Intelligence: Sternberg & Gardner
Sternberg’s Triarchic Theory

3 interacting factors

Includes “practical” intelligence

Supported by empirical research (strongest research evidence for theory of intelligence)
The basic model: 3 components

Analytical
- Componential Intelligence
  - Ability to think abstractly, process information effectively

Synthetic
- Experiential Intelligence
  - Ability to formulate new ideas, to combine seemingly unrelated facts or information

Practical
- Contextual Intelligence
  - Ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions and to shape the environment so as to maximize one's strengths and compensate for one's weaknesses

Most like traditional IQ
Sometimes called "creative"
Cultural link
Intelligence in relation to the context
Important ideas from Sternberg’s theory:

Intelligence is only partly influenced by genetics
Intelligence is broad, includes much more than is measured by tests
We can “teach” students to be more intelligent—Teach them how to think.
Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences

Refers to different ways intelligence is manifested (or different kinds of intelligence)

Each way or kind of intelligence is reflected in brain differences

Research shows people have strengths or weaknesses in some of the intelligences

Some people have strengths in several or many of the intelligences
Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences
Comparing Gardner & Sternberg

• Similarities
  – Both see intelligence as broad
  – Both say intelligence occurs in contexts

• Differences
  – Sternberg’s theory gets at what intelligence is
  – Gardner’s theory gets at how people use their intelligence in different ways
  – Sternberg’s 3 components are a part of each of Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences.