



What are Multiple Intelligences?

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It has been claimed by some researchers that our intelligence or ability to understand the world around us is complex. Some people are better at understanding some things than others.

For some of us it is relatively easy to understand how a flower grows but it is immensely difficult for us to understand and use a musical instrument. For others music might be easy but playing football is difficult.

Instead of having one intelligence it is claimed that we have several different intelligences. These are listed below:

Kinaesthetic - Body Smart	Linguistic - Word Smart
Logical - Number Smart	Interpersonal - People Smart
Intrapersonal - Myself Smart	Musical - Music Smart
Visual/Spatial - Picture Smart	Naturalistic - Nature Smart

What special intelligences do you have? You can find out by **answering a few simple questions**.

Kinaesthetic - Body Smart

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You may be body smart. You will enjoy sports and are good at swimming, athletics, gymnastics and other sports. This is sometimes called being Kinaesthetic smart.

Linguistic - Word Smart

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You may be word smart. You will enjoy reading, writing and talking about things. This is sometimes called being Linguistic smart.

Logical - Number Smart

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You may be number smart. You will be good at mathematics and other number activities; you are also good at solving problems. This is sometimes called being Logical smart.

Interpersonal - People Smart

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You may be people smart. You will like to mix with other people and you will belong to lots of clubs. You like team games and are good at sharing. This is sometimes called being Interpersonal smart.

Intrapersonal - Myself Smart

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You may be myself smart. You will know about yourself and your strengths and weaknesses. You will probably keep a diary. This is sometimes called being Intrapersonal smart.

Musical - Music Smart

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You may be music smart. You will enjoy music and can recognise sounds, and timbre, or the quality of a tone. This is sometimes called being Musical smart.

Visual/Spatial - Picture Smart

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You may be picture smart. You will be good at art and also good at other activities where you look at pictures like map reading, finding your way out of mazes and graphs. This is sometimes called being Visual/Spatial smart.

Naturalistic - Nature Smart

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You may be nature smart. You will like the world of plants and animals and enjoy learning about them. This is sometimes called being Naturalistic smart.

GARDNER'S EIGHT CRITERIA

For Identifying an Intelligence

*"Intelligence is the ability to find and solve problems
and create products of value in one's own culture."*

-Dr. Howard Gardner

Harvard University

- 1. Isolation as a Brain Function** - as medicine studies isolated brain functions through cases of brain injury and degenerative disease, we are able to identify actual physiological locations for specific brain functions. A true intelligence will have its function identified in a specific location in the human brain.
- 2. Prodigies, Idiot Savantes and Exceptional Individuals** - human record of genius such as Mozart being able to perform on the piano at the age of four and Dustin Hoffman's "Rainman" character being able to calculate dates accurately down to the day of the week indicate that there are specific human abilities which can demonstrate themselves to high degrees in unique cases. Highly developed examples of a true intelligence are recorded in rare occurrences.
- 3. Set of Core Operations** - there is an identifiable set of procedures and practices which are unique to each true intelligence.
- 4. Developmental History with an Expert End Performance** - as clinical psychologists continue to study the developmental stages of human growth and learning, a clear pattern of developmental history is being documented of the human mind. A true intelligence has an identifiable set of stages of growth with a Mastery Level which exists as an end state in human development. We can see examples of people who have reached the Mastery level for each intelligence.
- 5. Evolutionary History** - as cultural anthropologists continue to study the history of human evolution, there is adequate evidence that our species has developed intelligence over time through human experience. A true intelligence can have its development traced through the evolution of homo sapiens.
- 6. Supported Psychological Tasks** - clinical psychologists can identify sets of tasks for different domains of human behavior. A true intelligence can be identified by specific tasks which can be carried out, observed and measured.
- 7. Supported Psychometric Tasks** - the use of psychometric instruments to measure intelligence (such as I.Q. tests) have traditionally been used to measure only specific types of ability. However, these tests can be designed and used to identify and quantify true unique intelligences. The Multiple Intelligence theory does not reject psychometric testing for specific scientific study.
- 8. Encoded into a Symbol System** - humans have developed many kinds of symbol systems over time for varied disciplines. A true intelligence has its own set of images it uses which are unique to itself and are important in completing its identified set of tasks.