


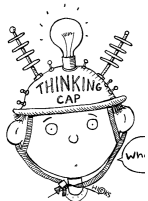




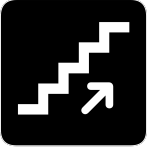

Approaches to the Index of Learning Styles

The Index of Learning Styles (ILS) is a tool that SCAA Tutors, PLUS Leaders, and Receptionists can use to help students understand their learning profile. The ILS is **not** meant to be an assessment of student strengths and weaknesses and is **not** fixed – students can move across the spectra in different circumstances. As tutors, it is also important that we encourage students to practice all learning styles.

Active – Reflective	
 <p>Active Learning means retaining information by <i>doing</i> something physical with it. Tutors may be able to foster active learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Switching roles with the student and have them show you (or other students) how it's done• Let the student make the notations, margin comments, etc.• Engaging in activities related to the assignment such as free writing, the one-minute paper, etc.• Using manipulatives	 <p>Reflective Learning means retaining information by <i>thinking</i> about it first. Tutors may be able to foster reflecting learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowing more time for the student to process – (silence is okay!)• Periodically stopping between “chunks” of information so that the student can write down or verbally summarize what they have learned• Taking occasional pauses in the tutoring session for a “process” break (metacognition)
Sensing – Intuitive	
 <p>Sensing Learning means grasping new concepts by <i>learning facts</i> and practicing “<i>tried and true</i>” methods. Tutors may be able to foster sensing learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing connections between the <i>concept</i> and the real world/the “practical”• Providing connections between the <i>process</i> and a “real world example”	 <p>Intuitive Learning means grasping new concepts by thinking of the possibilities in the abstract. Tutors may be able to foster intuitive learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowing the student to look for interpretations or theories that relate to the facts• Allowing more time for the student to check through their responses or answers



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Visual – Verbal	
 <p>Visual Learning means comprehending information through <i>visual representations</i> such as diagrams, photographs, or flow charts. Tutors may be able to foster visual learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diagramming or concept mapping while you explain the material• Showing media, such as podcasts or YouTube videos, that allow students to re-see the material or the concepts• Providing handouts from the SCAA resource library that students can take with them	 <p>Verbal Learning means comprehending information in an <i>auditory</i> manner – hearing others explain the concept or explaining it yourself. Tutors may be able to foster verbal learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Switching roles with the student and have them show you (or other students) how it's done• Periodically stopping between “chunks” of information so that the student can verbally summarize what they have learned
Sequential – Global	
 <p>Sequential Learning means to gain understanding step-wise, in a linear order. Tutors may be able to foster sequential learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outlining what the student already knows about the concept and “fill in” the gaps• Diagramming, time-lining, and outlining the material	 <p>Global Learning means to gain understanding by seeing the “big picture” before getting into the steps. Tutors may be able to foster global learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asking the student what the “big picture” or the goal of the assignment and <i>then</i> moving into steps.• Allowing more time for the student to “gather” the big picture.• Periodically “preview” concepts or look ahead in the material.

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Reference – The following works were referred to during the creation of this handout: Richard M. Felder and Linda K. Siverman’s [The Index of Learning Styles](#).



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