

# Learning Styles and Intelligences

## Assessment Activities - LERN 48

### Purpose:

To help your students to become aware of their strengths and weaknesses as learners as well as create an awareness of different ways to learn

### Activities:

#### 1. Multiple Intelligence (MI) Inventory

The theory of Multiple Intelligences was developed by Howard Gardner of Harvard. He originally presented seven intelligences which he established according to specific evidentiary guidelines. Subsequently, he added an eighth intelligence, naturalist. He is currently investigating the possible addition of an existential intelligence. Further information can be found in the LAC professional library. See the Skills Lab for more on the library.

Even though the MI Inventory suffers from relying on one of the intelligences (Linguistic) for assessment, it can give the students a snapshot of their preferences for intelligences used.

Walk the student through the inventory:

- have them mark their answers as you read and explain the statements
- Have students time to circle the number in the "Category Numbers"
- The rows with three or more circles indicate the intelligences that the students use
- Explain what each Intelligence is using the Theory Summary Chart

#### 2. Perceptual Learning Style inventory

The perceptual styles theory is based upon research that was conducted from 1975 to 1981 by Drs. Russell French, Daryl Gilley, and Ed Cherry. Since that time studies have been continued throughout the United States by researchers interested in the improvement of learning and teaching.

This Learning Style Inventory helps students to recognize their preferred way to take in information for learning. It focuses on the senses with the sense of sight covered in visual and print styles; the sense of touch covered in kinesthetic and haptic styles.

Walk the students through the Inventory:

- Have them mark the concepts that they think they can learn from. Provide explanations as needed
- Circle the number in the columns under "Strategy Numbers" that were marked above.
- Three or four circled numbers in a row suggest the learning style.
- Go over "Overview of Perceptual Learning Styles" with your students to help them understand what their style means for their learning.

3. Journal Response: After students have completed one or both of the Inventories, have them write out what they learned about how they learn and how they think that affects them as students.