

**Learning objectives:**

***Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:***

- ✓ Understand what is learning style
- ✓ Different types of learning styles.
- ✓ Benefits of knowing your learning style.

**Introduction:**

Current educational reform involves changing the classroom from a teacher-centred to a student-centred environment; in other words, the learner is the primary focus of the instructional system, and understand how students learn is an important part of selecting appropriate teaching strategies. For many years, educators have known that students learn by different means. But teachers are finally beginning to change the way of teaching to encompass these different styles.

**1- Definition:**

Learning style is described as a group of characteristics, attitudes and behaviours that define our way of learning. Different learning styles have an impact on how students learn, how teachers teach, and how they interact with one another. Your learning style is your preference; how do you like to learn most is your learning style.

**2- Learning styles:**

**Learning style is a way of learning.** YOUR preferred learning style is the way in which YOU learn best. Three learning styles that are often identified in students are the **Auditory Learning Style**, the **Visual Learning Style**, and the **Tactile/ Kinesthetic Learning Style**.

Information enters your brain in three main ways: sight, hearing and touch, which one you use the most is called your Learning Style.

**3- Visual learners** learn by *sight*

A visual learner is the one who tends to observe things, pictures, films ... to improve his or her level of learning and knowledge.

Visual Learners learn best when information is presented in a written language format or another visual format such as pictures or diagrams. Do you do best in classes in which teachers do a lot of writing on the chalkboard, provide clear handouts, and make extensive use of an overhead projector? Do you try to remember information by creating pictures in your mind? Do you take detailed written notes from your textbooks and in class? If YES, you are probably a Visual Learner.

**3-1 Characteristics:**

- Visual learners understand written instructions better than oral.
- Prefer to see information such as pictures and diagrams to memorize them.
- Picture words and concepts they hear as images.
- Easy to be absent-minded in lectures with no visual aids.
- Create movies in the mind during the reading process.
- Benefit from using maps, notes, and flashcards when studying.
- Pay more attention to facial expressions.
- They do not like noise, they need a calm environment to concentrate.
- Using color as a learning aid allows students to swiftly grasp new concepts.
- They tend to watch other person's lips when they are speaking to facilitate comprehension.

**4-Auditory learners:** are learners who learn through *listening*.

If you are an auditory learner, it means you will learn best by hearing information.

Auditory Learners learn best when information is presented in an auditory language format. Do you seem to learn best in classes that emphasize teacher lectures and class discussions? Does listening to audio tapes help you learn better? Do you find yourself reading aloud or talking things out to gain a better understanding? If YES, you are probably an Auditory Learner.

**4-1 Characteristics:**

- Learning through listening and talking.
- Remember what they hear better than what they see.
- They prefer listening to instructions.
- Often like to listen to music.
- Participate in study groups.
- Can absorb a lecture with little effort.
- May not need careful notes to learn.
- Often avoid eye contact to concentrate.
- May read and talk aloud to themselves.
- Like background music when they study.
- Ask questions.
- record lectures.
- Explain information to others.

**5- Tactile or Kinaesthetic Learners:**

Are those who learn through experiencing/ doing things. For this reason, they may become bored more quickly than other students while listening to a class lecture.

Tactile/Kinaesthetic Learners learn best in hands-on learning settings in which they can physically manipulate something to learn about it. Do you learn best when you can move about and handle things? Do you do well in classes in which there is a lab component? Do you learn better when you have an actual object in your hands rather than a picture of the object or a verbal or written description of it? If YES, you are probably a Tactile/Kinaesthetic Learner

**5-1 Characteristics:**

- Prefer touch objects, tools, or machinery as you study.
- Learn through creative movement and activities.
- Use exaggerated movements and hand gestures when they study.
- Use a computer to type information.
- Use hands in their activities.
- To remember a phone number, they may remember the way their fingers pressing the number.
- Read and revise while walking.
- Take notes on lectures.
- Write summaries.

Learning style	description
Visual	Seeing and reading
Auditory	Listening
Kinaesthetic/ tactile	Touching and doing

Understanding what your learning style is can help you adapt your study habits to the way that you learn best (preferences)

#### 6- Benefits of knowing about your learning style:

- Student becomes more productive.
- Increase the achievement
- Be more creative.
- Solve learning problems
- Learn more effectively

#### **Remember!**

No matter what your Learning Style is it's very important to:

- Be involved in class – participate!
- Link classroom experience to the outside world.
- Relate class concepts to your life.
- Ask questions and offer criticism.
- Stimulate further relevant discussion.
- Keep concentrating.
- Keep an open mind: You can change your learning style if necessary.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1- How could knowing your learning style be of benefit to you, personally?
- 2- How can it be helpful in your interactions with others?
- 3- How do you think this could help you in your studies?
- 4- What do you think are some of the advantages of your learning style?

Knowing your learning style, both your strengths and your weaknesses can help you study more effectively.