

SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO ANALYZE HOW MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE THEORY FUNCTIONS EFFECTIVELY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

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Abstract:

Multiple intelligence theory can be defined as a theory depicting various ways students' study and receive information. Every learner cannot be taught using a single approach. It is necessary to have various approaches and activities in ELT classrooms. The article is going to analyze and explore how multiple intelligence theory functions effectively in English language classrooms. Verbal or linguistic intelligence is the ability of an individual to verbalize their thoughts on emotions. The activities include understanding the meaning of words, the ability to convince others, explaining complex ideas, and the ability to make humor come under verbal intelligence. In the process of language learning, musical intelligence helps to learn the accent, pitch, and rhyme of the desired language easily. Learners with interpersonal intelligence would have a better learning process in the classroom. Multiple intelligence theory is peculiar and important during this age of development. All these intelligences definitely have a role in making the process of English language learning in an effective manner.

Keywords: Multiple intelligence theory, Verbal intelligence, musical intelligence, interpersonal intelligence.

Multiple intelligence theory can be defined as a theory depicting various ways students' study and receive information. The core Idea behind this theory is that people learn from diversity in different ways. Like many other theories, multiple intelligence theory has also come under the criticism of psychologists and educators. Many of them believe that intelligence represents inborn talents and abilities. Further criticism of this theory by

cognitive psychologists is that there is no experimental evidence to support the validity and sustainability of this theory.

Multiple intelligence theory was developed by Dr. Harvard Gardner, a professor of education at Harvard University, in 1983. Gardner analyzes intelligence from different perspectives. He identifies that the intelligence of human beings is not the same as shown in the IQ test, but it is more than that. The problem is not based on how people are intelligent; it is all about the functions of their intelligence. Note, too, that people have different intelligence. Gardner (1999) explains intelligence as a “bio-psychological potential for information processing that can be activated in a cultural setting to solve problems or fashion products that are of value in a culture” (p.33-34)

Every learner cannot be taught using a single approach. It is necessary to have various approaches and activities in ELT classrooms. The aim of multiple intelligence theory is to explain that human capability can be expanded beyond the IQ score. Gardner, through this theory, suggests that various intellectual competencies impact and influence people in understanding the world. Gardner says, "I believe that the brain has evolved over millions of years to be responsive to different kinds of content in the world."The article is going to analyze and explore how multiple intelligence theory functions effectively in English language classrooms.

The types of multiple intelligence include verbal or linguistic intelligence, logical /mathematical intelligence, visual intelligence, bodily kinaesthetic intelligence, musical/ rhythmic intelligence, naturalistic intelligence, and interpersonal and intrapersonal intelligence. Now the research is going to explore a few types of multiple intelligence that are associated with the study.

➤ Verbal or linguistic intelligence:

Verbal or linguistic intelligence is the ability of an individual to verbalize their thoughts on emotions. It is believed that every individual has this intelligence to some extent. An individual with powerful oratory skills is said to have strong linguistic intelligence. The skills such as reading, writing, and speaking are merged with this intelligence. Linguistic intelligence is the potential of an individual to use a language in an excellent way. The activities include understanding the meaning of words, the ability to convince others, explaining complex ideas, and the ability to make humor come under verbal intelligence. Language teachers, radio jockeys or video jockeys, reporters, editors, writers, and lawyers are some of the people with high linguistic intelligence. Activities through which learners can develop verbal or linguistic intelligence include:

- Creative writing
 - Sharing ideas for public speaking
 - Involving in creative writing such as writing for magazines or blocks.
 - Spending time playing word games.
 - Listening to the audio format of the desired language.
- Musical intelligence

Musical intelligence is the potential of interpreting sounds and understanding how music is created and performed. An individual with good musical intelligence is able to learn songs quickly. In the process of language learning, musical intelligence helps to learn the accent, pitch, and rhyme of the desired language easily. Including musical intelligence activities in the classroom would help to enhance students' listening skills and enhance their learning experience. Activities

- Writing poetry
 - Young students can learn rhyming words by singing a song.
 - Counting numbers can also be taught to children by tapping a drum.
 - Learners can explore different genres of music, such as classical, rock, and rap, by creating their own songs.
- Interpersonal intelligence

People with interpersonal intelligence have the ability to observe the behaviors of others, and they can understand other people. They have the potential to work as a part of a team. Individuals with Interpersonal intelligence have friendly behavior and easily interact with others. By working as a team, they can actually achieve their personal goals and understand their own perspectives. Learners with interpersonal intelligence would have a better learning process in the classroom. Involving in group activities answers their self-confidence and also to speak in the desired language. Activities to develop language learning with interpersonal intelligence:

- Working as a team on a project
- Sharing concepts and teaching ideas to other learners
- Performing role play to improve language skills

The competencies and abilities of the learners can be developed in any area by supporting each of their different bits of intelligence. There is significant connectivity between intelligence and learning methods. The activities can be adopted based on the needs and preferences of the individuals. This would help in making lessons more effective and purposeful in promoting the competencies of the learners. Gardner (1993) says,

I hope that the idea of multiple intelligences will become part of teacher training. While lip service is paid to the existence of differences among students (and among teachers!), there have been few systematic attempts to elaborate on the educational implications of these differences. Should a sensitivity to different intelligences or learning styles become part of the "mental models" constructed by new teachers, the next generation of instructors are far more likely to be able to reach each of their students in the most direct and effective way (p. 251).

Every individual has all eight intelligences. Multiple intelligence theory is peculiar and important during this age of development. All these intelligences definitely have a role in making the process of English language learning in an effective manner. Teachers can take this responsibility to include elements of multiple intelligence into their classroom and can increase the interest of the students in their learning process. Students would feel comfortable in their classrooms if these intelligences were organized in the teaching methods. To bring out

a better outcome from the learners, multiple intelligence theory can be included in English language learning classrooms.

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