

Multiple Intelligences

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Multiple Intelligences

“An intelligence is the ability to solve problems or to create products, that are valued within one or more cultural settings”[3]



Howard Gardner (1983)
from FRAMES OF MIND

What is the Theory of Multiple Intelligences?

- Gardner's (1983, 1993, 2000) theory of multiple intelligences “defines intelligence in terms of distinct sets of processing operations that permit individuals to engage in a wide range of culturally valued activities” (Berk, 2010, p. 456).
 - Gardner also claimed that we have several different ways of processing information, or different intelligences, and these are relatively independent of one another.
- Researchers suggest that our intelligence or ability to understand the world around us is complex. Some people are better at understanding some things than others.
 - For example, one may find it is easy to understand how a flower grows, but it is difficult to understand and use a musical instrument. For others, music might be easy but playing football is difficult.

Theory of Multiple Intelligences

- Gardner thought that each intelligence had a “unique biological basis, a distinct course of development, and different expert or end-state performances” (Berk, 2010, p. 456).
 - However, he did recognize that a great of learning (e.g. practice, study) was necessary to turn raw talent into a skill.
 - Cultural values and opportunities for learning influence this transition

Why are Multiple Intelligences Useful?

The multiple intelligences concepts offer relatively simple and accessible methods to understand and explain people's preferred ways to learn and develop. [4]

Theory of Multiple Intelligences

The 8 Intelligences

ORGANIZATION

1. **Linguistic Intelligence:** Kelly
2. **Intrapersonal Intelligence:** Kelly
3. **Interpersonal Intelligence:** Husam
4. **Logical/Mathematical Intelligence:** Husam
5. **Musical Rhythmic Intelligence:** Jenna
6. **Bodily/Kinesthetic Intelligence:** Jenna
7. **Spatial Intelligence:** Cynthia
8. **Naturalist Intelligence:** Cynthia

Linguistic - Word Smart

- “Sensitivity to the sounds, rhythms, and meaning of words and the functions of language” (Berk, 2010, p. 456).
- Have well-developed auditory skills and often ‘think’ in words.
- Enjoy reading, word games, writing poetry or stories.

Tools for both teaching and learning might include: reading books together, encouraging them to say and see words. Tools include computers, games, multimedia, books, tape recorders, and lecture.

Intrapersonal

- “Ability to discriminate complex inner feelings and use them to guide one’s behaviour; knowledge of one’s own strengths, weaknesses desires, and intelligences” (Berk, 2010, p. 456).
- Tends to shy away from others; are the most independent of the learners.

Tools for Teaching and Learning might include: independent study and introspection. Tools include books, creative materials, diaries, privacy and time.

Interpersonal - People Smart

- Able to relate to others
- They have many friends
- Empathy for others
- Belong to lots of clubs
- They like team games and are good at sharing

These students learn through interaction. They can be taught through group activities, seminars, and dialogues.

Continued - Interpersonal

Tools for Teaching and Learning:

the telephone, audio conferencing, time and attention from the instructor, video conferencing, writing, computer conferencing, E-mail. [1]

Typical role: therapists, HR professionals, mediators, leaders, counsellors, politicians, educators, advertising professionals, coaches and mentors. [4]

Logical - Number Smart

- Think conceptually, abstractly.
- Are able to see and explore patterns and relationships
- Are good at mathematics and other number activities.
They like to experiment, solve puzzles
- Understand the relationship between cause and effect towards a tangible outcome or result

They can be taught through logic games, investigations, and mysteries. They need to learn and form concepts before they can deal with details.

Continued- Logical

Tools for Teaching and Learning:

logic games, investigations, mysteries. They need to learn and form concepts before they can deal with details. [1]

Typical role: scientists, engineers, computer experts, accountants, statisticians, researchers, analysts, traders, insurance brokers, negotiators, deal-makers, trouble-shooters, directors. [4]

Kinaesthetic - Body Smart

“...use the body effectively, like a dancer or a surgeon. Keen sense of body awareness. They like movement, making things, touching. They communicate well through body language and be taught through physical activity, hands-on learning, acting out, role playing. **Tools include equipment and real objects.**” [1]

Musical - Music Smart

“...show sensitivity to rhythm and sound. They love music, but they are also sensitive to sounds in their environments. They may study better with music in the background. They can be taught by turning lessons into lyrics, speaking rhythmically, tapping out time. **Tools include musical instruments, music, radio, stereo, CD-ROM, multimedia.**”[1]

Visual/Spatial - Picture Smart

Visual/Spatial learners think in terms of physical space, much like an architect. They are very aware of their environments.

Tools for teaching and learning might include:

charts, photos and drawings, 3-D modeling, video, videoconferencing, multimedia, texts with pictures/charts/graphs. [1]

Naturalistic - Nature Smart

The naturalistic learner has a relationship with the natural environment (nature).

He or she is able to discriminate among living things (such as plants and animals), and has a sensitivity to features in the natural world.

Teaching and learning tools might include:

naturalistic observation, classification and comparison, working outdoors in natural environments, “hands- on” practice.

What do multiple intelligences have to do with my classroom?

The next time you have a chance to reflect on your class, imagine your students as individuals who have fully realized and developed their intelligences. [3]

TEST YOUR INTELLIGENCE

<http://www.businessballs.com/howardgardnermultipleintelligences.htm> [4]

- Launch the website
- Select Free Multiple Intelligences Tests
- Select the first Free Multiple Intelligences Test
- An Excel self calculating format file will come up
- Take the test

References

- [1] <http://www.tecweb.org/styles/gardner.html>
- [2] http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks3/ict/multiple_int/what.cfm
- [3] <http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/mi/index.html>
- [4] <http://www.businessballs.com/howardgardnermultipleintelligences.ht>
- [5] <http://howardgardner.com/multiple-intelligences>