

## Homework 15 – Learning Styles Inventory

The Learning Styles Inventory is a means of examining your own preferred learning style. It is based on a systems understanding of how humans learn. To prepare to examine your own preferred learning style, please first read the description of how people learn here:

<http://www.simplypsychology.org/learning-kolb.html>

Next, take the **Learning Styles Inventory Test**. The test sheet looks like this.

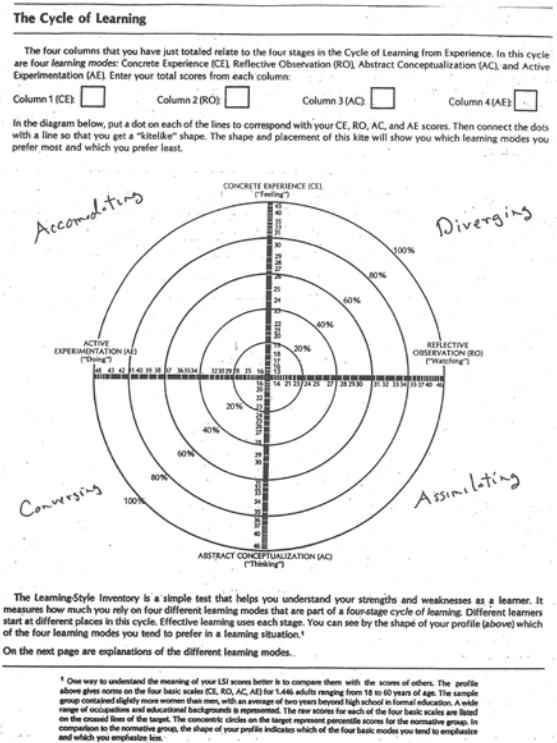
Learning Style Inventory Test Sheet				
	1	2	3	4
1. When I learn;	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to deal with my feelings.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to watch and listen.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to think about ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to be doing things.
2. I learn best when:	<input type="checkbox"/> I trust my hunches & feelings.	<input type="checkbox"/> I listen and watch carefully.	<input type="checkbox"/> I rely on logical thinking.	<input type="checkbox"/> I work hard to get things done.
3. When I am learning:	<input type="checkbox"/> I have strong feelings & reactions.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am quiet and reserved.	<input type="checkbox"/> I tend to reason things out.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am responsible about things.
4. I learn by:	<input type="checkbox"/> feeling.	<input type="checkbox"/> watching.	<input type="checkbox"/> thinking.	<input type="checkbox"/> doing.
5. When I learn:	<input type="checkbox"/> I am open to new experiences.	<input type="checkbox"/> I look at all sides of issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to analyze things, break them down into parts.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to try things out.
6. When I am learning:	<input type="checkbox"/> I am an intuitive person.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am an observing person.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a logical person	<input type="checkbox"/> I am an active person.
7. I learn best from:	<input type="checkbox"/> personal relationships.	<input type="checkbox"/> observation.	<input type="checkbox"/> rational theories.	<input type="checkbox"/> a chance to try out and practice.
8. When I learn:	<input type="checkbox"/> I feel personally involved in things.	<input type="checkbox"/> I take my time before acting.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like ideas and theories.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to see results from my work.
9. I learn best when:	<input type="checkbox"/> I rely on my feelings.	<input type="checkbox"/> I rely on my observations.	<input type="checkbox"/> I rely on my ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/> I can try things out for myself.
10. When I am learning:	<input type="checkbox"/> I am an accepting person.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a reserved person.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a rational person.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a responsible person.
11. When I learn:	<input type="checkbox"/> I get involved.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to observe.	<input type="checkbox"/> I evaluate things.	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to be active.
12. I learn best when:	<input type="checkbox"/> I am receptive and open-minded.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am careful.	<input type="checkbox"/> I analyze ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am practical.
Total the scores from each column	_____	_____	_____	_____

\*\*\*\*\*4 = most like you; 3 = second most like you; 2 = third most like you; 1 = least like you\*\*\*\*\*

Read the instructions carefully.

1. Rank the description in columns 1 through 4 by concluding the sentence on the left. For example.... 1. When I learn; .... I like to (deal with my feelings, watch and listen, think about ideas, or be doing things). Pick the one that is most like you and give it a 4. Pick the one that is least like you and give it a 1. Then place the 2 and 3 scores on the other two descriptions.
2. Do this for all of the phrases in the left hand column.
3. Add up each column and record the total where it says “Total the scores from each column” on the bottom of the test sheet.

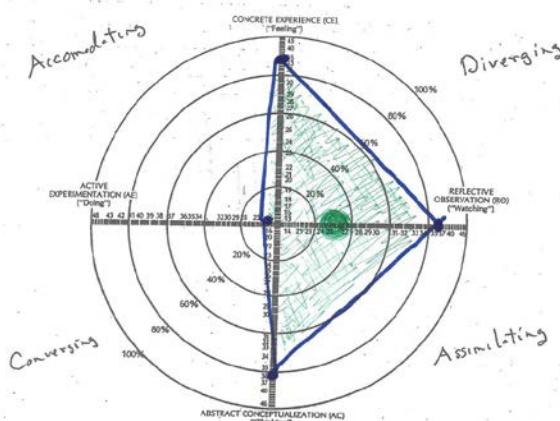
4. Then transfer the total scores from the bottom of the page to the top of the “[Cycle of Learning](#)” graphing page. For example, your score from column 1 goes in the box labeled “Column 1 (CE)” on the top of this page. Do the same for all four scores. The Cycle of Learning page looks like this.



5. Once you have all four numbers (CE, RO, AC, and AE), place a dot on the graph next to the number for that preference. For example, if you had a 30 in Column 1 (CE), put a dot on the vertical bar next to the number 30 (this is the “feeling” score – or “concrete experience”). Do this for all four scores.

6. Next, draw a line between each dot.

My own diagram looks like this.



As you can see from my Learning Style Inventory results, I am highly skewed toward Diverging and Assimilating. These are indeed my preferred learning styles. We all have to do all four to be effective learners, but given the choice I am more of a “learn by feeling, watching, and thinking” than a “learn by doing” sort of person.

There is no right or wrong.... and in fact, the test doesn't work for some people. But before you jump to any conclusions, please take a look at the [various descriptors for the four steps in the learning process](#). I know that my own strengths are “diverging” and “assimilating”. What about you? Did the test tell you anything about your own learning style that you recognize to be true?

## SUMMARY

1. How do you think your preferred learning style effects your ability to be a good team player?
2. Do you think an effective team should have common or different learning styles to be effective?
3. Can you think of examples of times when your learning style helped your or impeded your learning?