Learning Styles and Learning Preferences of Gen Z Learners

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Abstract:
Student learning styles fall into seven "categories:" Visual, Aural (Auditory-musical), Verbal (Linguistic), Kinesthetic (Physical), Logical (Mathematical), Social (Interpersonal) and Solitary (Intrapersonal) Learners. There is no precise date for when Generation Z begins, but demographers and researchers typically use the mid-1990s to mid-2000s as starting birth years. According to Kathleen A. J. Mohr and Eric S. Mohr Digital Native is 1995-2010. Generation Z learners preferring learn through the technology and they retrieving the information from the server through Internet and also they share and receive the information through various sources like using search engine, e-books, webinar, YouTube, Face book and other Research, Educational and social medias. Here it is concluded without any doubt this generation born with the Internet era and they want to use the technology very much for the learning process.

Keywords- Learning Style, Intelligence, Z Learners, Internet.

I. INTRODUCTION

Learning Style:

The term "learning styles" tells to the learners to accepting and realizing that all learners learn in their own way. In practical, an individual's learning style refers to the special way through learner grasps processes, understands and save information. In general, the learners are considered as models that provides a new direction to teaching and learning. Learning style is described as a set of assessment, behaviors, and attitudes that creates possible learning for an individual in a given condition. For example, when learning how to accumulate a clock, some students understand the procedure by verbal instructions, some have to visually and while other have to kinesthetic to operate the clock themselves. Individual learning styles are consisting with cognitive, conative, affective and environmental factors, as well as one's before experience. In other words, individual learner has a varied of learning styles in which they think that have a mastery style of learning, with compare to other styles similarly other learners use different styles in different conditions. There is no diverse nor styles stable. Using various learning styles of multiple intelligence for learn is quite different technique. This approach through the educators has newly started to identify the learners. In School, the teachers mainly used to follow the traditional teaching methods however it is important for teachers to identify and understand the difference between learners' learning styles, then execute best practice methods and techniques to improve ability, skill, curriculum and assessments. This improves the speed and quality of students learning. Preferred learning styles guide the direction to learn.

Research verify that each learning style apply different parts of the brain. Which is connecting to the brain during learning, students memorize more of what they learn. Experts are use with the help of brain-teasers technologies which is support to locate the part of the brain answerable for each learning style.

Learning style may be distinct, identified and realize in different ways in which one of the most accepted student learning styles come under into seven "categories". According to Gardner's Multiple Intelligence, each intelligence is relatively autonomous intellectual potential; this is capable of functioning independently of the other.

- Visual (spatial): In visual style to use pictures, images and spatial comprehend.
- Aural (auditory-musical): In aural style to use sound, music and rhythms.

- Verbal (linguistic): In verbal style to use words, reading, writing and listening.
- Physical (kinesthetic): In kinesthetic style of learning to use body language, working with hands and touch.
- Logical (mathematical): In logical to use logical thinking, reasoning, mind related activities.
- Social (interpersonal) : In social style to study with cooperatively and communicate with other people.
- Solitary (intrapersonal) : In solitary style to work independent, use to self study and keep isolate.

a). Visual Learning.

The occipital lobes at the brain handle the visual sense. The occipital lobes handle spatial association. Visual learners are learns from the best with pictures or visually through to get support and process the information. The learners also well in mind mapping or provides their ideas in variety to process what they thinking [1].Visual learning is a one of the style in the Fleming VAK (Visual, Auditory and Kinesthetic) model, the learner learning through graphs, charts and images. Here the teaching and learning are associated with images and techniques. This learning styles are used to learn through visually what the learner observe inside the classroom, the visual learning style learner prefer to store the information through visual style [2].
There are numerous advantages of visual aids helps to better understand the power of visuals in eLearning: Help memorize Information Longer, Make Communication fast without any fault, enhance better understanding, Improves Motivation [3].

Some characteristics of visual learners:

- Having good spatial orientation and good judgment.
- Use various words to associate through visual and bring more ideas.
- Having well thinking in mind mapping and drawing.
- Using different color arrangement to highlight the text.
- Using mind mapping for easily remember.

b). Aural (Auditory-musical) Learning.

The temporal lobes at the brain handle aural part and its right temporal lobes mainly most essential for music. Auditory learning allocates the students to get the information by hearing or linguistic or verbal. Aural components are sound, rhythm, tone, loudness and looks are necessary for these types of learners. One's own learning style shows individual differences in teaching learning process [4].The auditory learning is mainly effective for auditory learners, and the school children who have their own ways that are quite different [5].This learning is important types of learning style were it is used to be familiar with those who react to sound. Naturally, a good number of musicians are aural learners. This type of learning style is not followed in many schools because it makes difficult to teaching [1].

Some characteristics of aural learners:

- They think some music rise good strong emotions.
- They prefer to music while learning.
- Have a good sense oriented of rhythm.
- They prefer to presentation with background music.
- Have a good listener.

c). Kinesthetic Learning.

Kinesthetic learning is one of the learning styles in the VAK model, in this learning style the learner learn carrying out some physical activities rather than to listening the lecture or watching the exhibition or display. Kinesthetic learning styles has learn through moving, touching, and doing. Students are not able to accept to sit for long time concentrate to the lesson in the class room and feel able to learn better if is accompanied by physical activity [2]. Kinesthetic students learn better when they do some experiment, laboratory work and involve practically in the classroom practice. They save information more when they actively participate in activities; educational tours and

character play [6]. At the back of the frontal lobe has the responsible for physical activities. Physical learners are particularly dynamic and always need to be moving. They learn best by through the activity method of learning [1].

Some characteristic of physical learners:

- They prefer to enjoy sports and work out along with outdoor activities.
- Prefer to working with their hands.
- Have physical touch with objects while learning.
- They are well in drawing diagrams and models.

d). Verbal (Linguistic) Learning.

According to the Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence defined, it is one of the eighth types of learning style [7]. Verbal learning style refers to a learners' ability to make new words, having more vocabulary and prefer to learn and write using language [8].Much of the school curriculum is teach with verbally in which linguistic learners tend to do well in school. The temporal and frontal lobes are two specialized areas known as the part of left hemisphere. Verbal learners learn best both in oral instruction and writing. In general, they became shine with both. These types of learners prefer to go into public meeting, script, reporting, and group discussion [1].

Some characteristics of verbal learners:

- Prefer to express themselves fast in both speaking and writing.
- Interested to reading and writing and listening.
- They prefer to engage in learning new skill through reading and listening.
- Have well in making mnemonic to the lessons for better and long remembrance.

e). Logical (Mathematical) Learning.

The parietal lobes, particularly the left side, arise our logical thinking. Mostly the engineers, mathematicians, or pursuing the science are logical thinkers because they follow unique way of learning style. These learners always keep their brain engage with reasoning, tackle new skills, games like chess and other creative work [1]. Logical learning style learners are identified with problem solving, ability to reasoning and learn using numbers, abstract visual information, and analysis of cause and effect relationships. Logical learners are naturally systematic and think in logically. They may be expert to mathematical problem solving, interest in word games and puzzles [7].

Some characteristics of logical learners:

- Have good knowledge in relationship of numbers, patterns and equations.
- They prefer to mind related games.
- They are logical thinkers and easily problem solver.
- They are able to classify and categorize things together for better understanding.

f). Social (Interpersonal) Learning.

Both the frontal and temporal lobes have the function of social activities. The limbic system is helps to maintain the social styles and responsible for emotions, temper and violent behavior. Social learners prefer to work with cooperatively. In schools, social learners to be actively participate in all the classroom activity. Out of school, the adults are like to be engaged in group works, communicate with others and work with efficiently for the benefit of the society [1]. Social learning style refers to a learner's ability to understand and easily communicate with others both in verbal and non verbal. People show more interest to social learner's speech, get advice from them and learn their motivation in which the learners also give more importance to others views and suggestions. The learners are real socialized persons through they like to leading up the group work, participating in community activities, and prefer to group studies with other students. They interested to voluntarily participate in school activities like, elocution, character play, sports and team works [9].

Some characteristics of social learners:

- They are naturally good speaker and team leader. .
- Interested to socialize with others
- Prefer to group or team work.
- Prefer to compare their ideas with other.

g). Solitary (Intrapersonal) Learning.

The parietal lobes and the limbic system are more dependable for this style. Solitary learnersare those who prefer to learn on their own and keep themisolating.This type of learner became socially introverted people in some situations. Under the solitary learningsome extroverts are prefer to be isolate while trying to learn. Solitary learners also have fixed with goals and achievement [1]. A solitary learner, also known as an intrapersonal learner is someone who prefers learning on their own. These types of students are self-motivated, enjoy working independently, and learn best when working alone. Students who are solitary learners spend a lot of time in self-reflection and enjoy working on themselves. These learners also supports in society both in their personal and academic.

Some characteristics of solitary learners:

- They prefer to motive by their own not in external force.
- Keep away from crowds.
- Prefer to work independently.
- Prefer to self – study.

II. GENERATION OF Z LEARNERS

Generation Z or Gen Z, also known by a number of other names, is the demographic cohort after the Millennial (Generation Y). There is no precise date for when Generation Z begins, but demographers and researchers typically use the mid-1990s to mid-2000s as starting birth years. There is little consensus regarding ending birth years. Most of the generation Z used the internet since the young age are comfortable with technology and social media. We can say that generation Z learners are technology oriented learner, why because whatever doubt arises, they clear their doubt through the internet only. Z learners have been called "Digital Natives", and "Internet Generation", this group of generation born in internet era [10]. Z learners are different from the X and Y generation because they know the world with internet, mobile phones, and social Medias. Z generation small kid know very well to operate the phone with its settings than the X and Y generation, which is proved here that the Z learners are fast learner and very much interested to learn the things through the technology. The table 1 shows the recent generation [11].

Table 1: Recent Generation

Perspective	Gen X—Busters	Gen Y— Millennials	Gen Z— Digital Natives
Birth Years	1965-1980	1981-1994	1995-2010

Learning Preference of Z Learner

Learning preferences refer to know the learners unique way of learning style in teaching learning process, such as watching a video online classes or verbal instruction. The learner differs from each learning styles, because the path which is shows the learner best style of learning like verbal, visual and kinesthetic. They supports that learners to save different types of information with best through different technique, so providing multiple methods will be most effective for learning[12].

Z generation learners are craves regular and technology-enhanced learning opportunities. Looks for educational opportunities that use visually enhanced methods of teaching (Wikipedia). Z learners getting information regarding anything without any delay they are accessing from the internet through search engine, always they want to connect with internet so that they can get updated information from the various sources available in the internet like YouTube, Face book, etc. they are mainly prefer learning through the Devices and Computers. Z learner prefers

flipped courses and relies on YouTube as a primary source of self-instruction [13]. Twenty-first-century learners want to use the technology in reliable way and this learner's want to use the technology such as video games, social media, email, text messaging, the Internet, digital music players, cell phones, computers and tablets in their daily lives [14].

III. CONCLUSION

In a teaching and learning process, the learner has the unique learning characteristics. But in these Z Generation learners common characteristics are learning through visual or technology learning. They want to learn everything through the Devices and the Computer with the help of internet using the search engine, social media and Apps. This generation born with the Internet era and they want to know everything with immediate effect in the help of high speed internet. Andaman and Nicobar Islands is very far from the mainland and here the internet is working through the satellite and Internet service performance is very poor, now the undersea Fiber Optic Cable laying work is started from the Chennai to A & N Islands and it will be completed by June 2020, the Z generation of A & N Islands are so happy to hear the news, because they are having the Devices and Computers but the lacuna is poor internet service. Here this generation slightly technologically backward from the mainland and it will be over by the end June 2020. So it is concluded that the Z generation learner like to learn through the technology with the help from Internet.

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