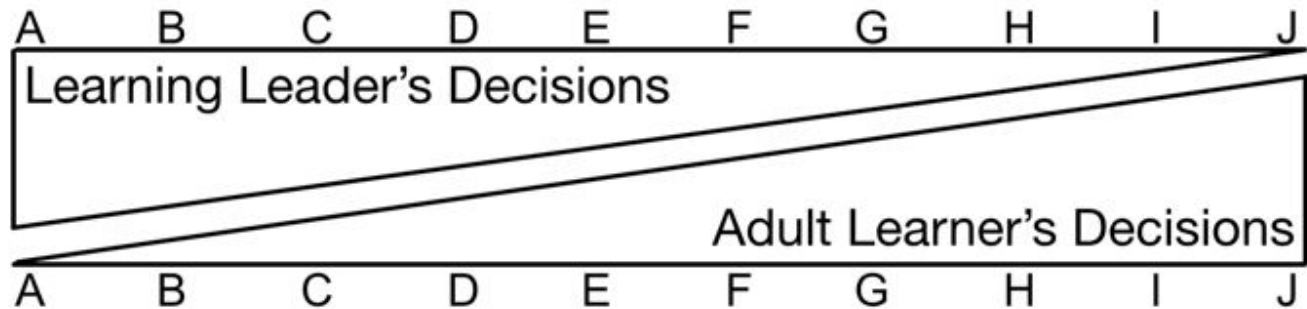


Spectrum of Teaching Styles

Teaching and learning are based on decision making – What to teach/learn? When to teach/learn? How to present/acquire the ideas/skills etc? At one end of the spectrum, the Learning Leader (LL) makes all of the decisions at the other end, the Adult Learner (AL). In between are a range of styles that can be used.

At Style A, the LL is making the most decisions and the AL the least. By Style J, the AL has moved to making the most decisions and the LL the least:



Learning Leaders get better results when they choose a particular style based on (a) intended learning outcomes, (b) teaching context and environment; and (c) adult learner's stage.

REPRODUCTION

Style A Command – Learning Leader (LL) makes all decisions

Style B Practice – Adult Learners (ALs) complete tasks assigned by LL

Style C Reciprocal – ALs work in pairs: one AL performs, the other provides feedback

Style D Self-check – ALs assess their own performance against set criteria

Style E Inclusion – Planned by LL who has alternative levels of difficulty for ALs

PRODUCTION

Style F Guided Discovery – LL designs learning ALs uncover

Style G Convergent Discovery – LL gives a problem and ALs solve it correctly

Style H Divergent Discovery – LL gives a problem and ALs find their own solutions

Style I Individual Program – LL determines content; ALs plan the program

Style J Learner Initiated – ALs takes full responsibility for the learning process

CONSIDERATIONS:

- No style is right or wrong
- The framework is meant to enable understanding and improve practice
- A pick and mix approach is advocated
- However, most effective learning takes place at the learner-led end of the spectrum