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CATTELL'S THEORY OF INTELLIGENCE

P.G. SEM- 1

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Cattell's Theory Of Intelligence

In the 1960s American Psychologist Raymond Cattell and John Horn applied new methods of factor analysis and concluded there are two kinds of general intelligence –

1) Fluid Intelligence

2) Crystallized Intelligence

The theory suggests that intelligence is composed of a number of different abilities that interact and work together to produce overall individual intelligence.

Fluid Intelligence

It is defined as the ability to solve new problems, use logic to new situations, and identify patterns.

Considered independent of learning experience and education.

It is used in solving puzzles and coming up with problem solving strategies.

Crystallized Intelligence

It refers to the knowledge, facts and skills that are acquired throughout life

It involves knowledge that comes from prior learning and past experience

The more learning and experience you have the more you build up your crystallized intelligence

This type of intelligence tends to increase with age.

Interrelationship

Both factors of intelligence are equally important in everyday life.

While fluid intelligence involves our current ability to reason and deal with complex information around us, crystallized intelligence involves learning, knowledge and skills that are acquired over a lifetime.

Some researchers have linked the theory of fluid and crystallized abilities to Piaget theory of cognitive development.

Fluid ability and Piaget operative intelligence both concern logical thinking and the education of relations.

Crystallized ability and Piaget treatment of everyday learning reflect the impress of experience.