

Origins of Intelligence Testing...

Francis Galton (1822-1911)- focused on measuring human traits that lead to the "eugenics" movement. His goal was to "quantify human superiority" by means of tests on things like strength and even head size. Despite his efforts, no correlation was found between general mental abilities and these characteristics .

"If a twentieth part of the cost and pains were spent in measures for the improvement of the human race that is spent on the improvement of the breed of horses and cattle, what a galaxy of genius might we not create! We might introduce prophets and high priests of civilization into the world, as surely as we can propagate idiots by mating cretins. Men and women of the present day are, to those we might hope to bring into existence, what the pariah dogs of the streets of an Eastern town are to our own highly-bred varieties."

Alfred Binet (1857-1911) – founder of modern intelligence testing. Binet sought methods to identify students who would have difficulties in regular classes by measuring a person's Mental Age. For instance, if you perform the way a typical 10 year old would on a certain test, then your mental age is 10 years old.



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Lewis Terman (1877-1956) - developed the current Stanford-Binet intelligence test. This test measures IQ or Intelligence Quotient. IQ is calculated by taking the mental age (as decided by the test) divided by chronological age (real age) and multiplying this number by 100. If you are 17 years old (chronological age) and your mental abilities are the same as those who are 17 years old (mental age). Then your IQ is 17/17 X 100= 100, the average IQ. An IQ greater than 100 would indicate that you performed better on the test than the average 17 year-old.

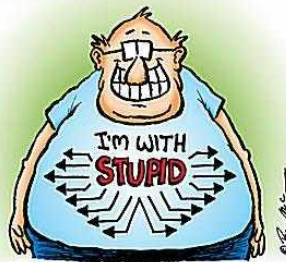
The Stanford-Binet test was applied to people of different races. Terman then realized that the test was culturally biased. That is, people not educated in North America or not familiar with American culture would naturally do more poorly on the test than someone who was living in and educated in America.



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GAG T-SHIRT FOR
MENSA MEMBERS

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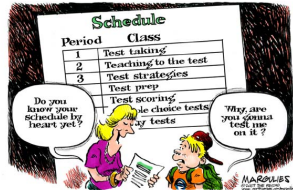
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Assessing intelligence

Commonly, tests fall into one of two categories:

Aptitude tests – these tests predict your future performance or ability to learn a new skill. Some examples include: college entrance exams (designed to test your ability to do college work), intelligence tests, physical examinations).

Achievement tests – these tests assess your current knowledge. Some examples include: final course examinations, chapter tests and public exams.



Period	Class
1	Test taking
2	Teaching to the test
3	Test strategies

Do you know your schedule by heart yet?

Test scoring: the classic tests they tests

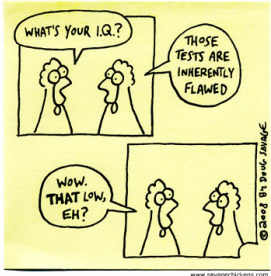
They are just gonna test me on it?

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Currently, the most widely used *intelligence test* is the **Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS)**. It has 11 subtests and gives a verbal score, a performance score, and an overall score. Large differences between the verbal and nonverbal scores indicate possible learning difficulties.

The WISC is used for school-aged children.

Savage Chickens by Doug Savage



WHAT'S YOUR I.Q.?

THOSE TESTS ARE INHERENTLY FLAWED

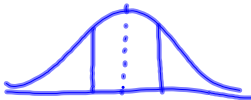
WOW, THAT LOW, EH?

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Psychological tests must meet all 3 of the following criteria in order to be widely accepted:

Standardization – To standardize a test, it must first be given to a large representative sample of people in which their scores will be set as the standard for comparison. You may recall that a *Normal curve* is a bell shaped curve of scores formed by standardized test results. The majority (68%) of people fall within the center or average of the curve (see section on statistics).

Reliability – To be reliable, a test must yield consistent results. This is done by comparing scores on two halves of a test or by retesting. If the results are similar enough, the test is deemed reliable.



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Validity - The degree to which a test measures what it is supposed to measure. The term **criterion** is used to describe the behavior being tested. There are two types of validity:

- a. Content validity:** with respect to achievements tests. It is the extent to which a test *measures* the intended behavior.
- b. Predictive validity (or criterion-related validity):** with respect to aptitude tests, it is how successful the test is in *predicting* intended behavior. It is interesting that the predictive ability of aptitude test scores diminish with increased education.

Feb 1-9:53 AM

Flynn Effect – This phenomenon is named after researcher James Flynn who documented the finding that intelligence tests worldwide showed an increase in scores since 1960’s. But college aptitude test scores were decreasing. The possible explanations for this trend may be more academic diversity and better greater number of educated people in general.

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A cartoon illustration showing a scientist in a white coat and glasses talking to a large, anthropomorphic animal, possibly a pig or a bear, who is wearing a backpack. The scientist is holding a clipboard and looking at the animal. The animal is looking back at the scientist. The scene is set in an outdoor area with a building in the background.

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*Of course you're all for animal testing.
You always get straight A's.*

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