

Creativity Profile Quiz

Background

This quiz is based on Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences. Howard Gardner put forward the idea that intelligence can take many forms and that everyone is different in how they express their intelligence. Each individual will have strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes which will shape their choice of jobs and courses of study, and will also have a bearing on the way they carry out any task.

Originally, Howard Gardner defined seven areas of intelligences, as follows:

Linguistic – interest and ability with words and language

Spatial – good spatial appreciation. Interested in pictures and the visual arts.

Musical – interested in rhythm and music.

Logical – interested in maths, science and logical sequences.

Kinaesthetic – interest and ability in movement, sport and dance.

Interpersonal – interest in group work, sensitive to the feelings of others.

Intrapersonal – self-aware – interested in meditation and introspection.

Howard Gardner later added an eighth area of intelligence:

Naturalistic – interest in the living world – animals, ecology, etc.

In the interests of simplicity, this quiz focuses on 6 areas of intelligence as follows:

Linguistic - Words

Spatial - Pictures

Musical - Music

Logical - Logic

Kinaesthetic - Movement

Interpersonal - People

I removed the area of intrapersonal intelligence as I felt it would present difficulties:

- for me as a writer trying to think of activities related to introspection and contemplation
- for the students - trying to carry out those activities
- for tutors trying to assess them

I apologise if anyone is offended by this omission. If any students show an interest in intrapersonal intelligence, you could direct them to Howard Gardner's website.

The Online Quiz

This creativity quiz consists of just 15 questions. It asks the learners questions based on preferences – e.g. “if I had half an hour to spare I would rather read a newspaper a newspaper or magazine or take some exercise”. Learners are asked to tick a box to indicate a preference

In the course of the 15 questions, each area of creativity is matched against the other five to narrow down the learner’s preferences, e.g. people vs. pictures, people vs. music.

As well as identifying students’ preferences, the quiz is intended to confirm to the students the idea that they are creative. Everyone who takes the quiz comes out with a profile showing their preferred areas of creativity.– it is impossible to “fail” this quiz or get a low score.

When the learners have completed the quiz, they are presented with a profile in the form of circle with coloured bands and segments. They count the numbers of bands in each segment to find where their strengths and preferences lie.

Supporting Students

Once the learners have completed the quiz, they should print off the results for their own reference.

They may wish to show the results to you and discuss them.

Questions you could ask include:

- Are the results what you expected?
- Where do you think your strengths are?
- Is there an area you would like to improve on?

Armed with a broad idea of where their creative strengths lie, learners can then go on to build on their areas of strength and improve on their weaker areas, if they choose to do so.

However, the results of the creativity quiz should not be applied too rigidly as a prescription for further activity – it is only intended as light-hearted introduction to the subject and to reinforce the idea that everyone is creative.

Once the learners have worked through the some of the chunks on Creative Thinking they can try some of the Creative Exercises. These have all been written with 6 options – once for each of the creative strands: Pictures, Logic, Words, Music, Movement and People.

Multiple Intelligences – Websites

Infed – article on Howard Gardner

<http://www.infed.org/thinkers/gardner.htm>

Birmingham Grid for Learning – Online Multiple Intelligences Test

http://www2.bgfl.org/bgfl2/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks3/ict/multiple_int/questions/choose_lang.cfm

Literacy Works Multiple Intelligences Test

<http://literacyworks.org/mi/assessment/findyourstrengths.html>

Applied Multiple Intelligences – Eight Ways of Knowing

http://www.multi-intell.com/MI_chart.html

Canadian Career Consortium – Online Test

http://www.careerccc.org/products/cp_99_e/section1/quiz.cfm

Technology and Multiple Intelligences

<http://eduscapes.com/tap/topic68.htm>

Books

Multiple Intelligence – The Theory in Practice

By Howard Gardner