

Mathematics Learning Styles Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to help us determine several aspects of your learning style as they relate to learning mathematics. **There are no right or wrong answers.** I am forcing you to choose between 2 options. You may feel that neither describes you, or that both do. Do your best to choose one and then write in the comment box at the end of the questionnaire if you want to tell me more.

Take the Mathematics Learning Style Questionnaire at <http://elearn.mtsac.edu/ctunstall/dsps30/>

When you press the submit button at the bottom, the results will be displayed. Print two copies: one for you to use for your analysis, and one for me. Make sure your name shows up, or write it in.

Visual/Verbal Learners: Visual learners understand best what they see--pictures, diagrams, flow charts, time lines, videos, and demonstrations. Verbal learners get more out of words--written and spoken explanations. Kinesthetic learners tend to be visual and active learners. *Some mixture of these learning modalities is common.* Everyone learns more when information is presented visually and verbally.

Active/Reflective Learners: Active learners tend to retain and understand information best by doing something active with it--moving or applying it or explaining it to others. Reflective learners prefer to think about it first, without distractions. *Everybody is active sometimes and reflective sometimes.* Your preference for one category or the other may be strong, moderate, or mild.

Factual/Abstract Learners: Factual learners often like solving problems by well-established methods, and dislike alternate ways or surprises; abstract learners need understanding, and dislike repetition. Factual learners focus on the procedure, while abstract learners cannot remember the procedure unless it makes sense. *Everybody is factual sometimes and abstract sometimes.* Your preference for one or the other may be strong, moderate, or mild.

Sequential/Global Learners: Sequential learners tend to gain understanding in linear steps, with each step following logically from the previous one. Global learners tend to learn in large jumps, absorbing material without seeing connections, and then suddenly "getting it." Sequential learners tend to follow logical stepwise paths in finding solutions. Global learners may be able to solve complex problems quickly or put things together in novel ways once they have grasped the big picture, but they may have difficulty explaining how they did it or showing specific steps.

Visual Memory/Verbal Memory: Although some people may learn better with visual presentations or with verbal presentations, how they remember the information may not be the same as how they learned it. This can result in important memory problems. Learners with visual memory strengths tend to remember information the way they saw it, while learners with verbal memory strengths tend to remember information in words, either from talking to themselves, or remembering someone else talking. If your learning and memory modalities are different, we'll need to discuss what to do.

Accepting/Anxious: Many students enjoy math, or find it challenging. Some students may struggle with math, and don't do well on tests. Others become so anxious that they cannot remember procedures that they handled easily before the test. Students who have difficulty with math may or may not like the subject, but anxious students' feelings are strongly negative, and they may have a psychological "wall" that further blocks their learning. Knowing this is important for developing appropriate strategies.