Learning Approach Questionnaire - items and scale structure

Dan Murphy
University of Melbourne

Responses given on 5 point Likert scale. Items should be arranged in random order.

Never or only rarely true of me = 1

Sometimes true of me = 2

True of me about half the time = 3

Frequently true of me = 4

Always or almost always true of me = 5

Scale scores are sum of responses to eight items comprising each scale.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Deep approach** | **Surface Approach** |
| I try to relate what I have learned in one subject to what I learn in other subjects. | I see no point in learning material which is not likely to be in the examination. |
| I like constructing theories to fit odd things together. | I prefer subjects in which I have to learn just facts to ones which require a lot of reading and understanding material |
| I work hard at my studies because I find the material interesting. | I find it is not helpful to study topics in depth. You don’t really need to know much in order to get by in most topics. |
| I try to relate new material, as I am reading it, to what I already know on that topic. | I like to be told precisely what to do in assignments. |
| I feel that nearly any topic can be highly interesting once I get into it. | I find I can get by in most assessment by memorising key sections rather than trying tounderstand them. |
| When I read a textbook, I try to understand what the author means. | I think that teachers shouldn’t expect secondary students to work on topics that are outside the set course. |
| I come to most classes with questions in mind that I want answering. | As long as I feel I am doing enough to pass, I devote as little time to studying as I can. There are many more interesting things to do. |
| I like to do enough work on a topic so that I can form my own conclusions before I amsatisfied. | I generally restrict my study to what is specifically set as I think it is unnecessary to doanything extra. |