

# What's Your Preferred Learning Style?

For the following questions, circle the first answer that comes to mind, and choose only one answer, either a, b, or c. Don't spend too much time thinking about any one question. When finished, total your answers for a, b and c.

## Question 1

When you study for a test, would you rather

- a) read notes, read headings in a book, and look at diagrams and illustrations.
- b) have someone ask you questions, or repeat facts silently to yourself.
- c) write things out on index cards and make models or diagrams.

## Question 2

When you try to concentrate, do you

- a) get distracted by clutter and notice things around you
- b) get distracted by sounds and attempt to control the noise around you
- c) get distracted by commotion or sensations like hunger, thirst, uncomfortable shoes

## Question 3

Which of these do you do when you listen to music?

- a) daydream (see things that go with the music)
- b) hum along
- c) move with the music, tap your foot, etc.

## Question 4

When you work at solving a problem do you

- a) make a list, organize the steps, and check them off as they are done
- b) make a few phone calls and talk to friends or experts
- c) make a model of the problem or walk through all the steps in your mind

## Question 5

When you read for fun, do you prefer

- a) a book with a lot of pictures in it or vivid imagery
- b) a book with a lot of narration or dialogue in it
- c) a book with a lot of action or that engages you in problem solving (or don't read)

**Question 6**

When you assemble an object, would you rather

- a) look at a diagram or watch a movie about it
- b) read the directions, talk aloud, or listen to someone explain it
- c) ignore directions and try to figure it out for yourself as you go along

**Question 7**

You have just entered a science museum, what will you do first?

- a) look around and find a map showing the locations of the various exhibits
- b) talk to a museum guide and ask about exhibits
- c) go into the first exhibit that looks interesting, and read directions later

**Question 8**

What kind of restaurant would you rather **not** go to?

- a) one with the lights too bright
- b) one with the music too loud
- c) one with uncomfortable chairs

**Question 9**

Would you rather go to:

- a) an art class
- b) a music class
- c) an exercise class

**Question 10**

Which are you most likely to do when you are happy?

- a) grin
- b) shout with joy
- c) jump for joy

**Question 11**

If you were at a party, what would you be most likely to remember the next day?

- a) the faces of the people there or what they were wearing
- b) the names and conversations of people there
- c) the things you did, games you played while you were there

**Question 12**

When you see the word "d - o - g", what do you do first?

- a) think of a picture of a particular dog
- b) say the word "dog" to yourself silently
- c) sense the feeling of being with a dog (petting it, running with it, etc.)

**Question 13**

When you tell a story, would you rather

- a) write it
- b) tell it out loud
- c) act it out

**Question 14**

When you teach other people, do you

- a) show them
- b) explain to them and maybe ask questions
- c) demonstrate and then ask them to try

**Question 15**

What are you most likely to do when you are angry?

- a) scowl
- b) shout or "blow up"
- c) stomp off and slam doors

**Question 16**

When you relax, you would rather

- a) watch TV, go to a movie, play a video game
- b) listen to the radio, play music, read, or talk with a friend
- c) play sports, work on cars, do arts & crafts, or build something

**Question 17**

When you aren't sure how to spell a word, which of these are you most likely to do?

- a) write it out to see if it looks right
- b) sound it out
- c) write it out to see if it feels right

**Question 18**

When you talk with others, do you

- a) find it difficult to listen for very long
- b) enjoy listening or get impatient to talk
- c) gesture and communicate with your hands

**Question 19**

When you contact people, you prefer

- a) face to face meetings
- b) calling on the telephone
- c) to talk while walking or while participating in an activity

**Question 20**

Which are you most likely to do when standing in a long line at the movies?

- a) look at posters advertising other movies
- b) talk to the person next to you
- c) tap your foot or move around in some other way

**Total your a, b, and c answers and put the totals in the spaces below:**

**a** \_\_\_\_\_ **b** \_\_\_\_\_ **c** \_\_\_\_\_

If you had more “A” responses, your preferred learning style is visual.

If you had more “B” responses, your preferred learning style is auditory.

If you had more “C” responses, your preferred learning style is tactile/kinesthetic.

For study suggestions specific to your learning style, see the tip sheets available at the website of the Center for Academic Success: <http://www.lehigh.edu/~inacsup/cas/studyskills.html>

For further exploration of your learning style, please feel free to make an appointment with our study skills consultant by contacting the Center for Academic Success at [intutor@lehigh.edu](mailto:intutor@lehigh.edu) or (610) 758-4154.

Content adapted from the University of South Dakota’s Learning Styles Inventory, <http://www.usd.edu/trio/tut/ts/stylest.html>, and Marcia L. Conner and [www.agelesslearner.com](http://www.agelesslearner.com)