

The perceptual and organizational styles are seen in combination in a student's inventory. Typical behaviors of these combinations are listed below and on the following page.

Styles Summary

Concrete Sequential

The CS student prefers/enjoys:

- Carrying out tasks in a step-by-step process.
- Planning or organizing his or her time.
- Following directions and working towards 'correct' answers.
- Working within structured environments.
- Being precise, specific, and accurate.
- Performing according to standards.
- Working with facts and concrete information.
- Focusing on details and specific results.
- Creating real, practical products.
- Looking for useful, trustworthy results.

CS students will feel uncomfortable when:

- Choosing from many options.
- Acting without specific directions.
- Not given a full explanation for change.
- Taking new approaches.
- Dealing with opposing views.
- Interpreting abstract views.
- Understanding feelings.
- Waiting or sitting still.
- Answering "what if?" questions.
- Using imaginative expression.

CS Learners are most comfortable when they:

- Have an orderly, quiet environment.
- Know the accepted way of doing things.
- Have exact directions and examples.
- Can be consistent and efficient.
- Face limited change in predictable situations.
- Are given approval for specific work done.
- Can apply ideas in a practical, hands-on way.
- Can answer, "How does this work?"
- Can trust others to follow through.
- Have guided practice with an organized person.

To expand their 'comfort zone' and skills, CS students need to:

- Step back to see the "forest."
- Not react to first impressions.
- Express their own feelings.
- Consider the process used in making products.
- Work with an organized, divergent thinker.
- Hold back the need for immediate answers.
- Request explanations of others' views.
- Set reasonable limits on expectations.
- Accept that their "advice" may go unheeded.
- Value self-worth in addition to accomplishments.

Abstract Sequential

The AS student prefers/enjoys:

- Considering or debating points of view.
- Organizing ideas in a logical manner.
- Thinking in a methodical, structured way.
- Working patiently and methodically when mastering skills.
- Establishing and defending the value or importance of work.
- Forming theories.
- Collecting proofs and researching data.
- Concentrating on finding answers.
- Receiving intellectual recognition.

AS students will feel uncomfortable:

- Expressing emotions in an academic process.
- Working cooperatively through group discussions.
- Writing creatively.
- Doing things that require unusual tasks.
- Playing games and participating in simulations.
- Making or creating physical products.
- Convincing others of their ideas.
- Taking risks.
- Experimenting with open-ended problems.

AS learners are most comfortable when:

- Working with references and expert sources.
- Following traditional procedures.
- Given ample time to learn material thoroughly.
- Asking "why" questions.
- Working with analytical questions and essays.
- Working with lecture notes and written materials.
- Using library research.
- Reading and taking notes.
- Coming to class prepared.

To expand their 'comfort zone' and skills, AS students need to:

- See the lighter side of situations; relax.
- Be less concerned with perfection as an end in itself.
- Gain some perspective on grades.
- Be less judgmental when considering options.
- Develop some comfort with academics and personal feelings.
- Try new experiences and worry less.
- Consider the results of an approach, as well as how "acceptable" the approach appears.