

Abstracts

Surveying Perceptual Learning Style Preferences of Iranian Tertiary EFL Learners

Is'haaq Akbarian*

Associate Professor, University of Qom,
Qom, Iran

Javad Ghasemi Rezveh**

M.A. Graduate, University of Qom,
Qom, Iran

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Learners vary in understanding, organizing, and retaining information or experience, which is called preferred learning style. Reid's (1984) Perceptual Learning Style Preference Questionnaire was administered to 235 Iranian EFL learners to determine their styles and the role of some variables in their preference. Kinesthetic, auditory, visual, and tactile learning styles came out as major categories while individual and group learning styles appeared as minor types. Furthermore, females preferred auditory learning more than males did. Also, age appears to make a significant difference in preference of tactile learning style. However, graduate students differed significantly in tactile and visual learning styles from undergraduate students, possibly due to the low number of graduate participants. Yet, participants differed across disciplines of English literature, translation, and TEFL in only tactile learning style. Post-hoc comparisons indicated higher preference of tactile style for TEFL students. Other investigated variables showed no significant difference. Thus, Iranian language teachers should be considerate and provide various teaching methods and materials selectively to respond to the diverse learning styles of the learners in light of age, gender, and discipline.

Keywords: Perceptual Learning Style Preference, Tertiary EFL Learners, Age, Discipline, Gender.

* E-mail: i.akbarian@qom.ac.ir; ishaaq.akbarian@gmail.com

** E-mail: javadqasemi1@yahoo.com