

# **Kinds of intelligence**

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## Classification intelligence as given by E.L. Thorndike

- **1. Concrete Intelligence** – It is the ability of an individual to comprehend actual situations and to react to them adequately. The concrete intelligence is evident from various activities of daily life. This type of intelligence is applicable when the individual is handling concrete objects or medicines. Engineers, mechanics and architects have this type of intelligence.

- **2. Abstract Intelligence** – It is the ability to respond to words, numbers and symbols. Abstract intelligence is required in the ordinary academic subjects in the school. This is acquired after an intensive study of books and literature. Good teachers, lawyers, doctors, philosophers etc. have this type of intelligence.

○ **3. Social Intelligence** – It means the ability of an individual to react to social situations of daily life. Adequate adjustment in social situations is the index of social intelligence. Persons having this type of intelligence know the art of winning friends and influencing them. Leaders, ministers, members of diplomatic sources and social workers have it.

# Types of Intelligence

- **Thurstone classifies intelligence in the following ways, which are –**
- Spatial
- Perceptual
- Memory
- Number
- Verbal
- Word-fluency
- Reasoning.

# E.L. Thorndike

- (a) Concrete intelligence: Concrete intelligence is also known as mechanical intelligence. It is the intelligence that has the relation with concrete materials. It is the ability of an individual to comprehend actual situations and to react to them adequately. The concrete intelligence is evident from various activities in our daily life. This kind of intelligence is measured by performance tests and picture tests in which an individual is asked to manipulate concrete materials.

- **(b) Abstract intelligence:** Abstract intelligence indicates the ability to respond to words, numbers, formulas, diagram and letters etc. This formula is conspicuously absent in animals. An abstractly intelligent person is able to discover relations among symbols and to solve the various problems with the help of such aids (symbols, formula, diagram, letter etc.)

- **(c) Social intelligence:** Social intelligence means the ability of an individual to react to social situations of his or her daily life. Social intelligence is possessed by those people who are able to handle people well and also have the ability to make friends easily and understand human relations. Adequate adjustment in social situations is the index of social intelligence.



# The Nine Types of Intelligence: Howard Gardner

1. Naturalist Intelligence
2. Musical Intelligence (“Musical Smart”)
3. Logical-Mathematical Intelligence  
(Number/Reasoning Smart)
4. Existential Intelligence
5. Interpersonal Intelligence (People Smart”)
6. Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence (“Body Smart”)
7. Linguistic Intelligence (Word Smart)
8. Intra-personal Intelligence (Self Smart”)
9. Spatial Intelligence (“Picture Smart”)