

PREWRITING STRATEGIES & Learning Styles

What's Your Learning Style?



Auditory learners will retain more information when they hear something. For auditory learners, the best way to learn is to listen...over and over. Use a tape recorder. Read out loud. Have a friend quiz you orally.



Visual learners usually retain more information when they can see something that graphically depicts what they are trying to learn. Visual learners should study using visual aids whenever possible. Flash cards, pictures, drawings--anything that will give you a visual memory.



Kinesthetic learners will retain more information when they are a part of a "hands-on approach"--like labs, and demonstrations.

Here are a few strategies that can help you prepare to write, based on your learning style:

Auditory Learners

1. Read the instructions, notes, or other material aloud; have other writers read aloud.
2. Discuss topics, prompts, and assignments with peers. Verbally paraphrase your ideas aloud.
3. Repeat or rephrase notes, explanations, diagrams, and other visual aids.

Visual Learners

1. Use visual representations. Try clustering or making diagrams of important points or notes.
2. Circle or highlight important points in material.
3. Use color. Make story or essay diagrams using different colors for different points or characters.

Kinesthetic Learners

1. Try writing ideas/ main points down on flashcards. Arrange the flashcards to organize the flow of your ideas in different ways.
2. Use sticky notes to identify different parts of the instructions or topic.
3. Try a free hand free-write. Just let your ideas flow. Pick out the ones you want and put them on flash-cards.