

## **Identification of Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Learning Styles in English Class at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City**

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### **Abstract**

*This research aims to identify the dominant learning style of class X students at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City. Learning style is a way of learning from how students absorb, then organize and process information obtained from the learning process. There are three types of learning styles that will be discussed in this research, namely visual (tend to learn through what they see), auditory (learn through what they hear) and kinesthetic (learn through movement and touch). This research method uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The subjects of this research were 36 students in class X MIPA F. Data collection in this research was observation, questionnaires and documentation. The data obtained was analyzed by data reduction, data presentation and then a conclusion was drawn. The research results found that the dominant learning style of X MIPA F students was the Visual learning style. More students used a visual learning style with a total of 20 students with a percentage of 55.55%, then subjects who had an Auditory learning style were 6 students with a percentage of 16.66% and subjects who had a kinesthetic learning style were 10 students with a percentage 27.77%.*

**Keywords:** Learning Style, Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic

### **Introduction**

Learning is a process of effort made by an individual to obtain a new change in behavior as a whole, as a result of the individual's own experience in interaction with the environment, while according to Sudjana (2010) learning is a process characterized by a change in a person. Changes as a result of the learning process can be shown in various forms such as additional knowledge, understanding, attitudes and behavior, skills, skills, habits and changes in other aspects of the learning student. Basically, each individual is a unit that is different from one another. This difference can be seen from two aspects, namely horizontal aspects and vertical aspects. vertical. Horizontal differences are student differences in psychological aspects, such as intelligence level, talent, interest, memory, emotions, personality and so on. While vertical differences are student differences in physical aspects, such as the shape of the height and low body, body size, energy and so on. Each of these student aspects has a great influence on student learning activities and success.

Student variation in learning is the difference between individual students and other individual students in the learning process at school. In terms of understanding and absorbing learning, each student has a different level. Some are fast, moderate and some are very slow. Differences also occur in the learning styles that students have. Every student has a style or way of learning that is preferred by each. Learning styles are preferred ways of thinking, processing and understanding information. According to Rambe (2019), learning style is an easy way for students to receive information and then organize and manage the information received. Learning styles can be explained as the shaping factors, behaviors, and attitudes that enable an individual to learn in certain situations. In a learning environment, it is the learner's capacity to comprehend and absorb information. Students that favor distinct learning styles will act differently in how they view, engage with, and handle the classroom setting. Therefore, it is crucial for educators to understand the differences in the nature of students' learning styles.

There are three kinds of learning styles learning styles, namely visual, auditory and kinesthetic (VAK). This learning style incorporates three senses to acquire information through seeing, hearing, and action. VAK learning style can help students to learn through more than one understanding. According to (Deporter & Hemacki, 2015), "in the VAK learning style, learning focuses on providing direct and fun experiences. Directs learning experiences through learning to see (visual), learning to hear (auditory), and learning through movement and feeling (kinesthetic). Basically every student have those learning styles but don't everything that develops balanced but there is one who dominates with his learning style. Matter it causes students to like a variety of learning that fits your learning style has.

Visual learning style is a learning style that makes more use of vision. According to Bobbi De Porter and Mike Hernacki (Deporter, 2015) the characteristics of students with visual learning styles are neat and orderly, speaking quickly usually not disturbed by noise. Visual students are more likely to remember information by directly witnessing the source of the information. A person with an auditory learning style learns to rely on hearing in order to comprehend and retain information. This means that in order to understand a lesson, they must first listen to be able to absorb information as well as to remind them again. Students who tend to absorb information by listening have difficulty understanding written lessons. Kinesthetic learning style is learning by doing physical activity and direct involvement, which can be in the form of "handling", moving, touching, and feeling/experiencing it yourself. The characteristics of the kinesthetic learning style are touching everything he encounters, including when studying, having difficulty staying still or sitting still, always wanting to move, doing everything that allows his hands to be active, likes using real objects as learning aids, having difficulty mastering things abstract such as maps, symbols, and symbols, likes practice/experiments, likes games and physical activity.

It is important for every student to know their own learning style to maximize their learning ability. According to (Ghufron, 2012), the benefits for students to know their learning style include: 1) being able to choose a learning style according to their respective learning interests; 2) being able to create the right activities in the learning process so that they will avoid

activities that are not beneficial to their learning activities; 3) students who already know their learning style will be able to improvise themselves so that effective learning will be created; and create effective learning; and 4) planning learning objectives and being able to analyze the level of student success. So, by understanding the three types of learning, teaching and learning activities will become more effective and efficient.

The teaching and learning process will be better if a teacher is able to recognize differences in student learning preferences. To achieve their learning goals, students use various learning styles. Student progress in learning over time is reflected in learning outcomes. Learning outcomes are changes in abilities and qualities that students can see for themselves as a form of success in the learning process or model used by the teacher. In Indonesia, the average level of student education is still low, therefore, to support academic achievement, teachers must be able to know the type of learning style each student has. So in this study the researcher wanted to know the dominant learning style of class X MIPA F students at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City.

## **Literature Review**

### ***Learning Styles***

Learning style is a habit that is shown by individuals in processing information and knowledge and learning a skill. According to Ahmed (2012) learning styles is the preferred ways to collect, understand, organize and process information by someone. According to Santrock (2010) learning style is a way by students to maximize their potential and their ability to process and understand knowledge. The tendency of students' learning styles will differ between students, because each individual has their own uniqueness and preferences in the learning process. When it comes to understanding, interacting and responding to the learning environment, students with different learning styles will behave in different ways. Therefore, teachers should be aware of students' different learning styles as students differ in their preference for certain learning styles.

### ***Visual Learning Style***

Visual learning style is the process of absorbing information related to the sense of sight (eyes). Someone who has a visual learning style, they will understand more when learning if they can see it directly, or will remember learning more if they see interesting pictures, or with striking colors. Those who learn best visually usually understand knowledge best when it is described in real-world scenarios. This means that in visual learning, one must see or experience the learning directly in order to understand it, such as demonstrating, using media and teaching aids. Students prefer to look at pictures or diagrams, like shows, demonstrations or watching videos. In this case the teaching model used by educators should be more focused on demonstrations or media, invite students to objects related to the lesson or by showing the props directly to students or describing them on the blackboard. So the visual learning style focuses on

vision, the visual learning style type needs to see something visually to make it easier to understand.

### ***Auditory Learning Style***

Auditory learning style is the process of receiving information related to hearing, students who have this learning style will easily transmit information when listening to information. In addition, those with an auditory learning style are more likely to be engaged in speaking, which can take the shape of conversations with others. A person with an auditory learning style learns to rely on hearing in order to comprehend and retain information. This means that in order to understand a lesson, they must first listen to be able to absorb information as well as to remind them again. Students who tend to absorb information by listening have difficulty understanding written lessons. Hearing is extensively emphasized as the primary method of information or knowledge acquisition in this learning style. That is, we will hear and remember the information. The first characteristic of those with this learning style is that they often exclusively take in information through hearing. Second, find it challenging to directly absorbing printed knowledge. Third, they have trouble reading or writing. People with auditory learning style depend on their preference to learn through hearing.

### ***Kinesthetic Learning Style***

Kinesthetic learning style is a way of receiving information related to the interaction of body organs. According to Suparman (2010: 68-69), this type of learning is often called the driving learning style. In fact, students that employ this learning method frequently move their limbs to study or to try to grasp something. Students in this category are satisfied with everything related to body movement such as crawling, walking and in general their ability to move quickly. According to Subini (2011: 21) Kinesthetic learning style is a way of learning that a person does to obtain information by experiencing, moving, and touching. In addition, kinesthetic learning is related to practice or direct learning experiences. People with kinesthetic learning styles have characteristics such as they think clearly when they move or walk, move their limbs more when speaking and find it difficult to sit still. Usually, people with kinesthetic learning style get information using physical characteristics and words that have physical characteristics.

### **Research Method**

This type of research is qualitative descriptive, which is a systematic, accurate illustration of the phenomenon under study. Qualitative research is research that produces descriptive data, namely those that describe a nature, action, behavior that is observed. The data source in this study is the entire object of research that is the target of research. The data sources in this study consist of primary data sources and secondary data sources. This type of research instrument that can be used as a data or information collection tool is a student activity observation, questionnaires and documentation. This research was conducted at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City. The

following subjects can be used as informants in this research were students in class X MIPA F, totaling 36 students.

The data collection techniques used are:

#### 1. Observation

The purpose of the observation technique used in this research is to collect information about the atmosphere of English learning with VAK learning style. The observation conducted by the researcher is categorized as passive participation observation, which indicates that the researcher only plays a supporting role to see the ongoing activities. Observations are not made of individual students or specific students, but are made thoroughly of all students in the class during the lesson. In this case the researcher sees how the tendency of students' learning styles in the teaching and learning process.

#### 2. Questionnaire

The questionnaire method is used to collect data on visual learning styles, auditory learning styles, and kinesthetic learning styles. The questionnaire method has been equipped with alternative answers so that the respondent only needs to choose one of the answers that have been provided and answer it according to his situation. Instrument scoring is made using a Likert scale with four alternative answers. Likert scale is a scale used to measure the attitudes, opinions, and perceptions of a person or group of people about social phenomena. The learning style questionnaire will be analyzed by adding up the answer scores obtained, then making learning style decisions. Decision making on the more dominant learning style is by comparing the three scores of each type of learning style obtained by students. Determination of student learning styles is based on each student's answer which is then classified into each category. The more dominant learning style is the learning style that has the highest score of the three types of learning styles.

#### 3. Documentation

The documentation technique was used in this study to obtain data. The data serves to determine the condition of the research subject before the research is conducted. The documentation that researcher collected were school profiles, students data, and photographs during the research.

### **Result and Discussion**

#### ***Result***

Researcher can collect data through questionnaire, to find out the questionnaire is given a score on each statement item so that the data can be analyzed descriptively. After the data is analyzed, the total score obtained from each learning style (Visual, Auditorial and Kinesthetic) is

calculated. Then the highest score among the three learning styles of the students was seen, so as to find out the dominant learning style in class X MIPA F at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City.

From the results of the students' questionnaire answers, there are 20 students who have a visual learning style, 6 students have an auditory learning style and 10 students have a kinesthetic learning style. to calculate the score, the researcher has separated the answers between visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning styles using a predetermined score. Thus, the answer is obtained how many children have visual, auditory, kinesthetic learning styles. Recapitulation of dominant learning styles of X MIPA F students at SMAN 2 Bengkulu City:

**Table 4.1**

**Recapitulation of totaled learning style**

No	Learning Styles	Total	Presentase (%)
1.	Visual Learning Style	20	55.55
2.	Auditory Learning Style	6	16.66
3.	Kinesthetic Learning Style	10	27.77
Total		36	100

From table, it can be seen that the subject's learning style, where subjects who have a Visual learning style are 20 students with a percentage of 55.55%, subjects who have an Auditory learning style are 6 students with a percentage of 16.66% and subjects who have a kinesthetic learning style are 10 students with a percentage of 27,77%. So the dominant learning style of students in class X MIPA F is the Visual learning style.

Based on the researcher's observation, students tend to like learning if they can see directly what they can see in real life, then they are very active in the learning process, pay attention to the material that the teacher provides when the learning process is taking place in class, when studying the subject matter students tend to pay attention to what is written by the teacher, and when asked to do assignments students pay more attention to the teacher's instructions than reading the instructions on the assignment sheet.

Visual learning styles become dominant also occurs because the tendency of students' learning styles can be formed because they are accustomed to being maximized in the tendency of the teacher's teaching style. Visual learning style emphasizes on vision, seeing something to make it easier to understand and understand is a characteristic of this learning style. No wonder



in practice, many educators use colors, lines, shapes, and artistic values to teach someone, even without knowing their learning style.

Based on researcher observations during several lessons, teachers tend to teach with a visual learning style. Students tend to have a visual learning style because students are more often introduced to visual media by teachers, such as during the learning process the teacher asks students to pay attention to what the teacher writes on the blackboard or books that are already available. Students are accustomed to the teacher's visual teaching style and their tendencies are formed because they adjust to the teacher's teaching style.

### ***Discussion***

Learning style is a strategy carried out by students in their learning to achieve the expected goals, namely good learning outcomes. There are 3 kinds of learning styles according to the sensory preference approach, namely visual, auditorial, and kinesthetic. Basically, every individual applies all three learning styles. It's just that, there will be one learning style that is dominantly applied compared to other learning styles. applied compared to other learning styles. A subject who likes to read, is less able to learn well if they have to listen to lectures or discussions. Likewise, subjects who like to move or discuss will not learn well if they have to listen to teachers.

Learning styles are known based on the results of observations and questionnaires. The results of questionnaires and observations show that students of class X MIPA F SMAN 2 Bengkulu City are more likely to have a visual learning style. This means that participants prefer to learn by using visual channels such as pictures, videos, presentations, and magazines. They are interested in following written instructions and they like to spend their time and read as much as they need. This is in line with the statement of DePorter & Hernacki (2015) who assume that visual learners are very sensitive to seeing colors, pictures, videos because they like to make visualizations in their minds so that it helps them remember things better. This is also in accordance with the theory put forward by Yamin, (2007) that visual acuity is more prominent in some people and is very strong in a person. Even most children are visual types.

Students tend to like learning if they can see directly what they can see in real life, then when learning the subject matter students tend to pay attention to what is written by the teacher, and when asked to study the material, they tend to pay attention to what is written by the teacher. This finding is in line with DePorter & Hernacki's (2015) opinion that visual learners like to spend a lot of time reading and they are better at following written instructions because they are less good at following verbal instructions. they are less good at following verbal instructions.

Visual learning style emphasizes on vision, seeing things to make it easier to understand and comprehend is the hallmark of this learning style. It is no wonder that in practice, many educators use colors, lines, shapes, and artistic values to teach someone, even without knowing their learning style. However, this does not mean that other learning styles are not important. Every child has their own learning style. This is where the teacher plays a very important role in

learning. Teachers must be able to know the learning styles of the students in the class they teach in order to help in choosing or using the right approaches and methods.

The existence of different dominant learning styles in each student, has a different effect on student learning outcomes. Learning styles can affect student learning outcomes. In addition to learning styles, learning approaches affect student learning success. This is in accordance with the theory put forward by Basri (2015: 51) "the factors that influence learning are structural factors, structural factors are learning approaches which include strategies and methods used by students and teachers in carrying out learning activities. The learning approach affects the success rate of a person's learning process, apart from the approach, learning styles are included in structural factors". This statement is in accordance with the theory put forward by Gunawan (2011) "the dominant factor that determines the success of the learning process is to recognize and understand that each individual is unique with their own learning style". understanding that each individual is unique with a learning style that is different from one another. The difficulties that have arisen so far are more caused by teaching styles that are not in accordance with learning styles. In teaching, teachers need to understand the learning styles of students".

By looking at the results of the analysis from observation activities and distributing questionnaires, researchers found findings about learning styles, namely that students with academic achievements do not only use one learning style but use other learning styles. This means that the subject may be able to have a strong, neat and orderly memory which is the character of the visual learning style, then has the ability to tell stories and can relate to other people through dialogue which is the character of the auditory learning style, and may also have the ability to have the ability to craft, which is one of the behaviors that reflects the character of the kinesthetic learning style. All of these things can be ingrained in humans and make them a good combination. This is supported by the opinion of Santrock (2010) that none of us only has one learning and thinking style, each of us has a profile of many styles.

So in this study, the most important thing is that students can find out the learning styles they have. So that students can learn by using their learning styles and feel comfortable while learning and for teachers it is hoped that they can find out each student's learning style so that they can optimize and adjust their teaching methods to the students' learning styles. So that teachers can teach with various. learning styles that exist in students to improve student learning outcomes, especially in English subjects.

## **Conclusion**

Students of class X MIPA F SMAN 2 Bengkulu City are more dominant in visual learning style. Students are more inclined to the visual learning style with a total of 20 students with a percentage of 55.55%, subjects who have an Auditory learning style are 6 students with a percentage of 16.66% and subjects who have a kinesthetic learning style are 10 students with a percentage of 27.77%. This happens because the tendency of students' learning styles because they are accustomed to maximizing the habits of the teacher's teaching style.



teachers tend to teach with a visual style, therefore students are accustomed to the teacher's visual teaching style and the tendency is formed in the teacher's teaching style as seen from the students' learning style is still very changeable and adjusts to the teacher's teaching style.

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