

IELTS reading practice

Multiple choice

7. Read the following passage about 'learning styles'.

The term 'learning styles' refers to a variety of ways of learning. The 'learning styles' theory is based on the observation that most people prefer an identifiable method of interacting with, taking in, and processing stimuli or information. The idea of individualised 'learning styles' originated in the 1970s, and acquired enormous popularity. Proponents say that teachers should assess the learning styles of their students and adapt their classroom methods to best fit each student's preference.

The basis and efficacy of these proposals are extensively criticised. Although children and adults express personal preferences, there is no evidence that identifying a student's learning style produces better outcomes, and there is significant evidence that the hypothesis (that a student will learn best if taught in a method deemed appropriate for his or her learning style) may be invalid.

Choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for questions 1 and 2 below.

1. The idea that people should learn according to their preferred learning style

- A) has influenced all teachers.
- B) became popular around 40 years ago.
- C) has never been disputed.

2. There is no evidence that

- A) people have learning preferences.
- B) the hypothesis might be wrong.
- C) it is beneficial to identify students' preferred learning styles.

