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English 302
April 20, 2006

Learning styles and Strategies

Learning styles can be described in many ways; maybe your learning style can be a visual learner. You probably notice when you learn a new learning style you seem to get high grades. Everyone has a different learning style. The teachers also have their way of teaching. Some teachers would talk about the subject and others would present it on a PowerPoint. Getting to know your learning style can help you to learn what the instructor's telling you. As a visual learner I have to see a demonstration of the subject he or she's teaching. In the other hand a teacher that lectures all the time I would probably do poorly in his/her class. All these learning styles will help you find the affective way in learning. It's always good to know which learning style you are. It makes learning understandable and easier.

As a visual learner, I learn from the teacher when he/she uses charts, graphs, and pictures. To understand how the students learn, teachers should know about learning styles: "How can we teach them if we don't know how they learn?" (Dunn) Many professors ask this question to them; most use different strategies. In some cases, many professors teach one style, maybe lecturing on their notes. Many students will wonder off and daydream if the lecture turns complicated with fancy words. In order to understand a teacher that only lectures, I have to take many notes.

I was like the other students who cram the information in seconds; I am ready for a test. In my days, teenagers would show off by finishing early. Unfortunately, I was wrong. The grades on a test were low and with disappointment, I knew it wasn't my style of learning. My friends would not study and yet they had good grades. Some would invite me over to a party and I would still picture the answers for the test. My teacher would say some have a picture mind on what they study on. In college, I opened my eyes to the wonders of learning and the knowledge of an apple. I took a course where it lets me know about time management and learning styles. When I finished my course I learned that I was a visual learner. I learn by seeing charts and work assignments on the board. I would work with flash cards; go over notes and examples constantly. What I do now is study for a while at night and in the morning I study a little more. I also write things to paint a big picture before I work with it. I finally learned my learning style; it was tough but it was worth it.

VISUAL AND VERBAL LEARNERS

- Visual learners remember best what they see--pictures, diagrams, flow charts, time lines, films, and demonstrations. Verbal learners get more out of words--written and spoken explanations. Everyone learns more when information is presented both visually and verbally. (Flider)
- In most college classes very little visual information is presented: students mainly listen to lectures and read material written on chalkboards and in textbooks and handouts. Unfortunately, most people are visual learners, which mean that most students do not get nearly as much as they would if more visual presentation were

used in class. Good learners are capable of processing information presented either visually or verbally. (Filder)

The example of a visual learner relates to my learning style. According to the Visual examples I would consider myself to be a visual learner. Everybody has their style of learning; not everyone's style is the same.

In my life I have done many terrible things that I learned from. In my learning experience I learned how to drive. I was a little kid of six years old and I would watch my dad drive the pick up truck. He would always drive smooth across the rough road, the roaring of the engine would hum in my ears and yet I watched my dad's every move. My dad would expect a lot from me, having six years old wasn't a barrier for me to drive. In case of emergencies I had to know how to drive. Finally I learned by putting "hand on" the steering wheel. I had a picture before on how I would look like driving on my way to the street. Everything was like a puzzle when I drove. It was different from what I learned from watching and from driving. Unfortunately I abused of what I had learned throughout the months. I would do donuts; I would sometimes leave it on first gear, get off, and run after the truck. For some weird reason I wanted to go reverse and bump into a small tree. The trunk was about the size of a light pole. The branched didn't have leaves at all, but yet I wanted to go reverse and bump into it. "Here we go!" I slightly squeeze the gear peddle and with action I grip the standard gear. It's set on reverse. I gently let go off the break and before I know it I see the rattle of the tree's movement. "Yeah! That's fun," I told myself. I shifted to first gear, but the truck did not budge. Little by little, I stepped on the gas. Unfortunately, I lost my patience and floored it. I watched as the truck slithered

side to side. In the door mirror I saw the tree slowly bowing down as it came loose. It finally came out of the bumper. With anxiousness and nervousness I looked in the back. I found the corner of the bumper stretched twelve cm away from its original location. I had the chills of frighten, I felt cold but yet it was 102 degrees outside. I knew I was going to get in trouble. I park in reverse so the bumper would not be in sight. It didn't work; hours later I got spanked, days after I worked to buy a new bumper. Every time I see a bumper I remember that moment when I got in trouble. I learned my lesson never to back up in a worthless tree again. For all the bad things I have done, I learned from watching my dad and having my hands on until learned something new.

Another time in my life was that I learned from as a visual learner was when I rode my bike. I saw my first bike. White tires, silvery blue color, and shameful training wheels. I would watch my dad practice in his monster, black bike. He would not go to fast because his bike did not have breaks. I would see some bruises on him. I would always say "Dad did you ride the monster again?" Along the sidewalk in a beautiful cheery day I would ride my bike next to my dad. "Son, watch me," my dad would say. Right next to him I watching his every move and at the same time I would imitate his every move on my bike. The time came when my dad got the big red players and removed the training wheels. Since I wasn't watching my dad as a ride his bike it was very difficult for me to ride alone. My dad would grip my back seat and to keep me balance. Finally I was riding my bike without my dad's help. I learned from watching my dad and in the same time I learned from riding my bike.

According to the noted educator Sandra (Rief 1), students retain

- 10% of what they read
- 20% of what they hear
- 30% of what they see
- 50% of what they see and hear
- 70% of what they say
- 90% of what they say and do.

Multi-sensory is organized in how the brain works. When we learn, information takes one path into our brain when we use our eyes. Another when we use our ears and our hands. By using more than one sense we bombard our brain with the new information in multiple ways. As a result we learn better.

Many authors write or describe our learning style in many different words but in reality it means the same. According to (Gail Wood) on *How to Study*, “Every time you study you should have a little reward in the end.” I find it very helpful when I give myself a reward for studying something that I don’t like. Telephoning a friend, have a nutritious snack, spend time with a pet and walk and get some exercise. In my mind it is a goal that I want to accomplish; in the same time I learn something new. I love music but accordingly to the book. “The music you enjoy the most might not work as background music.” (Wood 5) I think it’s a big distraction from my learning style that makes me comfortable to study right. According to Gail Wood there are five learning styles: Eyes, Ears, Order, Images and Doing. According to my style of learning I would consider myself as an Eye. “Eyes, If you like to watch movies and draw or paint, or get involved in other activities that relay in your eyes you are probably a Visual Learner.”(Wood 10)

In order to find which one your good at you have to write a list of the many things that you're good at.

From the different styles, visual learner is my style. It took me a while to know which style in learning I was most effective on. In your class, I think it is wonderful how you can teach in several different ways so that others can understand the lecture. As student I think you care when you explain the learning method in different ways by having group activities, charts, figures and many more. I really enjoy your class its fun and it will help and guide me through the class.

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