FOUR DIFFERENT TYPES OF LEARNERS

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There are four types of learners under the VARK model. Each letter signifies the initial of the learning type, V for visual, A for Auditory, R for Reading/Writing, and K for kinesthetic. This is why in one classroom there can be different reception to a lesson or subject, especially if the teacher only taps in a singular style.

The first type of learners is the Visual Learners or the individuals which learns better through the use of visual stimulus like graphs, charts, diagrams, and maps. Although this kind of learners does not include photographs and videos. They lean towards patterns and images. They learn best through the use of patterns and shapes in place of words.

The second type is the Auditory Learners which are the learners who thrive using spoken words and lectures, group discussions and brainstorming sessions. They learn best by listening and hearing the lessons and topics. The use of audio recordings can help these kinds of learners immensely.

The third one is the Reading/Writing learner these are the students who learn more through writing and reading lessons and topics. They are great at book reports and written assignments like essays. The best approach for these kinds of learners is to give them topics to read and make them write reaction papers and reports regarding the topic. These are the students that likes taking notes during discussion and reviewing them later one.

The forth learning type is the Kinesthetic Learners which are the students that absorb more information through activities that enable them to experience the idea or
relate to them through personal experience or situations. It great to give students like these active lessons, to relate topics to physical challenges and actives like games.

Within the classroom, the teachers usually just include one or two types of learning styles in their lectures. This is the old style of teaching which is born from years and years of repetitive practice. The problem with it is that it only nurtures several learners and leave the others in the dark. But being able to include all the learning types can be rather difficult considering that there are at least forty students in one classroom that can fall on four different types in distinct percentage. Not every class can be the same and the fact that most of the teachers hold several teaching loads at a time, creating a specific teaching style for each is next to impossible.

But with technology come innovation towards teaching practices. From manila papers and colored papers, we can now use projectors that can flash images, graphs, and other visual aids without problem. Speakers are also used to include sounds and audio for videos. But even with all that we can still use the good old lectures but with more appealing and more legibility. With these technological advancement teachers can easily accommodate the different types of learners and be able to urge learning and development in an equal perspective without neglecting some of the students’ learning needs.

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