and educators, students and curriculum.

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# Outline

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# Revisiting learning styles

- ▶ Visual
  - ▶ Aural
  - ▶ Read/write
  - ▶ Kinaesthetic
- 

# Students' reflections

Abdul - Saudi Arabia



# Student Reflection

Esmeralda - Colombia



# Student Reflection

Eri - Japan



# Student Reflection

Tien - Vietnam



# Discussion

Do you know your learning style?

When teaching do you favour a particular activity or methodology?

Can or do you approach all tasks aurally, visually, kinaesthetically and by reading and writing?

Do you know your students learning style?

Are there particular learning styles attached to specific cultures?



# VARK questionnaire

## The VARK Questionnaire

## How do I learn best?

Choose the answer which best explains your preference and tick the box next to it.

**Please tick more than one** if a single answer does not match your perception. Leave blank any question that does not apply.

(Question sample from version 7.1)

A group of tourists wants to learn about the parks or wildlife reserves in your area. You would:

- talk about, or arrange a talk for them about parks or wildlife reserves.
- show them maps and internet pictures.
- take them to a park or wildlife reserve and walk with them.
- give them a book or pamphlets about the parks or wildlife reserves.

# Results

Beginner class

Aural Read/Write(multiple nationalities)

Lower intermediate

Read/Write (multiple nationalities)

Intermediate (2)

Aural (multiple nationalities)

Upper Intermediate

Aural (PEP class - Chinese/a few Brazilians kinaesthetic)

Advanced Class (2)

Kinaesthetic (multiple nationalities)

Advanced Class (1)

Visual (Hong Kong Students 6.5/7 IELTS or higher)

# Observations

Beginner students tend to have either a reading/writing or aural learning style

Intermediate students tend to have an aural learning style

\*The teacher of one the intermediate class had a strong reading/writing learning style but no one in her class had that as a dominant learning style.

Upper intermediate (Mainland Chinese) tend to have an aural learning style whereas Brazilians tend to be kinaesthetic and multi-modal

Advanced students generally are kinaesthetic and multi-modal

Advanced students from Hong Kong with IELTS 6.5 or higher tended to be visual and multimodal

# Exploration

How can **essay** be taught visually, aurally, kinaesthetically and by reading/writing?

A student in an academic preparatory course had the following scores

Visual 8      Aural 10      Read/write 0      Kinaesthetic 5

# How to teach essay writing

Visually

.... View a sample

Aurally

Read/write

.... Read a sample

Kinaesthetically

# Responses

Please select a speaker from your team

Put forward one suggestion of how to teach an essay visually, aurally or kinaesthetically.

# Take Home Challenges

How can the four approaches be applied to facilitate and maximise students learning?

Think about the tasks set in the curriculum that you teach and how can they be approached using the four styles?

Would it be beneficial for all teachers and students to do the VARK Questionnaire and would it facilitate self awareness and learning?

How do learning styles impact communication in our workplace?



# Reference List

VARK Questionnaire © Copyright Version 7.3 (2001)  
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VISUAL

AURAL

READ/WRITE

KINAESTHETIC

Thank you

