



### What is dyslexia?

The school system is stacked against dyslexics, “real world” thinkers, who use mainly pictures and concepts instead of mental sentences.

Their reactions to the external world are surprising, unless we put some effort to understand them.

Each person with dyslexia are different.



They have difficulties  
reading, spelling;  
with dysgraphia (mechanics of writing: gripping a pen, handwriting, spacing,  
organising thoughts on paper)  
dyscalculia.

Schooling = *linear thinking*,  
individuals with dyslexia *think holistically, divergently*,

reading and writing = linear



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Learners might guess the right mathematical result instantly, without demonstrating the way they have worked out the result.

Persons with dyslexia are burdened by the impact of their negative school experiences

It is believed that dyslexia is only a school problem. But this is not the case. The focus should be on the talents of workers!



Credit: Fondation Henri Cartier Bresson

Only difficulties are approached during schooling and perceived in the workplace; dysgraphia, dyscalculia, *dyspraxia*. *Less often talents*.

Many low-educated workers who have not completed their primary education have dyslexia.

## What do they say?

“I have difficulties estimating measurements in my head. My mother tongue is OK, but I’m terrible at mathematics. I write numbers the wrong way round. I never know if I have to do additions or subtractions and I have to use my fingers for that. My short-term memory is dreadful as well.”

“I have never had a job longer than a few months. Each time, I was dismissed because they thought I was a slow learner because I could not understand and that made me nervous and embarrassed”

“I have difficulties with tests, unfamiliar fonts, reading aloud. I read better texts on some topic than others”. “I have poor handwriting”. “I rely on others for assistance”.



Credit Slovenian U3A

Many people with dyslexia have problems explaining their arguments, so they often create conflicts, making other people nervous and intolerant.

Each person with dyslexia is different, and their learning strategies are diverse, most of the times surprising.

## Check Your Understanding, True, false?

1. People with dyslexia are often not easy to work with.
2. People with dyslexia are often innovative.
3. People with dyslexia are not good at problem-solving.

