

Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences

Where Does Your True Intelligence Lie?

This quiz will help you identify your areas of strongest intelligence. Read each statement. If it expresses some characteristic of yours and sounds true for the most part, jot down a "T". If it doesn't, mark an "F". If the statement is sometimes true, sometimes false, leave it blank.

1. ___ I'd rather draw a map than give someone verbal directions.
2. ___ If I am angry or happy, I usually know exactly why.
3. ___ I can play (or used to play) a musical instrument.
4. ___ I can associate music with my moods.
5. ___ I can add or multiply quickly in my head.
6. ___ I can help a friend sort out strong feelings because I successfully dealt with similar feelings myself.
7. ___ I like to work with calculators and computers.
8. ___ I pick up new dance steps fast.
9. ___ It is easy for me to say what I think in an argument or debate.
10. ___ I enjoy a good lecture, speech, or sermon.
11. ___ I always know north from south no matter where I am.
12. ___ I like to gather together groups of people for parties of special events.
13. ___ Life seems empty without music.
14. ___ I always understand the drawings that come with new gadgets or appliances.
15. ___ I like to work puzzles and play games.
16. ___ Learning to ride a bike (or skates) was easy.
17. ___ I am irritated when I hear an argument or statement that sounds illogical.
18. ___ I can convince other people to follow my plans.
19. ___ My sense of balance and coordination is good.
20. ___ I often see patterns and relationships between numbers faster and easier than others do.
21. ___ I enjoy building models (or sculpting).
22. ___ I'm good at finding the fine points of word meanings.
23. ___ I can look at an object one way and see it turned sideways or backwards just as easily.
24. ___ I often connect a piece of music with some event in my life.
25. ___ I like to work with numbers and figures.
26. ___ I like to sit quietly and reflect on my inner feelings.
27. ___ Just looking at shapes of buildings and structures is pleasurable to me.
28. ___ I like to hum, whistle, and sing in the shower or when I'm alone.
29. ___ I'm good at athletics.
30. ___ I enjoy writing detailed letters to friends.
31. ___ I'm usually aware of the expression on my face.
32. ___ I'm sensitive to the expressions on other people's faces.
33. ___ I stay "in touch" with my moods. I have no trouble identifying them.

34. ____ I am sensitive to the moods of others.
 35. ____ I have a good sense of what others think of me.

Scoring Sheet

Circle each item which you marked as "True". Add your totals. A total of four in any of the categories indicates strong ability.

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.
9	5	1	8	3	2	12
10	7	11	16	4	6	18
17	15	14	19	13	26	32
22	20	23	21	24	31	34
30	25	27	29	28	33	35

Totals ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

A = _____ intelligence

B = _____ intelligence

C = _____ intelligence

D = _____ intelligence

E = _____ intelligence

F = _____ intelligence

G = _____ intelligence

- A = linguistic
- B = logical-mathematical
- C = visual-spatial
- D = bodily kinesthetic
- E = musical
- F = intrapersonal
- G = interpersonal

What does it mean?

Taken from: <http://www.infed.org/thinkers/gardner.htm>

“Howard Gardner initially formulated a list of seven intelligences. His listing was provisional. The first two have been typically valued in schools; the next three are usually associated with the arts; and the final two are what Howard Gardner called 'personal intelligences' (Gardner 1999: 41-43).

Linguistic intelligence involves sensitivity to spoken and written language, the ability to learn languages, and the capacity to use language to accomplish certain goals. This intelligence includes the ability to effectively use language to express oneself rhetorically or poetically; and language as a means to remember information. Writers, poets, lawyers and speakers are among those that Howard Gardner sees as having high linguistic intelligence.

Logical-mathematical intelligence consists of the capacity to analyze problems logically, carry out mathematical operations, and investigate issues scientifically. In Howard Gardner's words, it entails the ability to detect patterns, reason deductively and think logically. This intelligence is most often associated with scientific and mathematical thinking.

Musical intelligence involves skill in the performance, composition, and appreciation of musical patterns. It encompasses the capacity to recognize and compose musical pitches, tones, and rhythms. According to Howard Gardner musical intelligence runs in an almost structural parallel to linguistic intelligence.

Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence entails the potential of using one's whole body or parts of the body to solve problems. It is the ability to use mental abilities to coordinate bodily movements. Howard Gardner sees mental and physical activity as related.

Spatial intelligence involves the potential to recognize and use the patterns of wide space and more confined areas.

Interpersonal intelligence is concerned with the capacity to understand the intentions, motivations and desires of other people. It allows people to work effectively with others. Educators, salespeople, religious and political leaders and counselors all need a well-developed interpersonal intelligence.

Intrapersonal intelligence entails the capacity to understand oneself, to appreciate one's feelings, fears and motivations. In Howard Gardner's view it involves having an effective working model of ourselves, and to be able to use such information to regulate our lives.

In *Frames of Mind* Howard Gardner treated the personal intelligences 'as a piece'. Because of their close association in most cultures, they are often linked together. However, he still argues that it makes sense to think of two forms of personal

intelligence. Gardner claimed that the seven intelligences rarely operate independently. They are used at the same time and tend to complement each other as people develop skills or solve problems.

In essence Howard Gardner argued that he was making two essential claims about multiple intelligences. That:

The theory is an account of human cognition in its fullness. The intelligences provided 'a new definition of human nature, cognitively speaking' (Gardner 1999: 44). Human beings are organisms who possess a basic set of intelligences.

People have a unique blend of intelligences. Howard Gardner argues that the big challenge facing the deployment of human resources 'is how to best take advantage of the uniqueness conferred on us as a species exhibiting several intelligences' (*ibid.*: 45).

These intelligences, according to Howard Gardner, are amoral - they can be put to constructive or destructive use.”