

Reading

3

There are four items to complete in this Reading area:

1. Reading
2. Challenge Activity
3. Powerful Words for a Powerful Vocabulary
4. Successories

I. Reading

Learning Styles

In this unit, you will identify your personal learning styles and your study strategies; you will also identify your personal strengths and weaknesses that you bring to your college experience.

Being aware of the way that you learn best will help you succeed in school. Your ability to achieve your personal, professional, and academic goals is directly related to knowing how to use your own personal learning style to your advantage.

Different people have different ways of learning and retaining information. Some prefer to hear the information, some prefer to see the information, and some prefer to "do" it.

For example: If you had to put a bicycle together, would you:

Read the instructions?

Ask a friend to tell you how it is done (or read the instructions to you)?

Ignore the instructions and just start putting it together?

A **visual learner** would read the instructions.

An **auditory learner** would want to hear how to put the bike together.

A **kinesthetic learner** would prefer to "do" it and learn while feeling or touching.

Knowing your learning style will help you find strategies that will help you to retain information.

The Reading includes the following sections:

- Learning Styles Overview — Easy-to-understand explanation of learning styles
- It's All About Me — Features a quiz on your learning style and study hints

Three Learning Styles

Most people consider themselves to be visual, auditory, or kinesthetic learners. Most of people use a combination of all three learning styles, although you each have a preferred way of learning.

Think about it. When you learn something new do you like to see it, hear about it, or move around when you are taking in information?

The Right Style for the Right Task

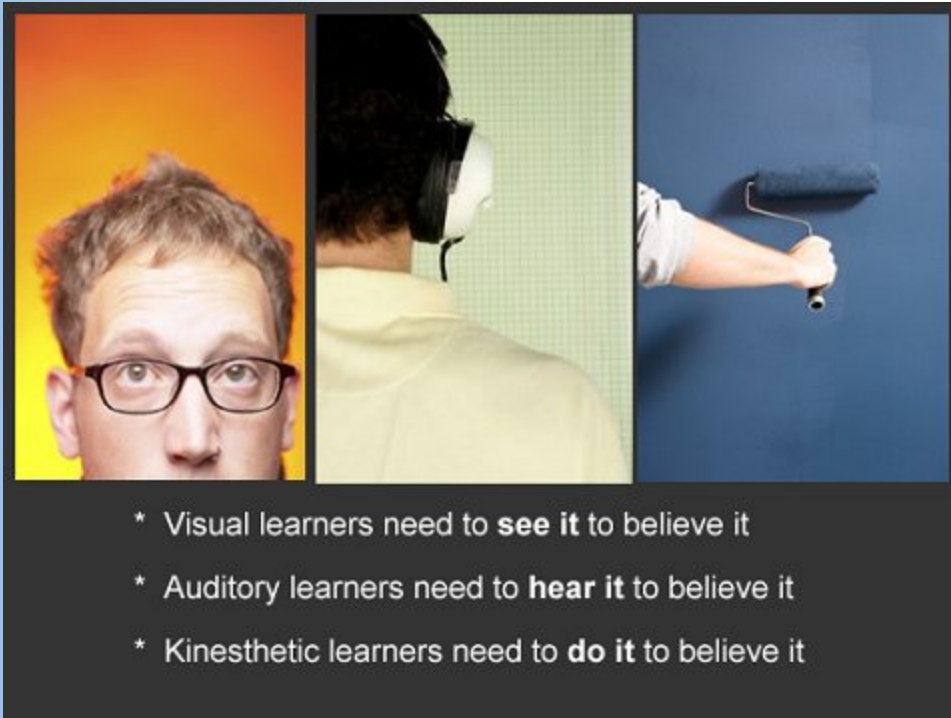
Different tasks and circumstances may require you to use one learning style over another. Take, for example, riding a bike. Would you prefer to read about riding bikes, listen to someone tell you how to ride a bike, or get on a bike and try it yourself?

For most of us, riding a bike is the kind of activity that requires "hands on" training; therefore, you would need to actually attempt the task in order to learn it.

Another example is learning how to play an instrument. In this situation, you would probably need to use all three learning styles.

You would need to see the notes in order to know what sounds to make, you would need to hear someone else play the instrument so you know how it should sound, and you would need to actually play the instrument to make your own music.

A Visual Summary of Three Learning Styles



It's All About Me

Watch the “It’s All About Me” presentation

http://extmedia.kaplan.edu/business/CS113_1203C/MEDIAASSET_j5VoKgFcKpEeAsvBLfhD8w.xml/extra_video.html

Then read on below:

Did you pay attention to the study tips that were given in the presentation on the previous slide for the learning style that is most dominant for you?

Take the following learning style quiz: <http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles-quiz.shtml>

Did the results make sense to you? Were they helpful?

Why Study Learning Styles?

As early as circa 590BCE man has been trying to understand man. Ezekiel, a Jewish man of ancient times was most likely the first to reference the different faces man can have. He declared the following: the lion was bold, the ox sturdy, man humane, and the eagle far seeing.

Today, understanding personality and learning styles is increasingly important in all aspects of your life and relationships. Employers consider personality types when hiring; strong relationships are empowered by understanding personality types; and students can empower themselves and their learning styles by knowing the many facets of their own styles and personality components.

As part of your Reading this unit, you will not only discover some of your traits (for the Discussion Board content) but will also learn more about the many types of traits you might have and the strategies you might use in “getting the biggest bang for your buck.” The better you know yourself the more effective you can be in life and learning.

Find out even more about yourself as a learner by completing this week’s Challenge Activity, which will help you to explore multiple intelligences.

Now, you know your learning style. Learning styles are offshoots of your sensory skills. If you are a visual learner, your visual sense is strong and transmits neurological messages to the brain; if you are an auditory learner, your auditory nerves do the work; if you are tactile/kinesthetic learner your sense of touch and your spatial awareness help transmit the messages that allow you to learn. Your goal is life-long learning; the more you understand the process of learning the stronger it is.

Now, you know where your multiple intelligences are strongest. This is another type of learning style/personality inventory. There are so many to choose from. In looking at the top three multiple intelligences, you probably agree that they identify you as a person. Perhaps one is math/logical. Is that what underlies your entrance into the School of Business and Management? Perhaps it is your strong interpersonal skills; business and management is all about interacting with people.

In Unit 1, you discovered your Keirsey’s Personality Sorter (your temperament sorter) and your Myer’s Briggs Personality Types. Interestingly enough, the Keirsey sorter is the current slant on Ezekiel’s faces.

Here is an interesting chart comparing Myer’s categories to the evolution of Ezekiel’s faces. Galen called them Humors circa 190CE and today Keirsey uses the terms you found in your personal inventory – artisan, guardian, idealist, and rationalist.

Isabel Myers 1950s	Galen circa 190CE	David Keirsey 1998
SP sensing-perceiving	Sanguine	artisan
SJ sensing-judging	Melancholic	guardian
NF intuitive-feeling	Choleric	idealist
NT intuitive-thinking	Phlegmatic	rationalist

<http://www.businessballs.com/personalitystylesmodels.htm>

As you continue your discovery, be sure to research the styles and traits behind the words. Knowing the types is only half the information. As you continue your growth in understanding the levels of critical thinking, you will know that analysis must be accompanied by research in order to move to level five and make an evaluation based on knowledge. Your next task then is to use your information creatively.

You have compiled four pieces of information. Put them together and think about the strategies you use in your everyday life and learning and how they “fit” into the information you garnered from your quizzes. Remember, these are suggestions based on your answers to the questions provided. You may find you have overlapping qualities as well (for example your learning styles are split across the board – you are multi-modal). Use that as an advantage as you continue your learning.

Learning Styles

Once you identify the ways you learn best (note that it can be plural), you can modify your study environment and tailor your study experience to meet the needs of your learning style.

For example, if you are an auditory learner, you will most likely learn best by listening, you might find it helpful to record yourself reading your Assignments and then listening to the recording afterward. If you learn best by actively participating in the task, a tactile/kinesthetic learner, you might find it helpful to experiment with new activities where you can apply the information you have read. Of course, if you are a strong visual learner you need to see everything for the greatest “clarity” in learning.

Multiple Intelligences

There are 8 Multiple Intelligences (as described by Howard Gardner). Here is a specific chart you can use to readily comprehend the intelligences and their meaning to you as individual learners:

- INTERPERSONAL: If you have strong **interpersonal skills**, you are “people smart.”
- INTRAPERSONAL: If you have strong **intrapersonal skills**, you are “self-smart.”
- VERBAL-LINGUISTIC: If you are **verbal-linguistic** you are word smart.
- LOGICAL-MATHEMATICAL: If you are **logical-mathematical**, you are logic and math smart.
- NATURALIST: If you are a **naturalist** at heart, you are nature smart (science and math).
- VISUAL-SPATIAL: If you are **visual-spatial**, you are picture smart.
- BODILY-KINESTHETIC: If you are **bodily-kinesthetic**, you are hands-on or body and movement smart.
- MUSICAL-RHYTHMIC: If you are **musical-rhythmic**, you are music smart.

If you step back to Unit 1’s inventories, you know that you discovered you might be one of these “faces.”

- Artisan – says what is, does what works
- Rationalist – says what’s possible, does what works
- Guardian – says what is, does what’s right

- Idealist – says what’s possible, does what’s right

<http://www.keirsey.com/aboutkts2.aspx>

Myers Briggs

You also found your assortment of personality types by taking the Myers Briggs type indicator. This chart will help pull those results into a more meaningful presentation.

Please see chart

(E)	Extraversion	or	Introversion	(I)	the focus or direction or orientation of your behavior - outward or inward	'Attitude' or orientation
(S)	Sensing	or	Intuition	(N)	how you gather information	Function (Jungian 'Irrational' or MB 'Perceiving')
(T)	Thinking	or	Feeling	(F)	how you make decisions	Function (Jungian 'Rational' or

						MB 'Judging')
(J)	Judging	or	Perceiving	(P)	how you react to the world - do prefer to make decisions or keep open to options (and also which middle 'Functions' do you favor)	Myers Briggs® added dimension equating to Jung's 'Irrational' and 'Rational'

<http://www.businessballs.com/personalitystylesmodels.htm#myers%20briggs%20types%20indicator%20MBTI>

Why is this Important?

The question now becomes why is this important? As you learn all about the many facets of personality and learning, you empower yourself to become a stronger unique person and problem solver.

As you develop a greater understanding of your own personality traits and strengths, you will also begin to understand why you respond to certain situations or people the way you do, and you will very likely develop a much clearer picture of your outstanding abilities. Alan Chapman (2014), in fact, offers this purpose for studying personality types: “Understanding personality is also the key to unlocking elusive human qualities, for example leadership, motivation, and empathy, whether your purpose is self-development, helping others, or any other field relating to people and how we behave.”

Most importantly, as you study about styles and strategies, it is important to recognize the value of the individual. Each person brings qualities to the table and it will benefit you to be open and flexible as you work together.

You have the information, how do you use it? The most important part of learning is your personal creativity. As you analyze and research information, you begin to evaluate what you gathered and to turn it into your own personally understood product that can help you to become a stronger creative thinker and problem solver.

Most situations allow for a great number of possible solutions as you seek answers and ideas. Remain open to trying new strategies several times before making an evaluation. Offer your thoughts and ideas to others knowing there is plenty of room for all kinds of creativity.

It is in your stronger knowledge that you become motivated to learn even more. It is in your own knowledge of yourself that you find the value and worth that makes you stand up proud and tall as you offer your strengths to the world around you.

Learning Style Strategies

Investigate the following site for amazing strategies for your visual, auditory, and kinesthetic (VAK) learning styles:

<http://www.businessballs.com/vaklearningstylestest.htm>

TIPS: Visual Learners

- Use organized or typed material
- Use visual images, diagrams, flash cards, and mind mapping
- Use drawings and written images

TIPS: Auditory Learners

- Use memorization strategies, songs, and auditory repetition
- Use tape recordings of notes, readings, and important topics
- Use verbal skills to reinforce information

TIPS: Kinesthetic Learners

- Use a combination of sight, touch, taste, smell, and hearing
- Use chinking or step-by-step processes for lengthy tasks
- Use direct involvement and hands-on strategies

Multiple Intelligence Strategies

We all possess all eight of the multiple intelligences; some are just stronger than others. Here are a few of the intelligences and strategies. Access the following link to gather more information. Research this topic on your own as well.

<http://teachersnetwork.org/media/NTHchapterbenna.htm>

If you are a Verbal Linguistic learner

1. Write a story for a book or newsletter.
2. Keep a journal.

If you are a Mathematical/Logical learner

3. Sort, categorize, and characterize word lists.
4. While reading a story, stop before you have finished and predict what will happen next.

If you are a Body/Kinesthetic learner

5. Write on a mirror with lipstick or soap.
6. Take a walk and read all the words you find during the walk.
7. Handle a Koosh™ ball or a stress ball during a study session.

Study Strategies

As you are focusing on becoming a stronger, more empowered learner it will also be important for you to consider your strengths and weaknesses in terms of your study strategies. Where do you excel? Where do you need to make some improvements? How can you make full use of your strengths as you focus on making improvements? Explore the following areas as you seek to know yourself better as a learner and thinker:

- Anxiety ~ How well do you deal with your emotions?
- Attitude ~ How does your attitude affect your daily performance?
- Concentration ~ Do you find that you are easily distracted or are you good at staying focused?
- Information Processing ~ Are you good at remembering and retaining information or is this something you struggle with?
- Motivation ~ Do you find it easy to stay motivated and engaged or do you tend to lose interest in things easily?
- Study Aids ~ How efficient are your current study aids?

- Selecting Main Ideas ~ Are you confident when it comes to selecting main ideas?
- Self-Testing ~ How effective are your current self-testing strategies?
- Testing Strategies ~ How effective are your current testing strategies?
- Time Management ~ How well do you manage your time?

Take time to visit the LASSI Modules to read more about how you can improve and make the best use of your study strategies: <http://www.lassimodules.com/>. Follow the Lassi Modules Instructions located in Doc Sharing to register.

SUMMARY

In completing this section Reading, you have now prepared yourself well for a complete discussion with many threads of interest in your Discussion Board. Be sure to continue (if you have not already done so) working with your Activities and Extra! Extra!

Continue to question your own strategies and to seek to enhance them. Continue to wonder and to discover, as these are two critical thinking skills that promote learning and exploration.

II. Challenge Activity

Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences

Many sites offer a plethora of information and options for you as you proceed to gather more and more information about yourself as a learner. As your challenge in Unit 3 and to further enrich your learning strategies go to the following site and take the free Multiple Intelligences assessment (Based on Howard Gardner's model). You may use the MS® Excel® self-calculating format, or any of the other versions listed: <http://www.businessballs.com/howardgardnermultipleintelligences.htm#multiple>

Utilize the following resources to learn more about each type of intelligence and how you can make use of your unique strengths:

<http://teachersnetwork.org/media/NTHchapterbenna.htm>

<http://www.businessballs.com/howardgardnermultipleintelligences.htm>

Continue to make connections as you move from unit to unit. Search for the strategies that you find most helpful to your learning and thinking processes. Begin to use them over and over because through repetition you will establish habits of success. Do not forget, you may always share your thoughts in Virtual Office or Discussion Board.

III. Powerful Words for a POWERFUL Vocabulary – 7 words in 7 Days

Effective communication is not only an essential academic strategy; it is fast becoming one of the top skills employers are looking for as they screen potential employees. However, how do you become an effective communicator? The answer to this question is actually quite simple, yet it involves some serious commitment on your part. You have to practice and make a firm commitment to equipping yourself with the many different “tools” that you will need in order to express your ideas clearly and effectively in both written and spoken communication. This is where a powerful vocabulary can make a world of difference for you because words are the building blocks of communication. Therefore, the more words you are able to use, the more creative, convincing and powerful you will be as a communicator. What if you could add just one new word to your vocabulary each day? Think about the progress you would make in a week, a month, or even an entire year.

Vocabulary Enrichment Resources

Merriam-Webster's Word of the Day

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/word-of-the-day/>

Activity: Make your own flashcards: <http://quizlet.com/>

Unit 3 Vocabulary Words



Complete the vocabulary activities here

<http://www.studymate.com?id=3fn5xsgBM>

Clandestine: Done in secret; shady action.

Munificent: Very generous.

Pernicious: Dangerous; deadly; destructive; extremely harmful.

Pejorative: Belittling; disparaging.

Audacious: Extremely bold; overbearing.

Plethora: Excessively large quantity; overabundance.

Auspicious: Prosperous; promising success.

IV. Successories

The information provided in the *Successories* area is designed to provide you with valuable tips, skills, and resources — all related to your ongoing success here at Kaplan and beyond.

This week, please take time to review the following brief tutorials:

Communicating with Instructors, Students, and Other University Personnel <http://khe2.adobeconnect.com/p64iufe3whm/>

https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/Communicating_with_your_professors.pdf

Effective Instant Messenger and E-mail Communication from KU Writing Center

https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/Using_Email_and_IM.pdf



Take this knowledge check on learning styles: http://extmedia.kaplan.edu/business/CS113_1203C/reading/u3/quiz.html

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http://www.businessballs.com/howardgardnermultipleintelligences.htm#multiple_intelligences_tests

Chapman, Alan. (2014). VAK learning styles. Retrieved from

<http://www.businessballs.com/vaklearningstylestest.htm>

Keirse.com. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.keirse.com/default.aspx>

Golubtchik, B. (n.d.). The multiple intelligence classroom: Matching your teaching methods with how students learn.

Retrieved from <http://teachersnetwork.org/media/NTHchapterbenna.htm>