

Intelligence

INTRO: What is intelligence? What is an intelligent person like?

- there is no clear consensus among psychologists

1. Historically, there have been 2 basic approaches to defining intelligence:

(1) practical, adaptive approach (Piaget)

EX: Was Forrest Gump intelligent?

(2) psychometric approach - "Intell" is a trait or set of traits that some persons have to a greater degree than others ---**TESTING**

Within the psychometric approach a greatly debated issue is the question: Is there one general trait called intelligence, or are there multiple factors?

EX: Spearman - "G" factor

Gardner- multiple intelligences

How is intelligence measured?

Standardized tests are used:

(1) **Stanford-Binet**

- developed in Paris in 1904 by Alfred Binet; purchased and revised in 1916 by Lewis Terman of Stanford University

- the term "IQ" originated with the S-B; there are true IQ scores computed today; instead deviation IQ's are used, which are standardized scores

(2) Wechsler Scales - How are they different?

-there are different scales for different ages

EX: WAIS - adult scales

WISC - children

WPPSI - primary/preschool

- a person receives 3 scores: verbal, performance, full scale

(3) There have been a number of newer instruments developed; whole courses are taught in intelligence testing in graduate schools where a person may be trained in administering these instruments

INFANCY

It is pointless to talk about intelligence in infants; instead researchers talk about "developmental quotients" (**DQ**)

- Bayley Scales are the best known and most used
 - (1) motor scale
 - (2) mental scale
 - (3) infant behavioral record
- correlations between DQ's and later IQ's are low; they are measuring different things

CHILDHOOD

In childhood we begin to get some relationship between early and later IQ around the age of 4

- IQ correlates well with school grades (+.50)

ADOLESCENCE

Brain development around the age of 11 or 12 facilitates intellectual growth in early adolescence

- IQ becomes more stable; predictive of middle age IQ
- high school grades are best predictor of college success
- interests and motivation is also factor

ADULTHOOD

Is there a relationship between IQ and occupational success?

- there is some relationship between the types of jobs that persons have and job performance

Does IQ decline with age?

- some decline between age 44-45 in measured IQ; the sharpest declines around age 80

FACTORS OF INFLUENCE

What factors influence the development of intelligence?

- genetics
- home environment
- family configuration
- social-economic class
- racial/ethnic group
- cultural bias sin testing

EXTREMES OF INTELLIGENCE

The psychometric approach views intelligence as a trait that varies from person to person along a continuum. In actual practice, we probably pay more attention to those on the extreme ends of the continuum

(1) Giftedness

- defn: a person who is gifted is usually considered to have a high IQ score (130+), and special abilities in at least one area
- gifted children are often considered "weird", but a study by Terman begun by Terman in 1921 found that high IQ children were also exceptional in many other ways

(2) Mental retardation

- levels: mild ---> 70-55
 moderate --->54-40
 severe ---> 39-25
 profound ---> 25--->

- causes: (1) organic EX: Down's Syndrome, Fetal Alcohol
 (2) cultural-familial