

# Visual Modality

Roughly 40 to 50 percent of the general population prefers the visual channel as their primary learning modality.

- A visual learner learns best by seeing the material to be learned.

## Characteristics

- Needs to see the material while listening to it.
- Needs to have a textbook open while a teacher is lecturing. This is especially true in foreign language learning.
- May learn better from reading the material than from listening to a lecture on the material.
- Will enhance learning by summarizing material in some visual form such as a chart, graph, diagram, or pictorial representation.
- Will learn easily from movies, videos, computer programs, etc., or other media where the material is presented visually.
- May experience difficulty taking notes in class during a lecture.
- May need to pay closer attention to oral directions than written directions.

## STRENGTHS

- Likes books and pictures
- Likes a tidy desk
- A place for everything
- Can find way to principal's office
- Finds items other children lose
- Catches all your typos
- Remembers where you put *anything* you have mislaid
- Tells you have a loose or missing button, a smudge on your chin
- Likes to work puzzles
- Copies friend's paper, mistakes and all
- Uses balance in drawings, paintings, good spatial arrangement
- Uses different colors of ink, erasers, paper, dividers to differentiate information
- May have a "photographic memory" (eidetic imagery memory)

## TEACHING PROCEDURES

- Give written directions
- Directions in pictures
- Play matching games
- Use all types of puzzles, crosswords
- Use color coding system to teach sound-symbol
- Word searches in magazines, papers
- Dictionary use
- Trace & copy letters
- Memorize rules
- Use PowerPoint as a backdrop
- Use closed caption on videos
- Provide notes pages (AVID, etc.)
- Provide colored handouts that are organized according to color (blue = concepts; yellow = formulas, etc.)