



Multiple Intelligences

Addressing Diverse Learners
in an ESL Classroom

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Objectives

Importance of
multiple intelligences
in second language
learning

Learners have
individual differences
and learning styles

Different approaches
for varied intelligences
and learning
preferences

Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences

- No one approach to measure intelligence
- Learners possess different intelligences
- Apply varied approaches to interpret information & solve problems
- Approaches should be student centered
- Students taught by multiple intelligences approach show positive attitude levels

"Anything that is worth teaching can be presented in many different ways. These multiple ways can make use of our multiple intelligences."

Howard Gardner

Literature Review

Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences



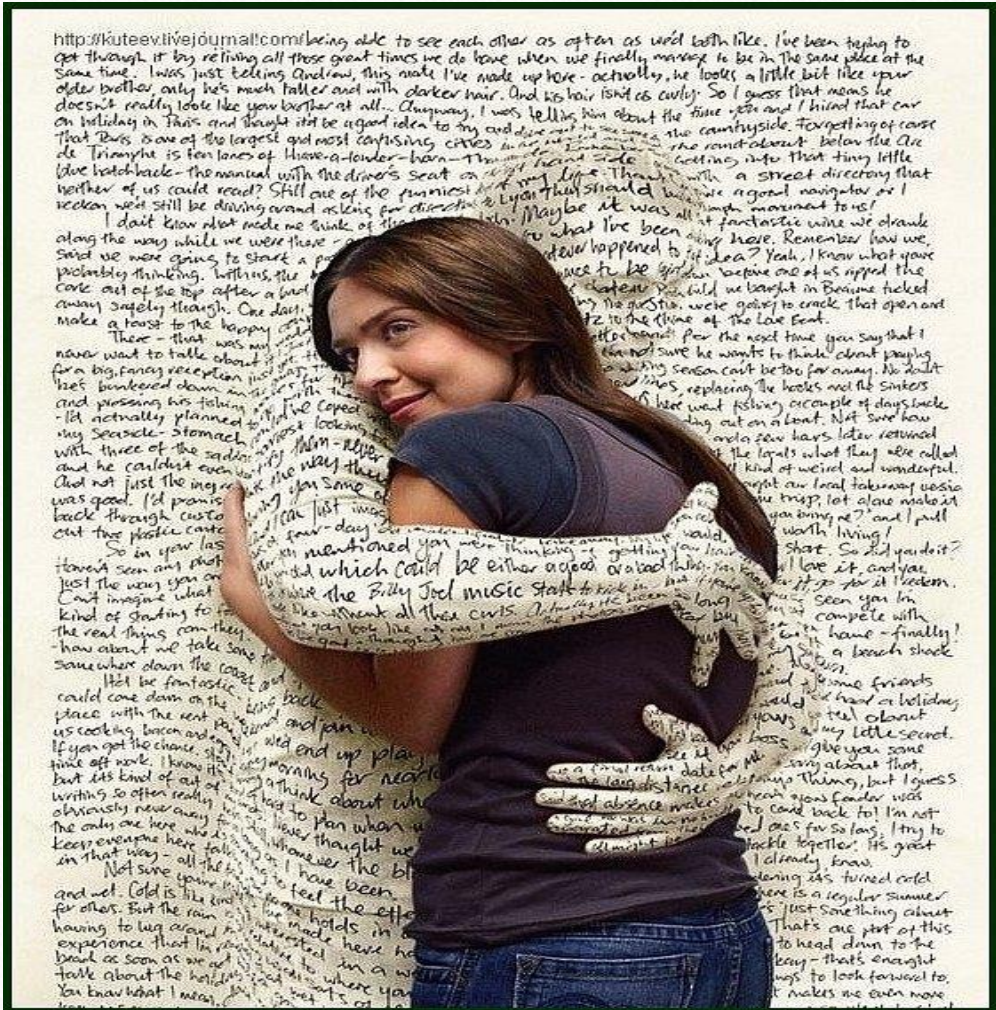
Multiple Intelligences Theory and Second Language learning

Linguistic Intelligence

- a person's ability to use language effectively, both oral and written

Activities

- Storytelling,
- Writing a short poem, debates,
- Group discussions,
- Gap fills,
- Conducting interviews, word games.





Visual – Spatial Intelligence

Ability to imagine and form pictures and transform them into visual ideas & expressions

Activities –

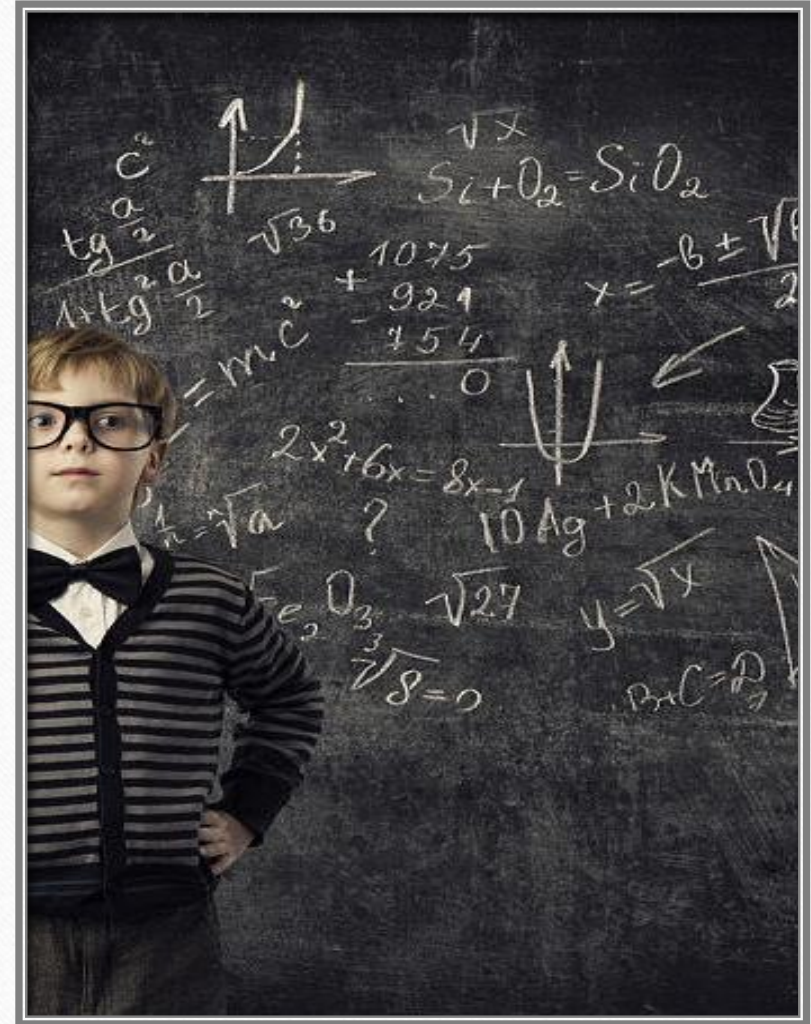
- Describing pictures,
- Using visual images for teaching vocabulary,
- Video exercises & multimedia projects,
- Using charts & maps,
- Graphics analyzers and concept maps.

Logical Mathematical Intelligence

Good at using numbers, solving problems
enjoy facing new challenges in life

Activities -

- Concept mapping,
- Flow charts,
- Sequencing events in chronological order,
- Word-order activities, pattern games,
- Jigsaw puzzles.





Musical Intelligence

Sensitivity to music rhythm and tone

Activities

- Playing songs,
- Musical cloze activities,
- Singing a song or rap
- Making presentations using sound or music & tongue twisters.



Athletic



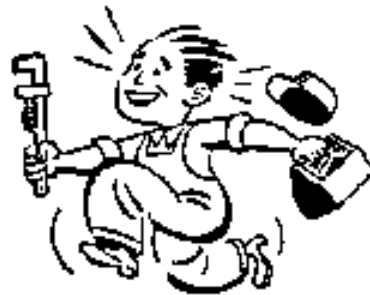
Acting



Dancing



Crafts



Using Tools

Bodily Kinesthetic Intelligence

using part or the entire body in solving a problem, performing a task

Activities

- Planning & attending a field trip,
- Role plays, miming, dancing,
- Building models and grammar games

Interpersonal Intelligence

Empathizing with others

Activities -

- Conducting a meeting
- Group work,
- Practice giving and receiving feedback
- Surveys and polls
- Group brainstorming.



Intrapersonal Intelligence

Ability to self-introspect about our abilities, emotions, feelings
& appreciate ourselves

Activities

- Writing journal entries,
- Activities involving self-reflection & sharing personal experiences,
- Assessing one's work
- Setting and pursuing a goal.





Naturalistic Intelligence

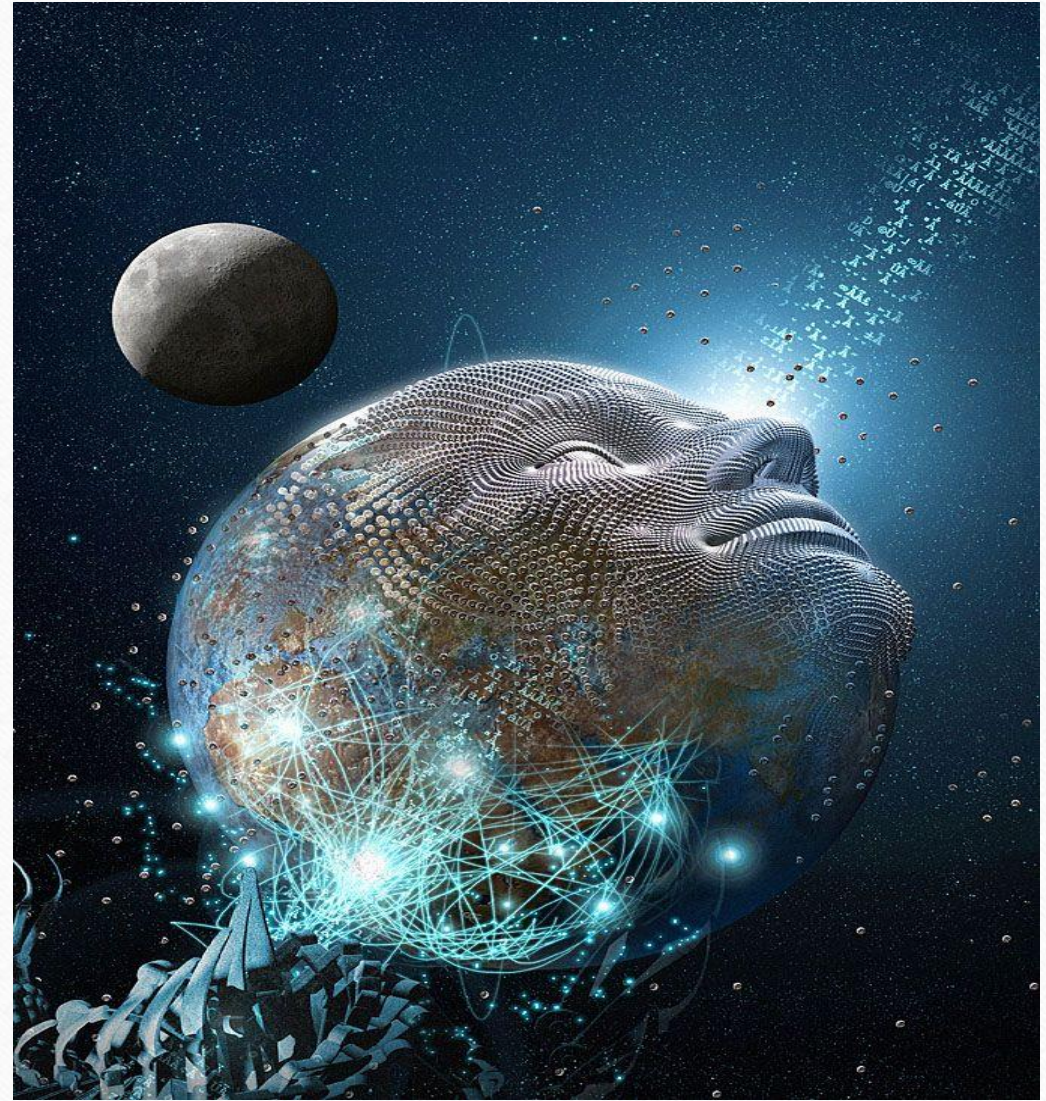
our abilities and skills to observe, recognize, analyze the natural world that includes, flora and fauna

- Learning vocabulary - exploring outdoors but in English
- Shopping and other field trips
- Collecting plants to learn appropriate vocabulary
- Field trips to museums
- Involvement in environment protection projects

Existential Intelligence

our sensitivity to our existence, asking questions about our life and where have we originated from and where do we go?

- Cultural lessons on different societies
- Contemplating different religious beliefs but with a reasoning
- Thought provoking activities on challenges and consequences of lifestyle choices.



Integration of Multiple Intelligence in ESL Classes – Learning Styles

Language in Action –

- young learners love to sing and dance
- let them create their rhymes with helpful words.
- rhymes could be replaced by songs with adult learners

Drawing and Coloring Alternatives to Music –

- can draw characters from stories
- make interesting, picturesque folders, bookmarks, and posters for their classes

Drama in Action –

- young learners love action in classrooms
- enacting the characters
- involves all four skills of language
- students create their characters
- write their lines and speak them while enacting the play

Games for Fun –

- make their games on stories or characters
- create card games and play in pairs or groups
- digital games like ‘Kahoot’ – for teaching skills, language, vocabulary, and grammar.

Handicrafts for creativity and learning

- create interesting artwork
- craftwork based on characters in their plays
- create small objects like hats, masks, and bookmarks, etc.

Storybooks for inspiration

- best way to introduce a foreign language
- can enact, draw, sing to fairytales

Jokes for fun and laughter – Vocabulary building exercises –

- young learners love to laugh
 - learners can enact jokes,
 - compose songs, create puppets
 - characters that narrate the jokes to class.
- build picture dictionaries or ‘Pictionary.’
 - write entire poems, stories in a colorful manner
 - highlight new words in the story or the poem

Few tests available
to test the learners'
intelligences

Cultures believe in
different
intelligences

Adding more
activities can be
overwhelming

Teachers would
need some training
workshops

May need some
prior experience

Wide variety of
evaluation criteria
needed to assess
diverse profiles.

Issues & Recommendations

Recommendations

- Results in high performance levels in ESL classes.
- Careful planning and analyzing can help teachers structure their lesson plans
- Training and workshops needed to guide teachers
- Teachers need to use various forms of assessments to do justice
- Debates, role plays, projects and presentations to provide incentive to such learners.

Conclusion

- **Multiple Intelligences theory has more benefits than limitations.**

- An opportunity to introspect and analyze on their capabilities
- A paradigm shift in their experiences - can create more learner-centered classes
- Educators can raise the level of linguistic skills of their learners.
- It develops their communicative skills.
- A great potential to bring out the best in both the educators as well as learners.