



# INTELLIGENCE

## Discussion

### Basic Questions

1. What is intelligence?

*Intelligence is....*

2. Does being very intelligent make you happy?

*Yes, it does. / No, it doesn't.....*

3. Does intelligence run in the family?

*Yes, I think... / No, I don't think.....*

4. Does intelligence make people more attractive?

*Yes, it makes... / No, it doesn't make....*

5. Are intelligent people usually more arrogant?

*Yes, usually they are.... / No, they aren't....*

## Extended Questions

1. Do very intelligent and unintelligent people make good partners?  
*Yes, they do... / No, they don't...*
2. Does school make a person more intelligent?  
*Yes, a school... / No, it doesn't....*
3. Does speaking English well make you more intelligent than a friend who cannot speak English at all?  
*Yes, I think... / No, I don't think...*
4. Do you think all world leaders are intelligent?  
*Yes, all of them.... / No, I don't think....*
5. Who is the most intelligent person you know? Why do you think so?  
*.....is the most intelligent person I know...Because*

## VOCABULARIES

1. **Genius** /'dʒi:.ni.əs/  
(noun) very great and rare natural ability or skill, especially in a particular area such as science or art  
*Ex.: Einstein was a mathematical genius.*
2. **Discerning** /dɪ'sɜː-nɪŋ/  
(adjectives) able to make or usually making careful judgments about the quality of similar things  
*Ex.: Marion is a discerning judge of good design.*

**3. Wise /waɪz/**

(adjective) having or showing good judgment, or the ability to make good judgments, based on what you have learned from your experience

*Ex.: They decided that it was wiser to wait until they were making a little more money before buying a house.*

**4. Street smart /'stri:t.sma:rt/**

(adjective) street wise; Wise and sensible

*Ex.: You have to be a street-smart.*

**5. Sophisticated /sə'fɪs-tɪ.keɪ.tɪd/**

(adjective) having an understanding of the world and its ways, so that you are not easily fooled

*Ex.: Sophisticated readers understood the book's hidden meaning.*

**6. Prehensile /prɪ'hen.səɪl/**

(adjective) gifted with mental grasp or moral or aesthetic perception

*Ex.: She is prehensile in terms of writing poems.*

**7. Nimble /'nɪm.bəl/**

(adjective) quick and exact in movement or thought; agile

*Ex.: He was nimble in solving mathematical equations.*

**8. Ingenious /ɪn'dʒɪn.jəs/**

(adjective) skilled at inventing new ways to do something, esp. To solve problems, or (of ideas or things) original, and showing esp. The ability to solve problems

*Ex.: We need an ingenious woman to be a leader.*

## Useful Expressions

1. **evil genius** - a person who has a strong bad influence over other people

*Ex.: The film was about an evil genius who wanted to control the world.*

2. **no flies on somebody** - something that you say which means that someone is intelligent and able to think quickly

*Ex.: She may be new to this field, but there are no flies on her.*

3. **beat one's brains out** - try very hard to understand something or solve a problem.

*Ex.: My grandmother beats her brains out every evening trying to do the crossword puzzle in the newspaper.*

4. **blind you with science** - confuse you with their knowledge by using difficult or technical words

*Ex.: When you ask Tim for a simple explanation, he blinds you with science.*

5. **I wasn't born yesterday** - indicate that you are not as foolish or as easily deceived as some people seem to think

*Ex.: They fooled me but it turned out that I wasn't born yesterday.*

6. **brains behind something** - the person thought to have planned and organised everything

*Ex.: They are the brains behind the robbery.*

7. **Come to your senses** - start to think clearly and behave sensibly.

*Ex.: She finally came to her senses and realized that public transport was faster than driving in the city.*