

# **Human Development and Learning**

**Maj/B.Eds-104**



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# Unit 10: Individual Differences



# Individual Differences

- Variations among individuals in regard to a single characteristic or a number of characteristics.
- They differ in physical as well as psychological characteristics. Some of the major areas in which they differ are age, height, weight, sensory and motor powers, intelligence aptitudes or specific abilities, interest, attitudes, appreciations and educational attainments. They also differ in their heredity, family background and environmental influences.

# Types of Individual Differences

These differences may be grouped in two broad categories.

1. Physical differences
2. Psychological differences 

# Conti...

Differences related to...

- Physical growth and development
- Mental growth and development
- Motor skills and abilities 
- Socialization and social development
- Morality and character development
- Aesthetic sense

# Academic Ability Grouping

- Ability grouping is the practice of grouping children together according to their talents in the classroom.
- The two most common forms of ability grouping are:
  1. Within-class grouping - a teacher's practice of putting students of similar ability  into small groups usually for reading or math instruction
  2. Between-class grouping - a school's practice of separating students into different classes, courses, or course sequences (curricular tracks) based on their academic achievement

# Conti..

- Proponents of ability grouping say that the practice allows teachers to tailor the pace and content of instruction much better to students' needs and, improve student achievement. For example, teachers can provide needed repetition and reinforcement for low-achieving students and an advanced level of instruction to high achievers.

# Differences in Learning and Thinking Styles

- Thinking is a part of Learning. Thinking is a “part” concept but Learning is a “whole” concept. Thinking is a process for learning.
- Learning style is how you receive information best.
  1. auditory 
  2. Visual
  3. kinesthetic
- Thinking style is how you process information best.
  1. Linear Thinkers
  2. Global Thinkers

# Effects of Individual Differences on Learning

- There are three types of individual differences which effects on learning
  1. Socioeconomic status
  2. Thinking/Learning style 
  3. Exceptionalities

# Conti...

## **Socioeconomic Status**

- The millionaires' lifestyle differs from that of the middle income or lower income group. This lifestyle affects student's learning.

## **Thinking/Learning Style**

- Some of you learn better  by seeing something; others by just listening; and others learn by doing.

## **Exceptionalities**

- In class there maybe one who has difficulty in spoken language comprehension or in seeing, hearing, etc.