Are Honors Classes Right For You?

Please thoughtfully consider the following criteria as you are making a decision about whether or not a junior high honors level course will provide the most appropriate learning environment. A student should:

1) Have scored a 3 or 4 on the previous year’s end-of-level subject test.
2) Have earned an A or B in previous year’s subject class.
3) Have a high level of interest and a strong desire to be challenged in the subject area.
4) Consistently exhibit most or all of the following characteristics:

   **Learning/Intellectual Characteristics:**
   - Enjoys tasks that are more challenging than average
   - Has a ready grasp of underlying principles and can quickly make valid generalization about events, people, and things
   - Tries to understand complicated material by separating it into its respective parts; reasons things out
   - Analyzes problems and considers alternatives.
   - Enjoys complex concepts and processes

   **Motivational/Affective Characteristics:**
   - Becomes absorbed and truly involved in certain topics or problems
   - Needs little external motivation to follow through in work completion
   - Requires little direction from teachers
   - Is highly self-motivated and persistent
   - Has high expectations of self and others

   **Math/Science:**
   - Is interested in numerical analysis
   - Has a good memory for storing main features of problems and solutions
   - Reasons effectively and efficiently
   - Organizes data and experiments to discover patterns or relationships
   - Is flexible in solving problems

   **Social Studies/Language Arts**
   - Has advanced vocabulary for age or grade level
   - Reads a great deal; does not avoid difficult material
   - Enjoys language/verbal or written communication; has advanced communication skills
   - Organizes ideas and sequences in preparation for speaking and writing
   - Likes study and research in areas of interest