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## What is Learning

## **Definitions of Learning**

There is no single accepted definition of learning, since it depends on one's point of view<sup>1)</sup>. Some of the definitions we found useful are listed here.

## Learning is:

- a visible change in one's behavior which can be measured<sup>2)</sup>
- the active process of acquisition (including insight, information processing, memory, perception) of new knowledge and developing adequate mental constructions<sup>3)</sup>
- a natural desire of human beings, a mean of self-actualization and developing personal potentials<sup>4)</sup>
- an active, socially enhanced process of knowledge construction based on one's own subjective interpretation of the objective reality<sup>5)</sup>
- the process of connecting to information sources containing actionable knowledge and maintaining those connections<sup>6)</sup>
- "acquiring new or modifying existing knowledge, behaviors, skills, values, or preferences and may involve synthesizing different types of information." <sup>7)</sup>
- "all relatively permanent changes in potential for behavior that result from experience but are not due to fatigue, maturation, drugs, injury, or disease."
- "a relatively permanent change in behavior due to experience. This refers to a change in behavior, an external change that we can observe." <sup>9)</sup>
- "a relatively permanent change in mental associations due to experience. This definition focuses on a change in mental associations, an internal change that we cannot observe." 10)

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See: Learning paradigms
2)
See: Behaviorism.
3)
See: Cognitivism.
4)
See: Humanism.
5)
See: Constructivism.
6)
See: Connectivism.
7)
Wikipedia: Learning. Retrieved September 6th, 2011. Updated August 11th, 2011.
8)
Lefrancois, G. R. Theories of Human Learning: What the Old Man Said. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thompson Learning. 2000.
9)
Behaviorist definition. Ormrod, J.E. Human learning (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. 1999.
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Ormrod, J.E. Human learning (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. 1999.

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