

Learning Preferences



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Objectives

The purpose of this presentation is to review the three general preferences for learning as well as the differences between left-brain dominant and right-brain dominant thinking.

Introduction

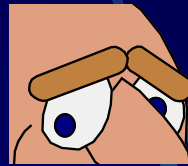
Learning preferences can be usually grouped into three types

- Visual learners
- Auditory learners
- Kinesthetic learners

Introduction

The three types of learning preferences correspond with 3 of the 5 senses

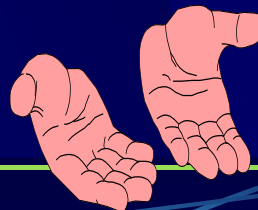
- Visual--sight



- Auditory--hearing

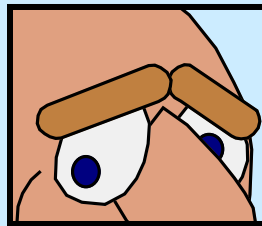


- Kinesthetic--touch



Introduction

Although related to a particular sense (i.e. visual = sight), this does not mean that the learner learns only “visually”.



It means that for a visual learner, *seeing* what has to be learned provides the best opportunity to understand, retain, and apply the information.

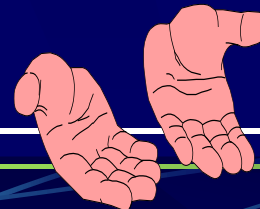
Introduction

The same applies to the other types of learners

- Auditory learners learn best when they “hear” information being presented



- Kinesthetic learners learn best when they can try something “hands on”



Introduction

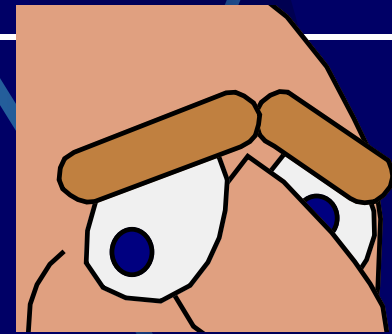
In truth, if a learner has all 5 senses intact, all of them will be used to learn.

However, for some individuals, one of the senses usually is predominant and most helpful for learning.

Visual Learners

Visual learners learn best by

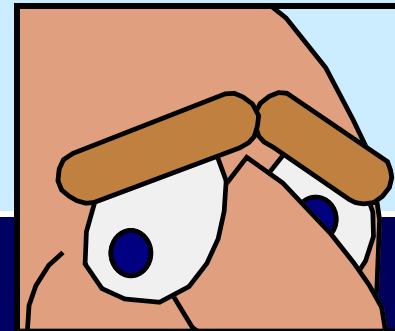
- Observing a process or task
- Reading instructions, diagrams, or charts
- Watching a movie/seeing a picture



Visual Learners

A visual learner may respond to new information with *visual* statements

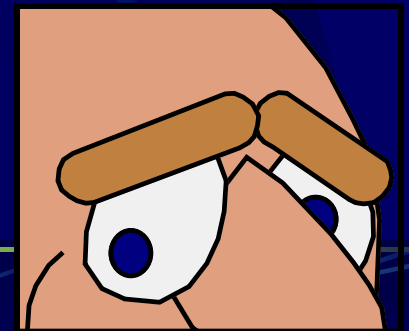
- “I can see what you are saying”
- “I see your point”
- “The way I see it is...”



Visual Learners

Visual learners generally indicate that these types of statements are most like them.

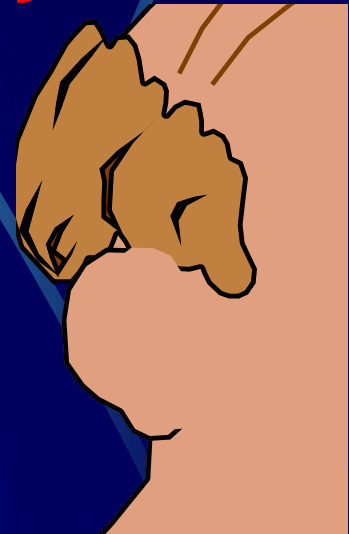
- I learn best when I see information.
- I like pictures and illustrations.
- Visual aids and books help me learn.
- If I can see it, I understand it better.
- I pay attention to details.



Auditory Learners

Auditory learners learn best by

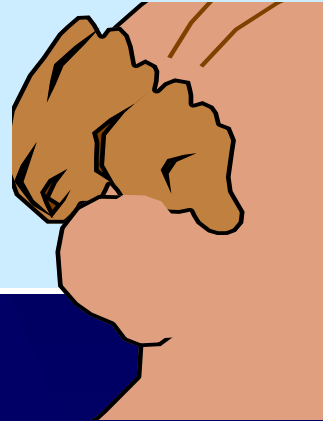
- Participating in a discussion
- Listening to a lecture
- Using audio cassettes



Auditory Learners

An auditory learner may respond to new information with *auditory* statements.

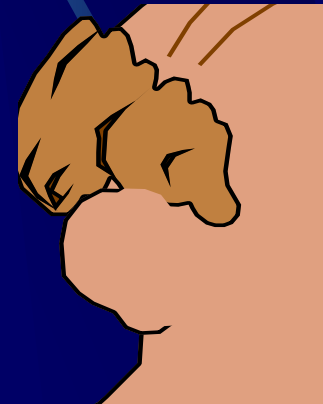
- “If I heard you right, you are saying...”
- “I hear you”
- “It sounds to me like...”



Auditory Learners

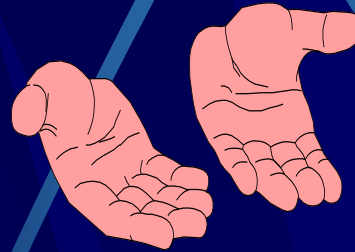
Auditory learners generally indicate that these types of statements are most like them.

- I learn best when I hear the information.
- I like to listen to tapes and hear stories.
- I like listening to music.
- If I say it, I can remember it.
- I am a talkative person.



Kinesthetic Learners

Kinesthetic learners learn best by

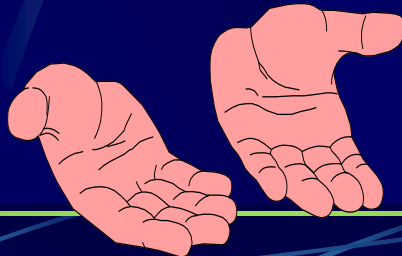


- Role-playing
- Working directly (hands-on) with actual items
- Participating in demonstrations

Kinesthetic Learners

A kinesthetic learner may respond to new information with *touching* statements.

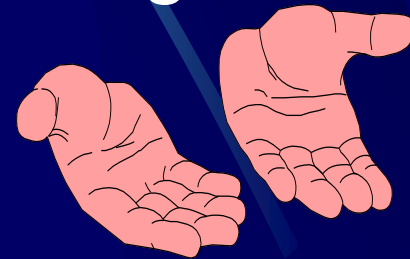
- “I need to get a grip on this information”
- “I feel like...”
- “I want to work hands-on with this tool”



Kinesthetic Learners

Kinesthetic learners generally indicate that these types of statements are most like them.

- I learn best when I can work hands-on.
- I love taking things apart/putting together.
- I like working on models.
- I use a lot of gestures and movement.



Left or Right Brain



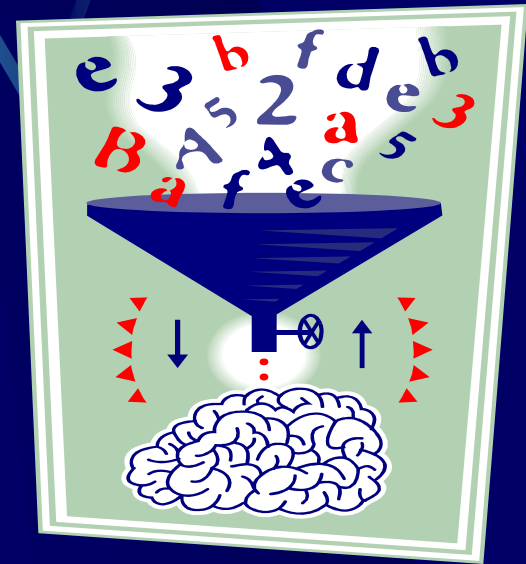
The brain is generally separated into two halves, left and right, when it comes to a preferred method of learning.

For most people, one or the other side is the most dominant affecting how they learn.

Left Brain

Individuals who are left-brain dominant learners are characterized by:

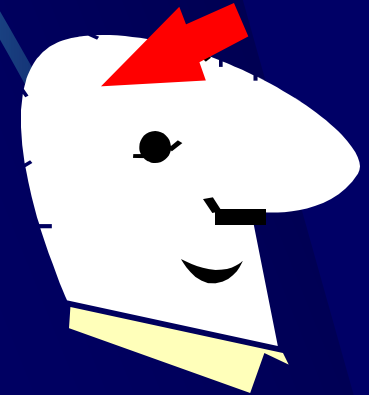
- Being logical, rational, analytical
- Enjoying specific, precise, structured learning experiences
- Preferring graphs, charts, reading, programming, demonstrations
- Liking a ordered, organized, quiet environment



Right Brain

Individuals who are right-brain dominant learners are characterized by:

- Being intuitive, imaginative, abstract
- Enjoying informal, busy, unstructured learning
- Preferring group discussions, role play, simulations, games
- Liking a noisy, active, music filled and somewhat disorganized (messy) environment



Summary

There are three types of learning styles that indicate a particular sense with which a learner learns best

- *Visual learners* learn best by *seeing* information
- *Auditory learners* learn best by *hearing* information
- *Kinesthetic learners* learn best by *working hands-on* with information

Summary

Right-brain dominant learners learn best through creative, abstract types of approaches.

Left-brain dominant learners learn best through logical, procedural types of approaches.