



Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Learning Styles on Language Teaching

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ABSTRACT: Teacher is a person who helps students broaden their knowledge and understanding. A good teacher should have deep knowledge, passion for her/his subject matter, calm demeanour, excellent preparation, organization skills and the ability to build caring relationships with students. Moreover, teachers have a prominent role in managing and organizing students' learning environment. The learning styles make it easy for teachers to integrate them into their teaching. There are various learning styles. Visual, auditory and kinesthetic are the most popular ones. The purpose of this article is to explain the definition of learning styles, types and importance of them on language teaching.

KEYWORDS: learning styles, visual, auditory, kinesthetic, strategies for learning styles, effective teaching.

1. INTRODUCTION

It is obvious that every classroom consists of students with different learning styles. Sometimes teachers think that the students' who are sociable, talkative and extrovert, have a thorough knowledge of reading, writing, speaking and listening, while silent students have not. Most teachers make these assumptions without considering that every student has different ways of learning of their own. Students receive information in different ways. Students are usually a combination of all three, but one predominates. Some students like to see things, while others prefer to touch things or do something physical, or to hear things. Because of these different learning styles, it is significant for teachers to vary their teaching materials and strategies and communicate with students about their individual learning styles. This has an influence not only on encouraging students to be more active during lessons, but also on also improving their overall classroom experience.

General learning style

There are three main learning styles: visual, auditory and kinesthetic (VAK). The definitions of them are as follows:



A. Visual learning style:

Visual learners are inclined to learn best in visual images and think in pictures. They usually see the information written or in the form of images. They do not take into consideration to the dialogues. They learn best when teacher uses charts, maps, picture drawing activities, diagrams, illustrations and other visual aids.

B. Auditory learning style:

Auditory learners are good at listening and speaking. They may face some difficulties in understanding a text if they read it. They are good listeners when people speak and express themselves in the form of sound. They love lectures, conversations, discussions, debates, listening to audio cassettes and verbal instructions.

C. Kinesthetic learning style:

Kinesthetic learners tend to learn through movement, touch, imitation and other physical activities. They prefer role-plays, exhibits, photographs, dramas, competitions, field trips and projects. It is hard to them to sit still for a long time.

Practical strategies for each learning style

Strategies for the Visual learner

- During study write down a lot of details and take many notes;
- Most visual learners learn best alone and soft music in the background;
- Try to work in a quiet place;
- Rewriting will help remember better;
- Use color to highlight main ideas;
- Before reading a book, preview it first by scanning the headings, pictures and so on.

Strategies for the Auditory learner

- Use various pictures and colors in your exercises books, notes, etc. this is the best way to remember them;
- Study with a parent, friend, or group, because you can discuss and hear the information;
- If you want to remember the information, recite out loud it several times.

- Record class lectures;
- Participate in class discussions;
- Repeat facts with your eyes closed.

Strategies for the Kinesthetic learner

- Use small movements to help focus;
- Use a highlighter and flashcards;
- Use role-play;
- Watch videos, especially those that show real things;
- Attend practical and laboratory sessions;
- Find pictures and photographs that illustrate an abstract idea or theory;
- While studying, take frequent breaks. A reasonable schedule should be 20-30 minutes of study and 5 minutes of break time.

Importance of learning style

Learning styles aren't only beneficial for learners, but also it is valuable in educating those who teach them. Learning styles are significant for many reasons. Firstly, it influences level of learning success. Secondly, students learn better and more quickly, if teaching methods match their preferred learning style. Thirdly, student-teacher relationship may also improve. Mastering learning styles lead to academic and career success.

Conclusion: If teachers have knowledge about their students' learning styles, they will have a better understanding of students' individual needs and offer emotional support and valuable advice. They emphasize on the need to vary classroom activities and to incorporate multisensory approaches whenever possible. Students will value if their teachers are interested in their learning styles and will pay more attention in which they can learn more effectively.

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