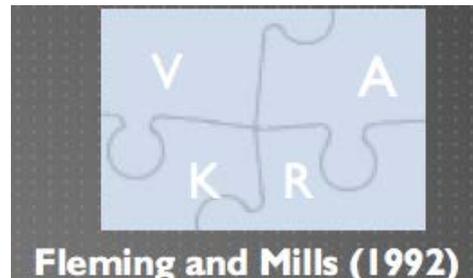
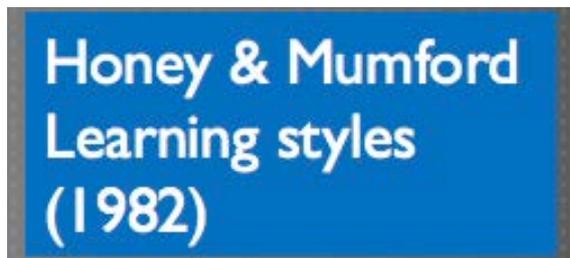


Learning Styles

As well as studying how learning occurs and the process of learning, theorists have also studied individual differences in the way we learn or an individual's learning style...

- ▶ Learning styles are used as a description of a person's behaviour and attitudes that shows their preferred way of learning
- ▶ There are theories for and against determining type of style that the learner will learn best from.
- ▶ Best thing to remember each person is an individual!! And they have their own way!!



VAR~~K~~ – Fleming and Mills 1992

Represents four characteristics of preferred learning:

- ▶ Visual- preference includes the depiction of information in charts, graphs, flow charts and the use of symbols to represent words
- ▶ Aural- preference for information to be heard. Students learn best from lectures, tutorials and being spoken to.
- ▶ Read/write- preference for information to be displayed in words.
- ▶ Kinaesthetic- benefits from a 'hand's on' approach. Prefers experiments, field trips role play and active exploration.

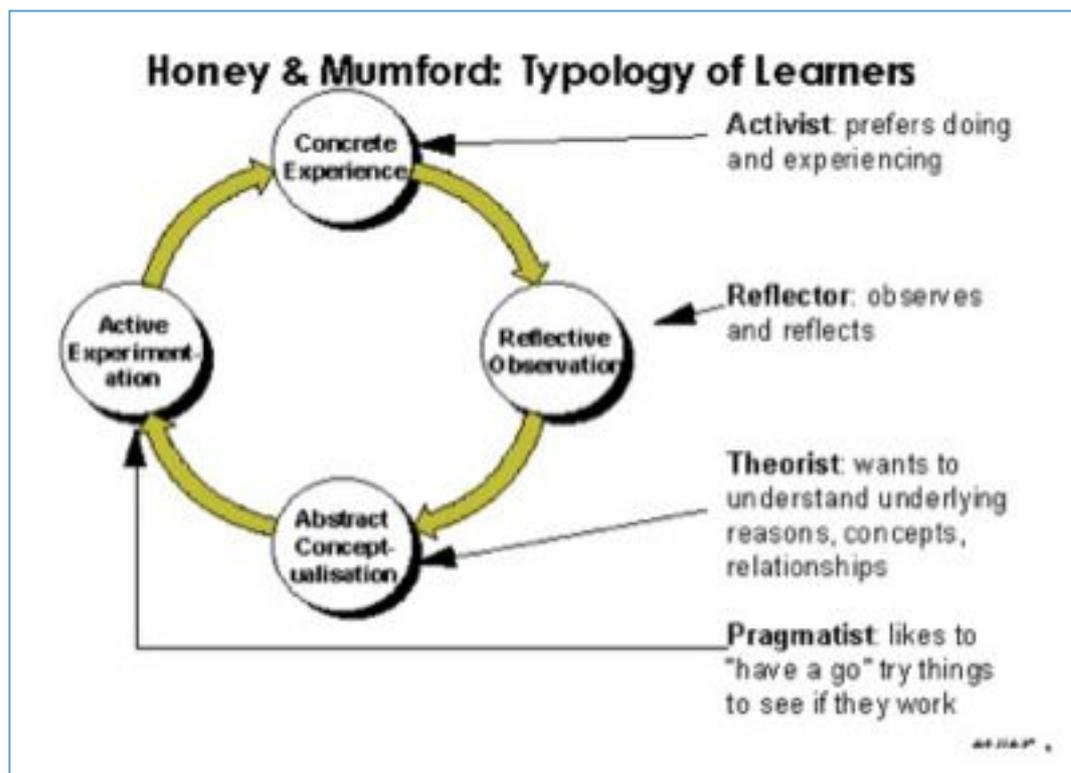
Honey and Mumford 1982

Activists - involve themselves fully and without bias in new experiences. They enjoy the here and now and are happy to be dominated by immediate experiences.

Reflectors - like to stand back to ponder experiences and observe them from many different perspectives. They collect data, both first hand and from others, and prefer to think about it thoroughly before coming to any conclusion.

Theorists - adapt and integrate observations into complex but logically sound theories. They think problems through in a vertical, step-by-step logical way.

Pragmatists - are keen on trying out ideas, theories and techniques to see if they work in practice. They positively search out new ideas and take the first opportunity to experiment with applications.



References

FLEMING, N.D. and MILLS, C. (1992), Not Another Inventory, Rather a Catalyst for Reflection, *To Improve the Academy*, Vol. 11, 1992., page 137

On line questionnaire <http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=questionnaire>