

Theory of Multiple Intelligences

Multiple intelligences is a theory first- posited by Harvard developmental psychologist Howard Gardner in 1983 that suggests human intelligence can be differentiated into eight modalities: visual, verbal-linguistic, musical-rhythmic, logical-mathematical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalistic and bodily-kinesthetic. While a person might be particularly strong in a specific area, such as musical intelligence, he or she most-likely possesses a range of abilities. For example, an individual might be strong in verbal, musical and naturalistic intelligence.

Date: _____ YOUVA _____

Gardner's theory has come under criticism from both psychologists and educators. These critics argue that Gardner's definition of intelligence is too broad and that his eight different "intelligences" simply represent talents, personality traits, and abilities. Gardner's theory also suffers from a lack of supporting empirical research. Despite this, the theory of multiple intelligence enjoys considerable popularity with educators. Many teachers utilize multiple intelligences in their teaching philosophies and hard work to integrate Gardner's theory into the classroom. His work with multiple intelligences allows students to realize their strengths in learning and gives teachers the opportunity to understand the

dynamics of the classroom. This theory challenged the traditional notion that there is one single type of intelligence, sometimes known as "g" for general intelligence, that only focuses on cognitive abilities.