

Concept of intelligence

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By:-MRS.RINKI KUMARI

DEPTT.OF EDUCATION

MMHA&PU,PATNA

HISTORY OF INTELLIGENCE

- Intelligence is derived from a Latin word “inter-legere”(pick out).
- Intellectus became the medieval technical term of understanding.
- This entire approach to the study of nature was strongly rejected by early modern philosophers.
- All the philosophers preferred the word “Understanding” in their English philosophical works.



WHAT IS INTELLIGENCE?

- General cognitive problem-solving skills.
- Intelligence is what to do when you don't know what to do.
- Intelligence may be defined as the ability to adjust to new situations.



Definition

- *Intelligence is not a single, unitary ability, but rather a composite of several functions. The term denotes that combination of abilities required for survival and advancement within a particular culture. -Anastasi*
- *Intelligence is that facet of mind underlying our capacity to think, to solve novel problems, to reason and to have knowledge of the world.*
M. Anderson

- ◉ *Intelligence is a fundamental faculty, the alteration or the lack of which, is of the utmost importance for practical life. This faculty is judgement, otherwise called good sense, practical sense, initiative, the faculty of adapting oneself to circumstances. A. Binet*
- ◉ *Intelligence: A: the biological substrate of mental ability, the brains' neuro-anatomy and physiology; Intelligence B: the manifestation of intelligence A, and everything that influences its expression in real life behavior; Intelligence C: the level of performance on psychometric tests of cognitive ability. H. J. Eysenck*

- *Intelligence is the ability to solve problems, or to create products, that are valued within one or more cultural settings. H. Gardner*
- *Intelligence is performing an operation on a specific type of content to produce a particular product. J. P. Guilford*

Characteristics of Intelligence

- **Intelligence is the power or capacity of human being:** Intelligence is the power or capacity of human being which helps to make reason, understanding and well-judgment. Intelligence is the capacity which is innate as well as acquired.
- **Intelligence means all-round mental efficiency:** All round mental efficiency means that it includes all the qualities in mental development of an individual. Through the process of intelligence the whole general and abstract thinking, reasoning powers are revealed.

- **Intelligence is a power of good responses from the point of truth:** As a global or aggregate capacity of an individual, intelligence is a conglomeration of many powers as a whole in the structure of truth.
- **Intelligence is the ability of adaptation and adjusting to a new situation:** Intelligence is the property of recombining our behavior pattern so as to act better in a novel situation. It means that intelligence is the potent factor through which the adjustment and re-adjustment to any situation is easily possible.

- **Intelligence is the ability for abstract thinking as well as the capacity to learn from the past experience:** Intelligence is the ability to think abstractly. It is also the capacity to learn from the past experience and hence, it makes the profitable use of the past. Intelligence is not knowledge though acquisition of knowledge depends to a great extent on intelligence and vice-versa.
- Intelligence is not acquired after sustained labour. It is a gift from nature.

- Intelligence is not memory. An intelligent person may have poor memory.
- Intelligence is not a skill which a worker acquires after planned practice.
- Intelligence is not a guarantee of a good behaviour of the individual.