

Fast surfers, Broad scanners & Deep divers
as learners, innovators, and information seekers

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Learning, seeking & innovating

- theoretical framework
- material and method
- results
 - Fast surfers
 - Broad scanners
 - Deep divers
- conclusions

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Personality

“Personality is that pattern of characteristic thoughts, feelings, and behaviours that distinguishes one person from another and that persists over time and situation”

(Phares, 1991, p. 4)

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Five central dimensions

- emotional stability – instability
- extraversion – introversion
- openness – conservativeness
- agreeableness – competitiveness
- conscientiousness – easy-goingness

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Approach to studying

- Surface: extrinsically motivated, syllabus-bound
- Deep: intrinsically motivated, interested
- Strategic: achievement-oriented, organized

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Uncertainty orientation

Welcoming new situations

- openness to experience
- curiosity
- intrinsic motivation
- self-reliance

Avoiding uncertainty

- cautiousness
- feelings of threat
- extrinsic motivation
- outcomes beyond own control

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Innovators & adaptors

Innovators

- Creative
- Extraverted
- Confident

- Goal: develop new

Adaptors

- Dogmatic
- Introverted
- Anxious

- Goal: improve old

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Material and method

Respondents:

- 305 university students
- 27 mature students
- 574 students, grade 6 to 12

Instruments:

- NEO Five-Factor Inventory
- ASSIST
- Information seeking questionnaire

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Fast surfing

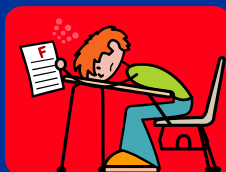
- Little effort
- Easily available material
- Problems with critical evaluation and relevance judgment



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Behind fast surfing

- Low motivation
- Low conscientiousness
- Insecurity, worry



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Broad scanning

- *Wide information seeking*
- *Critical analysis*
- *Incidental information acquisition*



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Behind broad scanning

- *Openness to experience*
- *Extraversion*
- *Competitiveness*



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Deep diving

- **Organized information seeking**
- **Effort and persistence**
- **High quality information**



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Behind deep diving

- **Conscientiousness**
- **Achievement-orientation**
- **Deep strategic study approach**



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Learning, seeking & innovating

- Fast surfing barriers: low motivation, boredom, insecurity, worry, idleness
- Broad scanning enablers: openness, creativity, curiosity, enjoyment
- Deep diving enablers: ambition, dedication, persistence, effort

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Conclusions

- Personality and study approach do influence information behaviour
- Psychological aspects important to consider in students' learning and information seeking

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