

Project paper on Learning style

Final paper for ATh 115

Topic: learning styles

Institution: Beulah Heights University

Course title: success for life and ministry

Course code: ATh 115

Department: general studies

Semester: summer2020

Mode of delivery: online

Time: online

Prerequisites: none

Name: chege Samuel

Email: chegesam136@gmail.com

Date: 14/07/20

Outline

1. Introduction:

- What is learning style
- Factors affecting learning style
- Importance of learning style

2. Learning styles

- Highlighting/underlining
- Writing of summary
- Reviewing of summary notes
- Taking notes on the main ideas
- Forming acrostics and acronyms
- Using flash cards

3. Learning strategies

- Audio learning strategies
- Gustatory learning strategies
- Olfactory learning strategies
- Kinesthetic learning strategies
- Tactile learning strategies

4. Challenges and Successes in learning

5. Conclusion

6. References

Learning

Learning is the knowledge acquired by systematic study in any field of scholarly application. It involves the process of gaining knowledge through studying. People learn in the act, process, or experience of gaining knowledge or skill from books, natural experiences, vocational and public trainings, social media and through many other ways. Whatever is learnt is put into practice to have an impact to the learners. For one to be effective in learning, there must be use of specific learning styles and learning strategies which are discussed below;

Learning styles

Learning styles refer to a range of competing and contested theories that aim to account for differences in individuals' learning. The term "learning styles" speaks to the understanding that every student learns differently. Technically, an individual's learning style refers to the preferential way in which the student absorbs processes, comprehends and retains information. For example, when learning how to build a clock, some students understand the process by following verbal instructions, while others have to physically manipulate the clock themselves. It is important for educators to understand the differences in their students' learning styles, so that they can implement best practice strategies into their daily activities, curriculum and assessments. However learning styles is dependant to the following factors:

1.The physiological factors that includes;

➤ Sense-perception:

Sensation and perception are the basis of all cognitive learning. Weaker the power of perception, lesser the amount of learning. A blind man learns far less than a normal person. Impairment of sense organs is a handicap in the process of learning.

➤ Physical Health:

Ill health hampers learning. Sound mind is only in a sound body. Sound physical health gives vigour and vitality to pursue learning activities for a longer education. A diseased person is handicapped by the normal physical strength necessary for any mental activity.

➤ Fatigue:

Project paper on Learning style

Muscular or sensory fatigue causes mental boredom and indolence. A number of factors in the home and school environment may cause physical and mental fatigue, such as lack of accommodation, bad seating arrangement, unhealthy clothing, inadequate ventilation, poor light, noise over crowdingness, and pure nutrition.

➤ Time of Learning:

Morning and evening hours are the best periods of study. During the day, there is decline in the mental capacity

➤ Food and Drink:

Nutrition is responsible for efficient mental activity. Poor nutrition adversely affects learning. The type of food also has some effect.

➤ Atmospheric conditions:

High temperature and humidity lower the mental efficiency. Low ventilation, lack of proper illumination, noise and physical

➤ Age:

Learning capacity varies with age. Some subjects can better be learnt at the early age, and some during adulthood. So some complex problems cannot be solved till the person is sufficiently mature.

2. Psychological Factors:

➤ Mental Health:

Mental tension, complexes, conflicts, mental illnesses and mental diseases hamper learning. A maladjusted child finds it difficult to concentrate. Concentration needs mental poise and absence of mental conflict or complex

➤ Motivation and Interest:

No learning takes place unless it is motivated. Purposeless learning is no learning at all. Every child is impelled by some motive to learn new things. In the absence of motivation, can he does not feel interested in the act of learning.

3. Environmental factors that includes;

➤ Working conditions:

Learning is hampered by bad working conditions such as distraction, noise, poor illumination, bad ventilation, overcrowding, bad seating arrangement, and uncomfortable stay both at home and school.

➤ Organizational set-up:

4. Methodology of Instructions:

They include

➤ Presentation and Organization of Material:

The learning material should be properly planned and organized. It should be graded to suit the mental level of the pupils. It should be presented in meaningful and interesting manners.

➤ Learning by Doing:

Practice makes a man perfect. Repetition and practice is important for learning. The pupils must be encouraged to learn through activity

➤ Special Methods of Learning:

It has been found that some special methods give better results. In learning a piece of poetry, learning by the whole method, and by the part method have been advocated. Sometimes it is helpful to recall what is learnt and to recite by memory.

➤ Timely Testing:

Through tests, the learner knows his exact achievement, and there is no scope for over-estimation or underestimation. Occasional and periodical testing motivates the pupil to be regular in his studies.

All the above factors are very helpful when it comes to better learning and understanding. However there are several learning strategies that are involved in learning.

Learning strategies

These are strategies used primarily during the process of learning such as forming a mental image of a process. They involves are tools and techniques

that learners develop as they learn. Learning strategies are an important part of developing autonomy. Example, a learner keeps a small notebook in their pocket and records interesting new language when they hear it, then researches it later using online reference material they have been shown. There are several strategies used in learning and includes the following;

➤ Audio learning strategies.

These involve using the sense of hearing to learn new information. Examples include; listening to lectures from different facilitators, listening to other students during discussions.

➤ Tactile learning strategies

This involves learning by use of feeling. One can learn different information though touching. Example is using physical objects to learn

➤ Kinesthetic learning strategies

This strategy involves learning by movement, it involves activities such as drama, building, designing, visiting, interviewing and going on field trips.

➤ Olfactory learning strategies

Olfactory refers to our sense of smell and is strongly associated with learning. For instance, many baking and perfume factories use the smell of their products to make people learn about them.

➤ Gustatory learning strategies

This is using the sense of taste to learn. This is helpful because it enhances remembrance to the learners. This is a relative strategy because learners use the taste of something to relate to something else they have done or learnt previously.

All the above strategies are commonly used by learners to enhance brain memory. In this case, long-term memory is involved.

There are several successes and failures in learning.

➤ **Successes**

In order for learners to be successful in their learning, the following skills have to be applied

- find a good learning environment

Project paper on Learning style

- focus and avoid distractions during learning.
- review all the areas that are not well articulated
- ask questions from the instructors and other team members to make sure you've understood what you've learnt.

➤ **Failures/challenges in learning**

There are several ways in which most learners fail during learning. This way includes the following;

- Poor learning environment. Bad ventilation, overcrowding, bad seating arrangement, and uncomfortable stay both at home and Learning is hampered by bad working conditions such as distraction, noise, poor illumination, school.

-lack of proper learning schedule. The time-table must be drawn, in accordance with the psychological principles. It should avoid fatigue and boredom. Difficult subjects should be taught in the morning. There should be interval after some periods.

-Lack of good relations between learners and the instructors. The relations should be healthy, so that there is mental cooperation and the pupils are motivated to learn. Failure to this, learning will be poorly done

-Lack of learners participation. The participation on the part of the pupils should be active. The learner should not act as a passive learner.

Conclusion.

People learn in the act, process, or experience of gaining knowledge or skills from books, natural experiences, vocational and public trainings, social media and through other ways. For one to be effective in learning there must be use of specific learning styles and learning strategies discussed above. All the styles and strategies must be put into practice to enhance better understanding. Also, learners need to be focused, innovative, creative and ready to learn new things. This research has a lot to help other academicians to improve in their basic learning.

References

1. ATh 115 syllabus notes by Fralick
2. Rose Colin, accelerated learning, (New York: Dell publishers), 56
3. John Media, learning techniques, (Seattle pear press, 2007), 345
4. Quoted in Rob Peterson, ed., learning world strategies, April 10, '94
5. <https://lavasoft.gosearchresults.com/?q=learning+strategies&tt=vmn>
6. <https://lavasoft.gosearchresults.com/?q=learning+definition&tt=vmn>
7. <https://lavasoft.gosearchresults.com/?q=learning+styles&tt=vmn>
8. <https://lavasoft.gosearchresults.com/?q=factors+affecting+learning+styles&tt=vmn>