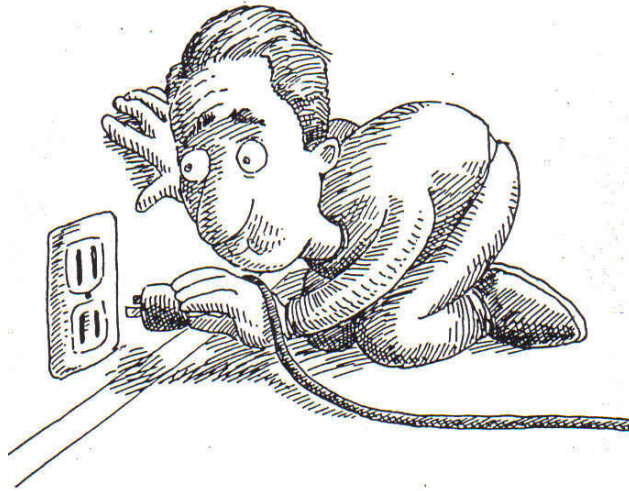


Motivating Students



To Take Charge of Their Own Success

Focus on Learning Styles Strengths

by

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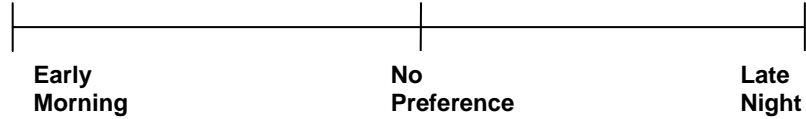
Quick Eclectic Learning Styles Profile

I. How Do You Concentrate? (Environmental Preferences)

Place a mark on the continuum above the description that best fits

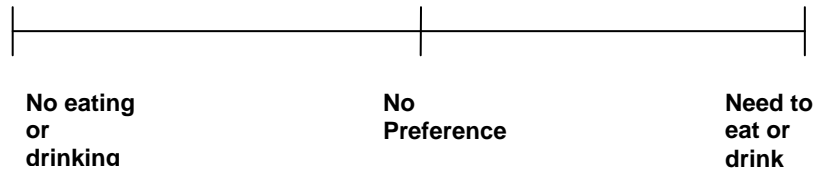
Time of Day

This is when I am usually at my best for concentrating and studying:



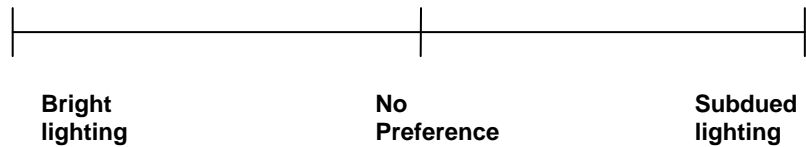
Intake

When I'm studying or concentrating, it helps me to have something to eat or drink:



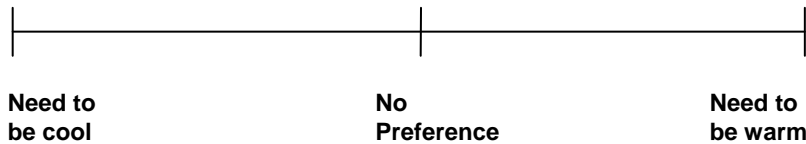
Light

When I'm studying or working, I work best with this kind of light:



Temperature

In order to be at my best when learning, I:



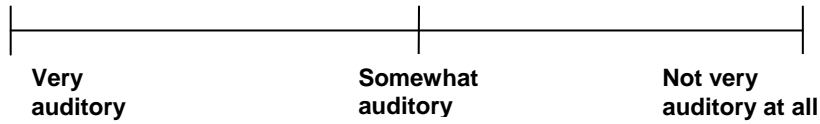
Notes:

More about identifying your environmental preferences: *The Way They Learn*, pp. 75-85; *I Hate School*, pp. 17-58.

II. How Do You Remember? (Modalities)

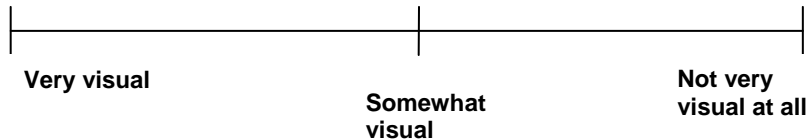
Auditory

When I have to remember something, I usually need to hear myself talk, discuss with others, or make a “thinking noise”.



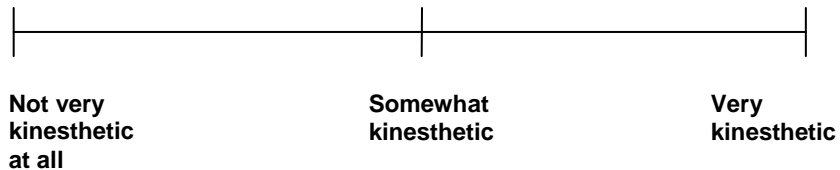
Visual

When I need to remember something, I usually need to get a picture in my mind, draw, doodle, or write.



Kinesthetic

When I need to remember something, I usually need to move around, take short breaks, and take some kind of action.



Notes:

More about identifying your environmental preferences: *The Way They Learn*, pp. 89-99; *Every Child Can Succeed*, pp. 65-68; 79-82; 115-118; *I Hate School*, pp. 60-90.

Modality Checklist

Visual Preferences

If you have a strong preference for *visual* methods of processing and remembering information, you may find yourself:

- watching someone else demonstrate how to do a task before you try it
- drawing pictures to associate with what you need to remember
- using bright colors and large spaces to draw or write
- scribbling or doodling while learning or listening to someone talk
- writing things down so you won't forget them
- underlining or highlighting information in books or resource materials
- sorting or organizing papers or files by color
- feeling more confident if you know you look good
- evaluating others based largely on their appearance
- finding it easier to remember faces than names

Total

Auditory Preferences

If you have a strong preference for *auditory* methods of processing and remembering information, you may find yourself:

- listening to audio recordings more often than reading the books
- repeating out loud to yourself or someone else facts or numbers you need to remember
- sometimes making words or sentences rhyme
- turning information that needs to be memorized into a song or poem
- talking through a problem that needs to be solved
- saying the sound of a word as you write it
- repeating instructions out loud
- preferring to take an oral exam rather than a written one
- judging someone's sincerity by the sound of their voice
- asking to have an idea explained rather than reading about it

Total

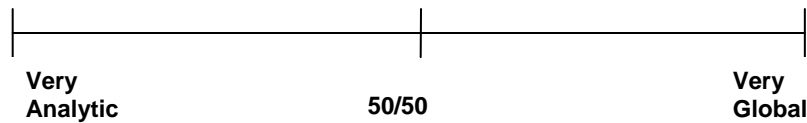
Kinesthetic Preferences

If you have a strong preference for *kinesthetic* methods of processing and remembering information, you may find yourself:

- compelled to dance to good music
- taking frequent breaks when working or concentrating
- actually jumping in and doing something rather than watch someone else do it first
- associating body movements with words or something that needs to be remembered
- using big spaces to draw or write
- finding books to read or movies to watch that are filled with action
- using your finger to point to words as you read them
- writes notes in order to remember what someone said
- touching or holding things as they are being explained
- evaluating a person by the way he or she shakes hands with you

Total

How Your Mind Works When Interacting with Information



Focus on specific facts;
Break information down, piece by piece

Focus on the big picture, an overall understanding of the "gist of things"

Analytic Strengths

- focusing on details
- working independently
- organizing
- being consistent
- doing one thing at a time

Global Strengths

- seeing the big picture
- cooperating in groups
- inspiring
- identifying many options
- doing several things at once

What Keeps Analytics Happy?

- having a process ordered step-by-step
- being prepared
- knowing what to expect
- keeping emotions separate from facts
- maintaining a sense of justice

What Keeps Globals Happy?

- getting to the point without details
- being flexible
- going with the flow
- feeling understood and appreciated
- maintaining a sense of fairness

Analytic Frustrations

- having opinion expressed as fact
- not understanding the purpose
- listening to an overview

Global Frustrations

- having to explain themselves
- not knowing the meaning
- listening to the details

*Based on the research of Herman A. Witkin. To find out more about identifying your naturally strongest cognitive process: **The Way We Work**, pp. 89-107; **The Way They Learn**, pp. 103-125..*

Points to Remember:

- ◆ There is no such thing as a "pure" style—each of us has both puzzle pieces.
- ◆ Some of you will be almost evenly divided between the analytic and global; others will definitely lean one way or the other.
- ◆ All of us can certainly learn to adapt and adjust to the opposite style, but the research clearly supports the fact that we are born with natural inclinations and strengths from the very beginning.
- ◆ Recognizing how your mind is wired when it comes to taking in and processing information can help you understand how you think, make decisions and organize what you know.
- ◆ There is no smartest or best style, but sometimes a specific field of study or profession can value one style more than the other.
- ◆ It is more important to understand someone's behavior than to analyze or fit them into a category.
- ◆ We learn to recognize our learning style strengths not to find excuses, but to have tools to succeed.

More about identifying your strongest cognitive process: **The Way They Learn**, pp. 103-125; **Every Child Can Succeed**, pp. 27-36; 65-69; 83-85; 118-119| **I Hate School**, pp. 91-101.

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Cynthia Tobias
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