

# What is Learning

## Definitions of Learning

There is **no single accepted definition of learning**, since it depends on one's point of view. Most commonly accepted **learning paradigms** suggest learning is:

- a visible change in one's behavior which can be measured<sup>1)</sup>
- the active process of acquisition (including insight, information processing, memory, perception) of new knowledge and developing adequate mental constructions<sup>2)</sup>
- a natural desire of human beings, a mean of self-actualization and developing personal potentials<sup>3)</sup>
- an active, socially enhanced process of knowledge construction based on one's own subjective interpretation of the objective reality<sup>4)</sup>
- the process of connecting to information sources containing actionable knowledge and maintaining those connections<sup>5)</sup>

Some **other definitions** of learning we found useful are listed here:

- *"acquiring new or modifying existing knowledge, behaviors, skills, values, or preferences and may involve synthesizing different types of information."*<sup>6)</sup>
- *"the activity or process of gaining knowledge or skill by studying, practicing, being taught, or experiencing something: the activity of someone who learns."*<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."*<sup>8)</sup>
- *"a relatively permanent change in mental associations due to experience."*<sup>9)</sup>

1)

See: [Behaviorism](#).

2)

See: [Cognitivism](#).

3)

See: [Humanism](#).

4)

See: [Constructivism](#).

5)

See: [Connectivism](#).

6)

[Wikipedia: Learning](#). Retrieved September 6th, 2011. Updated August 11th, 2011.

7)

[Merriam-Webster Learner's Dictionary: Learning](#). Retrieved September 6th, 2011.

8)

[Lefrancois, G. R. Theories of Human Learning: What the Old Man Said](#). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thompson Learning. 2000.

9)

[Ormrod, J.E. Human learning \(3rd ed.\)](#). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. 1999.

From:

<https://www.learning-theories.org/> - **Learning Theories**

Permanent link:

[https://www.learning-theories.org/doku.php?id=what\\_is\\_learning&rev=1315381785](https://www.learning-theories.org/doku.php?id=what_is_learning&rev=1315381785)

Last update: **2023/06/19 15:49**

