Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

Pre-Reading Questions

- What do you know about “visual, auditory, and kinesthetic styles”? (What are they?)
- How do they relate to language learning and teaching?
Summary Slide

- Visual, auditory, and kinesthetic styles
- Activity
- Assignment
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

- Salient dimension of learning style: preference learners show for visual, auditory, and/or kinesthetic input
- Visual learners tend to prefer reading, studying charts, drawings, and other graphic information
- Auditory learners prefer listening to lectures and audiotapes
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

- Kinesthetic learners prefer demonstrations and physical activity involving bodily movement
- Most successful language learners use both visual and auditory [as well as kinesthetic?] input, but preferences may distinguish learners, which is important for classroom instruction
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

- Reid (1987) found significant cultural differences in visual and auditory styles, including . . .
- Koreans: significantly more visual than NES Americans
- Some preferences: factor of gender, length of time in US, etc.
- Important to attend to kinesthetic
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

- Recognize learner preferences, but be careful
- Measurement of learner style preferences is problematic: learners can adapt, and styles can be reflection/product of background
- Help learners take charge of language learning, become aware of styles etc., and take action
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles

- Topic: guiding the sight impaired
- Three approaches (Which is most effective?)
  1. Auditory
  2. Visual (next slide)
  3. Kinesthetic (following slide)
- Discussion
Activity: Guiding the Sight Impaired

- Have them take you by arm (instead of opposite)
- Walk about half-step ahead of them
- Turn slowly
- Tell them what’s ahead
- Tell them layout of new place
- Turn around by facing them first
- To switch sides, touch their back
- For seating, say position of chair and put their hand on back of chair
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles
Activity: Guiding the Sight Impaired

- Divide into pairs and, using sleep masks, take turns guiding and being guided
- Walk to end of floor; switch sides
- Walk to other end of floor and turn around
- Return to room, walking single file as necessary
- Show partner to his/her seat
- Reflect on experience
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles
Activity: Guiding the Sight Impaired

- Describe experience as both guide and guided
- Which approach (A, V, or K) was most effective? Why?
- (Other approach: show and discuss video; practice guiding)
- Describe implications for teaching (ESOL)
- Return sleep mask
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles—Assignment

- Plan lesson that addresses visual, auditory, and kinesthetic
- Think broadly about styles, e.g. . . . .
- Visual: body, including gestures; written materials of various kinds, including pictures; board; and projections (from OHP or computer)
- Auditory: voice, audiotapes, etc.
Visual, Auditory, and Kinesthetic Styles—Lesson

- Kinesthetic: note taking (writing), group work (movement, speaking, etc.); action = response (TPR); action = necessary for response (going to board etc.); performance: from oral interpretation to dramatization, including RT
- Videotape may be part of lesson
- Hand in and demonstrate lesson plans . . .