


Ideas for Improving Learning

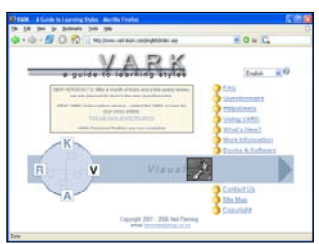
Based on VARK

<http://www.vark-learn.com>



Hello, I'm _____, your instructor and today I want to share a web site resource with you that might improve your learning in this class. The web site is VARK Learn and the address is www.vark-learn.com.


VARK a guide to learning styles



Here's the VARK web site with a questionnaire you can take to help determine your preference for taking in and putting out information in a learning context. There are more than 18 dimensions included in a comprehensive analysis of learning styles but taking the VARK questionnaire can be very helpful.

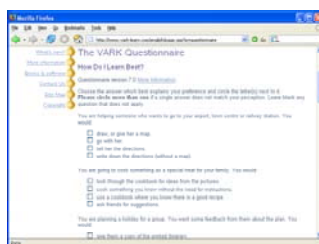
VARK Preferences

- **V**isual – show me with charts, graphs, flow charts rather than words
- **A**ural – tell me in a lecture, tutorial, small group discussion
- **R**eading/writing – let me read it
- **K**inesthetic – give me an experience or let me practice



These are the four preferences that VARK measures. V stands for visual and those with a visual preference like to get information in the form of charts or graphs instead of words. A stands for aural and those with an aural preference like to listen to lectures and talk about what they've learned with others. R stands for reading and writing and those with a reading and writing preference like to gain information through reading and share it through writing. Finally, k stands for Kinesthetic and those with a kinesthetic preference like to use all their senses for taking in information. They want hands-on experience or at least a simulation.

Take the VARK Questionnaire



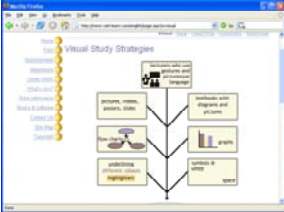
After this short presentation, I'd like you to take the VARK questionnaire. There are 16 questions and you can skip questions that don't apply. After you complete the questionnaire, you'll receive an analysis of your preferences and then some study and test preparation guides based on them.

VARK Helpsheets

- Suggest how to take in information
- SWOT Study WithOut Tears
- Recommend how to prepare for tests

The guides, called help sheets, cover three things. First, they suggest the best way to take in the information from your classes. For example, if you have an aural preference, you should attend class and perhaps record the lecture. Next, VARK offers a Study Without Tears strategy. For example, if you are read/write, rewrite the ideas and principles from the lecture into other words. Then, VARK provides recommendations on how to prepare for tests. For example, if you are visual, you should draw things and practice turning your drawings back into words.

Study Strategies



The screenshot shows a window titled 'Visual Study Strategies' with a tree-like diagram. The diagram branches from a central point into several boxes, each containing a different study strategy such as 'Mind Maps', 'Flowcharts', and 'Diagrams'. The window also has a sidebar with navigation options.

Here's an example of the Visual Study Strategies help sheet. I hope you'll take advantage of the ones that match your preferences.

Learn Anything New?

- Did your results make sense to you?
- Are you multimodal?
 - 50% – 70%
 - Students tend to be multimodal - 63%
 - Teachers less multimodal – 52%
- Review "**What's New?**" and FAQ to learn more

Did you learn anything new about yourself or did the results just confirm something you already know? According to VARK, about 50 – 70 percent of people are multimodal and have more than one preference for taking in and giving out information. Students tend to be more multimodal than teachers. Look at the sections on "What's New?" and FAQ to learn more about the questionnaire and its analysis.

Use What You've Learned!

I hope you'll apply what you've learned about yourself when you take notes and study for this class.