

VISUAL/VERBAL LEARNERS

Characteristics:

- Like to read books and magazines for both information and pleasure
- Read a newspaper as a source of news
- Prefer to read what an expert has written on a subject, rather than listen to a lecture
- Prefer to look over written directions to assemble or use something, rather than hear someone explain how to do it
- Feel frustrated when teachers simply give oral instructions on the board
- Take extensive notes in class
- Make lists regularly of daily goals and activities

Ways You Learn Best:

- Having written instructions for all assignments and tests
- Using aids: handouts, summary notes of lecture, written definitions of new terms, written and oral explanations for charts, graphs and diagrams
- Follow-up reading for any class lectures and discussion

Successful Study Strategies:

- Take careful notes to concentrate during class lectures
- Write summaries of notes in your own words
- Write down any oral instructions for assignments to have a visual aid to refer to later
- Highlight important ideas in your assigned reading with colored markers
- Make flashcards with definitions
- Make lists and other written reminders of anything you need to remember to do

VISUAL/NONVERBAL LEARNERS

Characteristics:

- Understand and retain information well by looking at pictures, diagrams and charts
- Like to look through books and magazines and focus mainly on pictures
- Learn how to do things by observing, rather than verbal instructions
- Prefer demonstrated tasks to oral and written instructions
- Prefer the television as a source of news rather than a newspaper
- Have a strong visual memory (remember faces, locations, where they put things)

Ways You Learn Best:

- When assigned tasks are demonstrated
- Seeing samples of successfully completed assignments
- Using visual aids: diagrams, charts, pictures, films
- Having the opportunity to draw pictures or diagrams of ideas and concepts
- When you are introduced to new concepts, having a picture or example to which you can relate

Successful Study strategies:

- Draw pictures, charts, diagrams or vocabulary, concepts, or problems
- Use a variety of bright colors to highlight important information in your lecture notes and textbook
- Try to get a mental picture of what you are reading or listening about in a lecture (this will help keep you alert and focused)
- Summarize the main points of what you have read in a chart
- Ask for examples or stories to help you understand new or difficult concepts
- Ask for successfully completed assignments or problems

AUDITORY LEARNERS

Characteristics:

- Master new information by listening then repeating or discussing ideas with others
- Like to socialize, talk, discuss, and share ideas
- Enjoy working with a partner or in a small group
- Prefer to have someone explain how to assemble or use something rather than look over written instructions
- Feel frustrated when teachers write assignments on board or on a handout, but don't go over them orally
- Would rather listen to an expert on a subject rather than read an article or textbook
- Remember people's names and lyrics to song titles after hearing them only once or a few times

Ways You Learn Best:

- Listening to lectures, class discussions, small group activities, and tapes
- Being given oral instructions for classroom tasks, tests, and assignments
- Brainstorming ideas aloud with classmates before beginning a reading or writing assignment
- Participating in small group discussions
- Having an opportunity to ask questions and share ideas in class
- Giving oral reports or listening to oral reports given by others

Successful Study Strategies:

- Make tape recording of information you want to learn (play them in your car, while you work around the house, etc)
- Teach someone else what you have learned
- Summarize out loud what you have just read from your text
- Make your own flashcards and quiz yourself out loud
- Try talking through a problem you are working on before doing it on paper
- Ask for verbal explanations
- Participate in a study group

TACTILE-KINESTHETIC LEARNERS

Characteristics:

- Enjoy working with their hands; want to touch and feel everything
- Tend to be skilled at repairing and assembling things, even without instructions
- Tend to be coordinated at sports
- Focus well during “hands on” projects
- Are frequently in motion (may fidget, get up regularly, doodle or tap pencil)
- May get restless or distracted during lengthy class lectures
- Like a variety in classroom activities

Ways You Learn Best:

- Engaging in activities that allow you to interact with others
- Participating in role-plays
- Manipulating and assembling objects, materials, models
- Taking notes during class lectures and discussions (the act of writing aids concentration)
- Drawing, underlining, and highlighting in-class notes
- Going on field trips

Successful Study Strategies:

- Do your “thinking” on paper: make lists, outlines, graphs
- Take good notes during class lectures, even if you think you understand the material
- Highlight ideas and concepts in your textbook after you have already done the initial reading, then copy the most important information in your own words to summarize important ideas
- Make and use your own flash cards
- Schedule your study session so you can take breaks to stretch and move around
- Break up your homework into manageable time blocks
- Try not to register for classes that meet once a week