GMiS the Way Forward: VARK

Learning Preferences and Teaching Strategies

16th January 2018
Tor Siong Hoon (GMiS)

(adapted from Sarah Lelgarde Swart, MM, MLIS
Comput-Ease Solutions)

Let's watch a video

What You Will Learn

1. Learning Styles: What Are They

2. VARK Questionnaire

3. Learning Styles Strategies

4. Study and Teaching Strategies

Abstract of this Presentation: Participants will understand learning styles and learn how to design course material and sites to accommodate multiple learning styles. Participants will learn how to evaluate learning objects for many disciplines which are already available for free or low cost.

Learning Styles

- Many different models of learning styles
- **Basically, the way in which an individual learns (and by extension, teaches)**
- David Kolb (1984)
  - **Activist, Reflector, Theorist, Pragmatist Types**
- Felder & Silverman (1988)
- Neil Fleming (2001)
  - **Visual, Aural, Reading/Writing, Kinesthetic Types**

- Related Psychological Research: Myers-Briggs, Enneagram

3

Principles of Learning

- Learning concepts
- Focus on VARK as the most specific model to online learning
- VARK addresses one aspect of the full spectrum of learning styles: **how information comes to and is received by an individual**

Watch a video

4

VARK Questionnaire

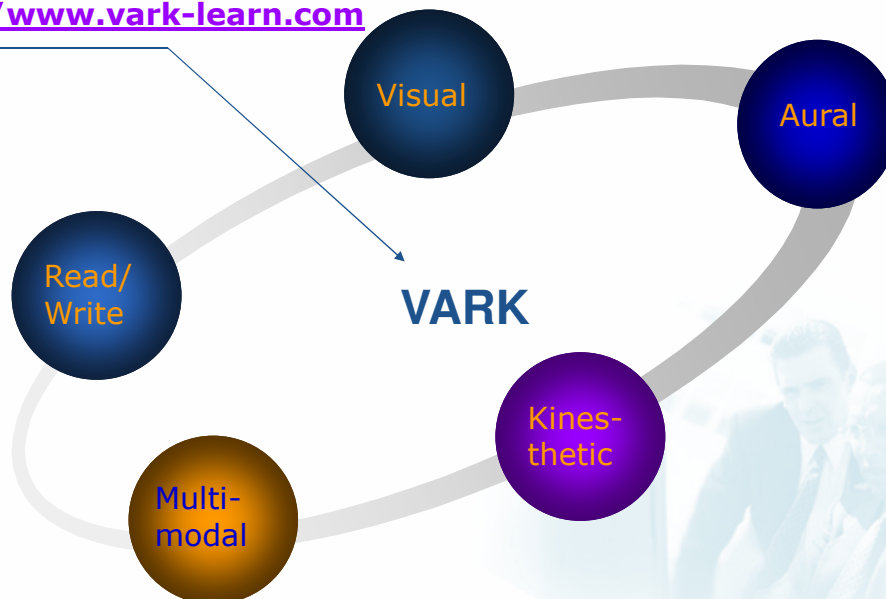**The VARK Questionnaire (Version 7.8)**

The VARK Questionnnaire – The Younger Version

- **How Do I Learn Best?**

- **How Do I Learn Best?**

VARK is a questionnaire that helps your learning by suggesting the strategies you should be using.
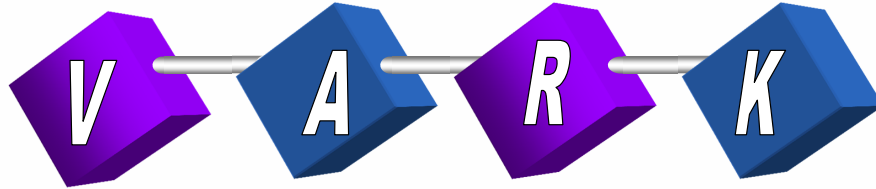
5

Learning Preferences

http://www.vark-learn.com

Visual

Aural

Read/Write

VARK

Kines-thetic

Multi-modal

6

Visual   Aural   Read/Write   Kinesthetic

V A R K

| •Diagrams and Charts
•White Space
•Video
•Images
•Lecture notes into learnable packages 3:1 | •Tape your notes into a recorder
•Use recorded audio lectures
•Recall stories, examples, jokes
•Read your notes out loud | •Make lists and glossaries
•Write out the words over and over
•Read your notes silently
•Turn diagrams and flows into words | •Use all senses
•Examples
•Case Studies
•Talk over notes with another K person
•Add your own examples
•Role play your homework |

Bulleted items are summarized from the Vark-learn.com Help Sheets

7

- Lecturers who use gestures and picturesque language
- Pictures, videos, posters, slides
- Flow charts, Diagrams, and Pictures
- Graphs
- Different colors and highlighting
- White space
  - To take in the information use the above techniques and reconstruct the images in other spatial arrangements
  - Redraw pages from memory
  - Convert lecture notes into learnable packages by reducing them 3:1 into picture pages
    - **Output for High Performance: draw diagrams; write exam answers; recall the pictures; practice turning visuals back to words**

Source: VARK Visual Study Sheet http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=visual

8

GMS Global Modern international School

INTAKE

- Discussions and tutorials, explain new ideas to others
- Tape recorder
- Remember jokes, examples, stories
- Describe to someone who was not there
- Leave spaces in your notes for later recall and filling
    SWOT: Study without Tears
    - Convert your notes to a learnable package by reducing them 3:1
    - Collect more notes from the textbook and readings
    - Read your summarized notes aloud
    - Explain your notes to another aural person
        Output for High Performance
        - **Imagine talking with the examiner**
        - **Listen to your voices and write them down**
        - **Speak your answers aloud**

Source: Aural Help Sheet http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=aural

9

GMS Global Modern international School

INTAKE

- Lists, headings, dictionaries, glossaries, definitions
- Handouts, textbooks, readings, notes, essays, manuals
    SWOT: Study without Tears
    - Write out the words over and over
    - Read notes silently again and again
    - Organize diagrams, graphs, pictures into statements
    - Turn charts and flows into words
    - Imagine your lists arranged in multiple choice questions and distinguish from each
        OUTPUT FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE
        - **Write exam answers**
        - **Practice with multiple choice questions**
        - **Write paragraphs beginnings and endings**
        - **Write your lists (a.b.c.d,1,2,3,4)**
        - **Arrange your words into hierarchies**

Source: Read/Write Help Sheet
http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=readwrite

10

Kinesthetic Study Strategies (VARK)

- INTAKE
- All your senses, labs, field trips, tours, real-life examples
- Hands-on approaches (simulations and computing)
- Trial and error, collections, solutions to problems
- Experience it so you can understand it
  - SWOT: Study without Tears – Learnable Package
  - Add examples and case studies to your notes
  - Talk about your notes with another K
  - Use pictures and photographs
  - Go back to the lab or your lab manual
  - Recall the experiments
    - **OUTPUT FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE**
    - **Write practice answers and paragraphs**
    - **Role play the exam situation in your own room**

Source: Kinesthetic Help Sheet
http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=kinesthetic
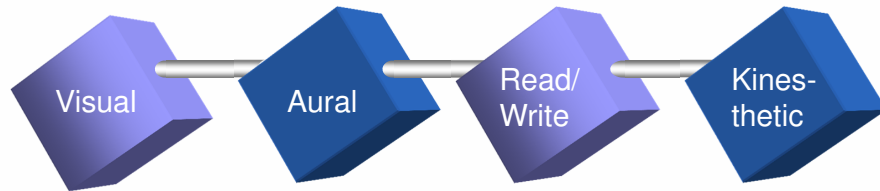
Multimodal Study Strategies (VARK)

- Choice of modes to use depending on the situation if all four are equal or close to equal scores
- Refer to the highest study strategies for more information
- Questionnaire responses:
  - 17 or more responses may mean that you have to sort through many choices to make to be effective
  - 16 or less responses may enable you to go with the highest mode as though it were a single preference

Source: Multimodal Help Sheet
http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=multimodal

GMS
Global
Modern
international
School

Watch a video

Visual — Aural — Read/Write — Kines-thetic

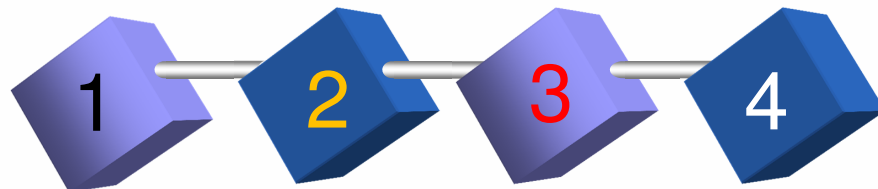| Visual	Aural	Read/Write	Kines-thetic
Use graphics and charts to illustrate points Include real life examples Assign interactive activities and discussions	Provide audio lectures for use online later Assign discussion groups Add role play situations	Practice tests and quizzes Written assignments and reflections Activities that create lists	Case studies Role Plays Hands on approaches on models Practice on another person

13

GMS
Global
Modern
international
School

How do WE move from here?

1 — 2 — 3 — 4

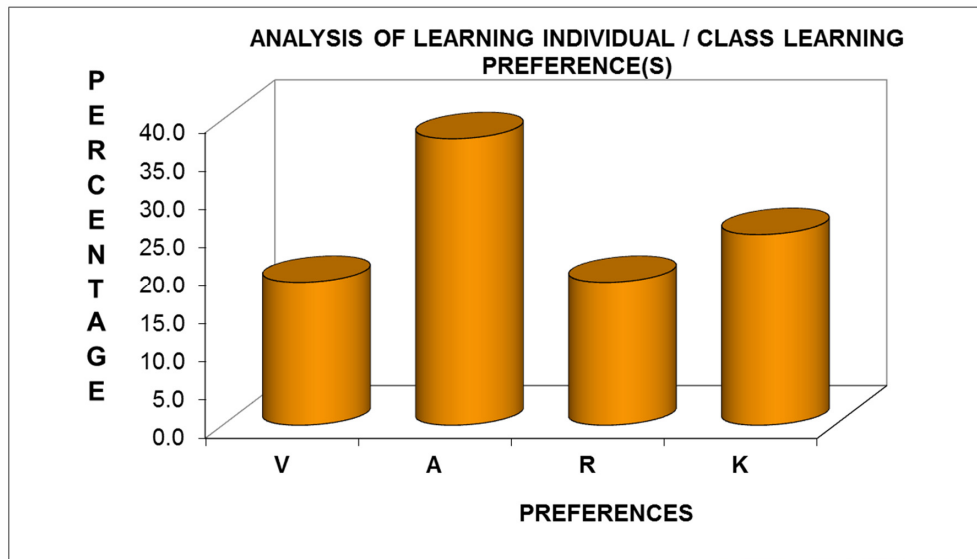| 1	2	3	4
Introduce VARK to the teachers Teachers take the VARK test Teachers identify own learning preference	Administer VARK questionnaires in classes: 1. Year 4-9 With the help of teachers (Younger version) 2. Year 10-11 Version 7.8	Score the learning preference of each student Every subject teacher has a record of the class learning preferences	School keeps students' learning preferences **(FOR GMiS Open day) Documentation to show:** **Class learning profiles** **Photos on different teaching strategies to meet student's learning preference**

14

ANALYSIS OF LEARNING INDIVIDUAL / CLASS LEARNING PREFERENCE(S)

15

Any Questions?

Thank you for your attention

Please fill up the workshop evaluation questionnaire

16