

MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES

What springs to mind when you hear the word 'intelligence'? What does it mean to you? Hold that thought!

Most people think that intelligence means that someone is 'clever' – that they are good at maths, solving puzzles or inventing something life changing.

Although all these things DO come under the banner of intelligence, there are many more factors which make up intelligence.

I want you to have a think and write down two more examples of anything else which might be considered 'intelligence'. Hold onto your answers as we will be going back to them later.

(ACTIVITY – writing down two more ideas of intelligence)

How easy did you find that task?

Has anyone ever heard of an IQ test? Can anyone tell me what it is? Has anyone ever taken one?

According to Mensa, the High IQ Society, the term IQ usually refers to 'the attempt to measure a person's mental agility'.

IQ stands for Intelligence Quotient.

But research has shown that these tests may not be completely reliable when it comes to testing intelligence – depending on what intelligence actually IS! Confused yet? That just means you are smart – because you are questioning and thinking!

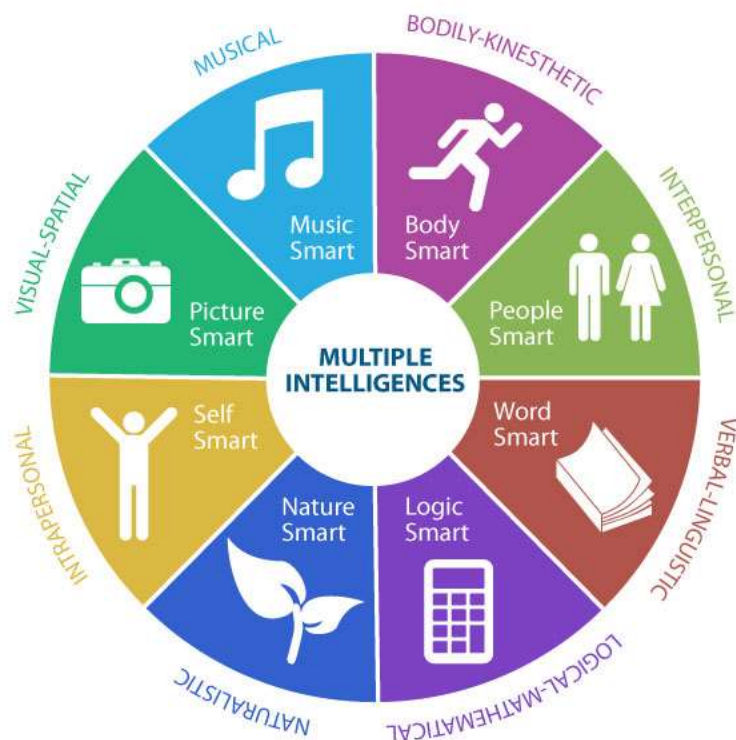
A professor at Harvard University in America, Howard Gardner has a theory that there are 'multiple intelligences'. Can anybody guess what that means?

First of all, I want you to think about your strong points. It doesn't matter what it is, don't think about what you are NOT so good at...think about what you ARE good at. Chances are, it comes under 'intelligence'!

Are you musical? Good with numbers? Languages? Are you practical? Do you learn better by doing as opposed to reading? Are you good at making new friends? Inventing things? New ideas?

We are ALL intelligent somehow! Way more so than we think.

Look at this diagram...



His theory is that there are at least 8 different kinds of intelligence.

1. Musical
2. Visual Spatial
3. Verbal Linguistic
4. Logical Mathematical
5. Bodily-kinesthetic
6. Interpersonal
7. Intrapersonal
8. Naturalistic

Sounds like an exhausting list! But let's take them one at a time...

Musical – How sensitive are you to sounds and rhythm? People with high musical intelligence normally have good pitch and can sing, play instruments and compose music. Could this be you? If not, don't worry...how about...

Visual Spatial – How good are you at using your mind's eye? How aware are you of your surroundings? Strangely enough, you need a certain type of intelligence to be good at this.

Verbal-Linguistic – are you good at writing stories? Do you pick up languages easily? This is a form of intelligence!

Logical-Mathematical – we mentioned this briefly before and a lot of people think of this first when they hear the word intelligence. If you are good at logic, puzzle solving, maths, critical things and understanding principles, then...yes! You are intelligent!

Bodily-kinesthetic – Are you good at sports? Dancing? Acting? Making things? This means you have good control of your bodily motions and the ability to handle objects skilfully. Intelligent you!

Interpersonal – How do you react when a friend cries? Or is angry? Would you say you are sensitive to the way people are feeling? You may not think this is 'intelligence' but it most definitely IS. You tend to communicate effectively and empathize (feel for people) and this is a vital life skill and a sign of intelligence.

Intrapersonal – How much do you understand yourself? When you behave a certain way, do you question why? Try to understand why? Do you know your strengths and weaknesses? This is a real skill to have and shows that you are...yes...intelligent!

Naturalistic – Do you feel particularly close to nature? Have an appreciation for plants, animals? Have an awareness of your natural surroundings and use them constructively, such as gardening, keeping animals, collecting rocks and shells? This is a high form of ecological and ethical sensitivity and shows a certain intelligence.

Research has now shown that the way we learn needs to be expanded to make the most of everyone's different intelligence. Now – this is not an excuse to get out of doing exams – they are an important test of what you have learned! But there ARE other ways. Now I want you to write down at least one new way of

learning under each of the above titles and how a particular method of learning DOES and those which DON'T work for YOU!

Now I want you to get into groups of 8 – each one representing a slice of the intelligence 'pie'. Choose the slice closest to your type of intelligence and all work together on this task.... So now – let's get thinking!

The Theme is CITY.

Visual – create a mural of the city

Spatial – build parts of a city such as a shop or office building

Linguistic – what languages are spoken in your city? Write a story about it

Musical – how does your city sound? Describe the noises – traffic, street musicians, chatter

Body/Kinesthetic – Describe a virtual walk around your city

Maths – work out a local budget for an event in your city

Logic/problem solving – There is too much rubbish building up in your city.

Think of a solution or invent your own problem and solution.

Interpersonal – you are a local councillor. How do you reach out to the people living in your city?

Intrapersonal – Imagine you ARE the city. What do you think and feel for your residents?

Naturalistic – How can you extend the parks and rivers in your city and encourage wildlife?