



The theory of multiple intelligences was developed in 1983 by Dr. Howard Gardner, professor of education at Harvard University. It suggests that the traditional notion of intelligence, based on I.Q. testing, is far too limited. Instead, Dr. Gardner proposes eight different intelligences to account for a broader range of human potential in children and adults. These intelligences are:

- **Linguistic intelligence** ("word smart"):
- **Logical-mathematical intelligence** ("number/reasoning smart")
- **Spatial intelligence** ("picture smart")
- **Bodily-Kinesthetic intelligence** ("body smart")
- **Musical intelligence** ("music smart")
- **Interpersonal intelligence** ("people smart")
- **Intrapersonal intelligence** ("self smart")
- **Naturalist intelligence** ("nature smart")

Dr. Gardner says that our schools and culture focus _____ of their attention on linguistic and logical-mathematical intelligence. We _____ the highly articulate or logical people of our culture. _____, Dr. Gardner says that we should also place equal attention _____ individuals who show gifts in the other intelligences: the _____, architects, musicians, naturalists, designers, dancers, therapists, entrepreneurs, and others _____ enrich the world in which we live. Unfortunately, many _____ who have these gifts don't receive much reinforcement for _____ in school. Many of these kids, in fact, end _____ being labeled "learning disabled," "ADD (attention deficit disorder)," or simply underachievers, _____ their unique ways of thinking and learning aren't addressed _____ a heavily linguistic or logical-mathematical classroom.

The theory _____ multiple intelligences proposes a major transformation in the way _____ schools are run. It suggests that teachers be trained to _____ their lessons in a wide variety of ways _____ music, cooperative learning, art activities, role play, multimedia, field trips, inner reflection, and _____ more (see [Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom](#)). The good news is that the theory of multiple intelligences has _____ the attention of many educators around the country, and _____ of schools are currently using its philosophy to redesign _____ way it educates children. The bad news is that _____ are thousands of schools still out there that teach _____ the same old dull way, through dry lectures, and _____ worksheets and textbooks. The challenge is to get this information _____ to many more teachers, school administrators, and others who _____ with children, so that each child has the opportunity _____ learn in ways harmonious with their unique minds (see [In Their Own Way](#)).



Check your answers

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- ◆ **Linguistic intelligence** ("word smart"):
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Dr. Gardner says that our schools and culture focus most of their attention on linguistic and logical-mathematical intelligence. We esteem the highly articulate or logical people of our culture. However, Dr. Gardner says that we should also place equal attention on individuals who show gifts in the other intelligences: the artists, architects, musicians, naturalists, designers, dancers, therapists, entrepreneurs, and others who enrich the world in which we live. Unfortunately, many children who have these gifts don't receive much reinforcement for them in school. Many of these kids, in fact, end up being labeled "learning disabled," "ADD (attention deficit disorder)," or simply underachievers, when their unique ways of thinking and learning aren't addressed by a heavily linguistic or logical-mathematical classroom. The theory of multiple intelligences proposes a major transformation in the way our schools are run. It suggests that teachers be trained to present their lessons in a wide variety of ways using music, cooperative learning, art activities, role play, multimedia, field trips, inner reflection, and much more (see [Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom](#)). The good news is that the theory of multiple intelligences has grabbed the attention of many educators around the country, and hundreds of schools are currently using its philosophy to redesign the way it educates children. The bad news is that there are thousands of schools still out there that teach in the same old dull way, through dry lectures, and boring worksheets and textbooks. The challenge is to get this information out to many more teachers, school administrators, and others who work with children, so that each child has the opportunity to learn in ways harmonious with their unique minds (see [In Their Own Way](#)).

Talking points

- What do you think of the idea of multiple intelligences?
- Could this idea help you and your learning?
- Looking back on your education, what kind of teaching did you encounter?