

Types of Learners

Auditory Learners represent about 15% of the population.

CHARACTERISTICS OF AUDITORY LEARNERS (ANALYTICAL THINKERS)

- Like to read aloud to themselves
- Not afraid to speak up in class
- Like oral report formats
- Good at explaining things
- Good at remembering names
- Notice sound effects in movies
- Enjoy music
- Good with rules of grammar and learning a foreign language
- Tend to read slowly
- Follow oral direction well
- Very verbal; have a hard time keeping quiet for long periods
- Enjoy acting and being on stage
- Work well in study groups
- Logical, analytical, sequential thinkers
- Comfortable analyzing sounds and numbers
- Comfortable doing the right thing and following directions
- Comfortable in a classroom setting
- Often perceived as the “good” students

LEARNING TIPS FOR AUDITORY LEARNERS

- Use word association to remember facts
- Read content material out loud
- Record lectures
- Watch videos
- Repeat facts with eyes closed
- Participate in group discussions
- Use audio recordings of content material and listen to repeatedly
- Tape your own notes and listen to them as often as necessary

Best Test Format: oral exams and writing responses to lecture material

Worst Test Format: reading passages and writing answers about them in a timed test

Types of Learners

The visual modality is preferred by about 67% of the population.

CHARACTERISTICS OF VISUAL LEARNERS (GLOBAL THINKERS)

- Good at spelling but forgets names
- Need quiet study time
- Need time to process information delivered in lecture format
- Like color and fashion
- Learn best by watching
- Dream in color
- Understand maps, graphs, pictures, charts, and diagrams
- Logical, analytical, sequential tasks are possible only after they see the Big Picture. They work backwards from whole to part.
- Learn new material in context

LEARNING TIPS FOR VISUAL LEARNERS

- Draw maps of events in history or draw the steps in a scientific process
- Make outlines of everything! Color-code main divisions differently from supporting details
- Always copy what is on the board
- Ask the teacher to diagram or provide a visual of important concepts and facts
- Take notes
- Make lists
- Watch videos
- Color code words of important vocabulary
- Outline information while reading
- Use flashcards. On each card draw a simple sketch or cartoon that represents the meaning to you
- Cluster information using graphic organizers and mind maps
- Use highlighters, underlining, Post-it pointers

Best Test Format: reading maps, writing essays

Worst Test Format: listen and respond

Types of Learners

Tactile/Kinesthetic Learners represent about 10% of the population.

CHARACTERISTICS OF TACTILE/KINESTHETIC LEARNERS (GLOBAL THINKERS)

- Often very good at sports
- Can't sit still for long
- Not great spellers
- Often have poor handwriting
- Like science labs
- Can study with loud music on
- Like adventure books and movies
- Enjoy role playing
- Take frequent breaks while studying
- Like to build models
- Are often involved in martial arts and dance
- Learn best by doing
- Like using manipulatives

LEARNING TIPS FOR TACTILE/KINESTHETIC LEARNERS

- Study in short blocks of time and material
- Take lab classes
- Role play
- Take field trips and visit museums
- Study with others
- Use memory game format to learn facts and details
- Use flashcards to memorize
- Color-coding can be very helpful

Best Test Format: short definitions, fill-ins, multiple choice

Worst Test Format: long tests, essays