

# Revision Ideas for Different Learners

There has been considerable research in recent years about 'multiple intelligences' - the fact that different people learn in different ways. These are frequently called Visual, Auditory and Kinaesthetic learning styles. People can have one preferred style or frequently have a collection of different learning techniques that work for them.

The following are suggestions for revision techniques for different learners. Some of these may work well for you.

These suggestions come from a web-site written BY dyslexic pupils FOR dyslexic pupils, and they are strategies which have actually worked in helping teenagers with learning blocks manage to learn the work. So some of these ideas will be spot-on for you!

Once you have found your preferred learning techniques, then you can use them over and over again to give you that edge in your exam.

## Revision Strategies

### Visual Learners

- Recopy notes in colours
- Visually organise or reorganise notes using columns, categories, outline forms, etc.
- Remember where information was located in visual field
- Create timelines, models, charts, grids, etc.
- Write/rewrite facts, formulas, notes on wall-hanging, bedsheet, poster for visual review at any time
- Facts, formulas, notes on index cards arranged/rearranged on wall, pin-board, floor, bed

- Use of colour-coded markers or cards for previous two above
- Use of visual mnemonics
- TV/video supplements important for understanding or remembering
- Use of "background" visual activity helps you to concentrate
- Use of highlighters
- Near memorisation of chapter/notes

### **Auditory Learners**

- Need to discuss concepts/facts/aspects with friend immediately after new learning
- Frequently does homework with friend(s) via telephone - seems to understand better and retain more
- Tape records lesson or notes for re-listening later
- Must say facts/formulas/information over and over to retain
- Simultaneous talking-walking studying
- Set information to rhyme, rhythm, or music to aid retention
- Aural Mnemonics
- Remember where information was located in auditory field (eg tagged to "who said that?")
- Use of different voices to study (like creating a script, or acting out a play)
- TV/video/radio supplements useful for obtaining information
- Prefer to listen without taking notes
- Prefer group discussion and/or study groups
- Use of background music helps you to concentrate

- Prefer quiet study environment

### **Kinaesthetic Learners**

- Copy notes over and over, apparently to make them neat or organised
- Must use white-out or start new page after several mistakes
- Prefers to take notes during lesson as an aid to concentration
- Must take notes, even when detailed outline is distributed
- Doodles while studying
- Must move about when studying
- Alternates sitting still and moving during homework/studying
- Simultaneous talking-walking, talking-exercising study, or walking-reading study
- Sometimes does all of previous two in one study session
- Move hands or feet for rhythm emphasis while studying
- Make charts, grids, timelines, diagrams (usually several times)
- Trace key words with finger, marker, hand
- Re-enact situations while studying
- Constructs things while studying (house of cards, blocks, etc.)
- Prefers learning by doing
- Frequently takes things apart, or "tinkers with things" for understanding

- Prefers on-site visits for understanding

## **And don't forget...**

### **Bio-Behavioral Issues**

- Physical posture during study/homework? Sit upright? Sprawl?
- Prefer sitting at a desk, floor, bed?
- Prefer putting papers for different subjects on tables, desk, dresser and walking to each different work area?
- Do best studying before dinner? after eating? how long after eating?
- Prefer to snack while studying?
- What kind of food helps you concentrate (regardless of when it is eaten)?
- Does exercise stimulate concentration? light or heavy workout?
- Does exercise tire you too much on a day needed for heavy studying?
- Do you study better at night? in the morning?
- Do you prefer to study in your room? at a library? in school?

### **Emotional Issues**

(Sometimes referred to as Management issues - concerns personality / maturation)

- Prefer to study from books, teachers' outlines - or your own material?
- Perform better under pressure?
- Prefer to get work done and then relax?

- Prefer night-before studying?
- Prefer daily cumulative review of notes
- Prefer mental organisation, planning?
- Prefer written or manipulative organisation, planning tools?
- Has good short-term memory?
- Remembers concepts but has trouble with details?
- Can cram just before a test?
- Do you prefer to study in isolation? in groups?