

MYTH PAPER

(Worth 25 points)

Based on your critical reading of the article, “Neuromythologies in education” (Geake, 2008) answer the following questions:

- 1) Research suggests that the VAK Learning Styles myth is most commonly held by students at the college level.
 - a. **What exactly is this brain-based myth?**
 - b. **Why do you think it is the most commonly held misconception for college students?** *Think about college students with whom you’ve interacted. Make sure you explicitly outline the myth (use the article) so the reader understands it.*
- 2) Based on your experiences and critical insight,
 - a. **What barriers to learning have you witnessed (either in yourself or in other college students) that have been the result of students holding this misconception?** *(If you have witnessed no barriers, what potential barriers could there be for learners who hold this misconception?)*
 - b. **What barriers to effective teaching/learning could occur if *teachers* held this misconception?** *Provide concrete evidence and justification for responses to the **student and teacher** questions in this prompt.*
- 3) The scientific research provides evidence to “disprove” these myths, and Geake’s (2008) article provides such evidence.
 - a. Locate 1 additional empirical research article published between 2008 and 2020 that provides additional empirical evidence to disprove the VAK myth. Use the EBSCOhost database to locate your article from a reputable peer-reviewed research journal.
 - b. Describe your method for **how you would attempt to change the students’ beliefs to being more scientifically sound** using specific information from your two sources that is properly cited using APA format? *Provide a concrete plan of action in your response, and make sure to provide specific information from the articles that refute the myth outlined in #1.*

***Empirical research** is research based on experimentation or observation to answer a question and will contain participants and methods for seeking answers to the question(s). You may also locate an article that features a review of the empirical research literature (summarizes a group of empirical work).

Note. Make sure you explicitly talk about the myth and the research that “disproves” the myth in your paper so that a person who knows nothing would understand what you are discussing. Use APA citation and reference rules.

Evaluation is based on quality of ideas, evidence used, and writing mechanics.

TARGET AUDIENCE: A person who knows nothing, so write to educate!

FORMATTING:

- PAGE LENGTH: 2-3
- SPACING: Single
- MARGINS: 1”
- FONT SIZE: 12-point (Times New Roman or Calibri)
- FILE NAME: lastname_firstinitial_myth
- FILE FORMAT: .doc, .docx (must be able to open in Word)

DUE: 11:59 p.m. on the date outlined on the Course Schedule (see syllabus). Please make sure to upload your paper and a pdf version of your research article to the correct links in the ASSIGNMENTS section of our Blackboard course site.

Geake, J. (2008). Neuromythologies in education. *Educational Research*, 50, 123-133. doi: 10.1080/00131880802518

Myth Paper Rubric

Please copy and paste this rubric as the first page of the assignment.

Name:

1. Comprehensiveness	/5
2. Evidence Quality	/12
3. Quality of Research Article	/5
4. Quality of Writing	/2
5. Rubric 1 = complete; 0 = incomplete	/1
TOTAL POINTS	/25

Comments:

GRADING KEY

	Made complete sense.	Had some good points; work is needed to improve.	Did not make sense; revisit instructions or come see me.
	5	3	1
Comprehensiveness <i>To what degree did you fully answer all three questions to the point where a person who knows nothing would understand?</i>	Author answered the questions completely and made the information understandable to a person who knows nothing. Question #1: -Author clearly explains the VAK neuromyth (i.e., what it is with respect to a misconception about the brain and how it typically impacts human behavior – what do people DO because they believe in the myth?) using specific evidence from the research. -Author clearly outlines why they believe the myth is most popular with college students (includes specific evidence from experience). Question #2: -Author clearly outlines specific barriers to learning for students. -Author clearly outlines specific barriers involved if teachers believe myth. Question #3: -Author outlines a specific plan for changing student’s beliefs. Uses specific information from source(s) to help make the case feasible.	Author provided an answer to most of the questions. Most likely missed something listed in the “5 point” cell.	Author did not answer at least two complete questions. Go back to the assignment and review what you were supposed to do.
	12	8	4
Evidence Quality <i>Did you use sound and relevant evidence from the articles to justify your claims so that a person who knows nothing would understand how the evidence logically supports the claims you are making?</i>	Author used appropriate and relevant evidence from both sources and from personal experiences to clearly and logically justify their points and to educate the reader. The information presented clearly illustrated how the brain works and intentionally refuted the myth.	Use of evidence and/or quality of justification was appropriate, but could be improved with additional evidence and/or better justifications. Author likely did not discuss how the brain actually works, but used other evidence to support claims.	Author failed to use appropriate evidence and/or justification for their claims. Go back and review the source(s) again to better your understanding of the material. Write to educate the reader.
	5	3	1
Quality of “Found” Empirical Research Article	Empirical research article was: 1. from a peer-reviewed (credible) journal 2. published between 2008-2020 3. provided evidence to disprove VAK myth from an empirical source(s). <i>Can be a review article with a summary of the empirical literature.</i>	Source did not meet 1 of the 3 criteria	Source did not meet 2 of the 3 criteria
	Excellent Writer	Writing is solid; review for errors.	Slow down; consult the Writing Center
	2	1	0
Quality of Writing	Free from writing mechanic errors. https://catalogue.pearsoned.co.uk/samplechapter/0131428993.pdf Used proper APA formatted parenthetical citations with full reference https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/4/	2-3 errors.	4+ errors

*All “like” errors will be counted as “1” for this paper (e.g., APA, commas