

DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING STYLES

LEARNING IN AUDITORY STYLE: Strategies Which Play to Your Strengths

General Description:

Auditory students learn by verbal instructions from others or from themselves.

Learning Strategies:

- Always remember to talk to yourself when trying to learn and remember information.
- Talk through the steps while solving a problem. Try a solution verbally before doing it on paper. You may want to discuss it with another person.
- Keep your own rulebook for math. Write the steps to solving problems in this book in your own words. Using your own language will help to clarify concepts.
- Ask for verbal explanations of problems as needed.
- Teach someone else; they will learn even more.
- Read aloud to yourself.
- Seek verbal explanations for pictures, charts, and graphs.
- Make recordings of any information you want to learn. Play them on your car stereo, right before bed, etc.
- Summarize the content module. It helps to also re-write math word problems for your own understanding.
- Find tutors who will explain/discuss aloud the writing assignment or reading assignment and will encourage you to ask questions.
- Become a part of a study group, which has verbal students who want to brainstorm and share ideas at the beginning of a writing assignment.
- Organize study groups to review major concepts, vocabulary, grammatical structure, etc.
- Read essays aloud to identify errors or incomplete thoughts.
- Tape lectures and class discussions.
- Tutor someone else who needs help.

LEARNING IN TACTILE/KINESTHETIC STYLE: Strategies Which Play to Your Strengths

General Description:

Tactile-Kinesthetic students learn by doing things themselves, “hands-on” activities or direct involvement.

Learning Strategies:

- Write all steps to solving problems down. Do all of your “thinking” on paper.
- Write down in your own words rules that you need to learn.
- Take lots of notes about solving problems near the examples of the problems.
- Use manipulatives as much as possible to help learn concepts. Since some classrooms do not contain them, you may need to make your own using templates on the Internet to construct them or buy some at a craft store.

- Make graphs and charts anytime to clarify concepts.
- Role-play or “act out” problems.
- Make-up your own problems.
- Join a study group to discuss a writing or reading assignment.
- Take frequent study breaks while reading longer selections.
- Vary activities during concentrated study. Avoid spending more than twenty minutes without a short break.
- Participate in course-related field trips.
- “Act out” a short story, novel, play, poem, etc.
- Take notes or create conceptual maps during lengthy class discussions.
- Highlight, underline, and jot notes in text while reading.
- Learn to “think” on paper using notes.

LEARNING IN VISUAL/VERBAL STYLE Strategies Which Play to Your Strengths

General Description

Visual/Verbal students learn best by reading. They also learn by watching films, television documentaries, and programs where visual and verbal information is presented simultaneously.

Learning Strategies

- Read new information silently in order to gain maximum meaning.
- Remember to write directions for assignments down. Use written directions as a guide.
- Study your notes several times for visual review before taking a test.
- Visual flashcards of new vocabulary will work really well for you.
- Always remember to proofread your work.
- When reading a paragraph, you should picture the meaning in your head and visualize it.
- Write a summary in your own words of the content you have been studying.
- Write directions in your own words of new math procedures or examples presented in class.
- Summarize math procedures in your own words at the end of class.
- Draw arrows from words to parts of problems in your notes, clearly labeling each part.
- Read or at least skim new formulas, examples, etc. before attending lectures.
- Create and update throughout the semester a neatly written formula sheet or flash cards for visual review before taking a test.
- Approach problem solving with visual representation (graphs, charts, pictures).

LEARNING IN VISUAL/NON-VERBAL STYLE: Strategies Which Play to Your Strengths

General Description:

Visual/Non-verbal students learn best by looking at pictures, diagrams, charts, illustrations, etc.

Learning Strategies:

- Picture everything in your head (you probably do this naturally).
- Picture and “do” the first step of problems in your head before writing them down.
- Draw a picture, diagram or other representation of the problem.
- Use a variety of bright colors when making charts, graphs, drawings, etc.
- Estimate (guess) your answer before proceeding.
- Relate the current problem to one you have done before, especially examples that have diagrams with them.
- Use flashcards, lists, diagrams, and semantic maps.
- Use mind mapping, clustering, and other graphic organizers in the invention stage of writing.
- Create maps of key ideas in class discussions of characters etc. in short stories, novels, essays, and poems.
- Have new ideas introduced through imagery, metaphor, and fantasy.
- See live dramatization or films of key scenes in plays, novels, or poems.
- Draw pictures of ideas, concepts, vocabulary words, or grammatical structures.

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