

Traits of High Achievers, Gifted Learners, Creative Thinkers

A High Achiever . . .	A Gifted Learner . . .	A Creative Thinker . . .
Remembers the answers.	Poses unforeseen questions.	Sees exceptions
Is interested.	Is curious.	Wonders.
Is attentive.	Is selectively mentally engaged.	Daydreams, may seem off task.
Generates advanced ideas.	Creates complex, abstract ideas.	Overflows with ideas, many of which will never be developed.
Works hard to achieve.	Knows without working hard.	Plays with ideas and concepts.
Answers questions in detail.	Ponders with depth and multiple perspectives.	Injects new possibilities.
Performs at the top of the group.	Is beyond the group.	Is in own group.
Responds with interest and opinions.	Exhibits feelings and opinions from multiple perspectives.	Shares bizarre, sometimes conflicting opinions.
Learns with ease.	Already knows.	Questions: What if?
Needs 6–8 repetitions to master.	Needs 1–3 repetitions to master.	Questions the need for mastery.
Comprehends at a high level.	Comprehends in-depth, complex ideas.	Comprehends in-depth, complex ideas.
Enjoys the company of age peers.	Prefers the company of intellectual peers.	Prefers the company of creative peers, but often works alone.
Understands complex, abstract humor.	Creates complex, abstract humor.	Relishes wild, off-the-wall humor.
Grasps the meaning.	Infers and connects meaning.	Makes mental leaps: Aha!
Completes assignments on time.	Initiates projects and extensions of assignments.	Initiates more projects than will ever be completed.
Is receptive.	Is intense.	Is independent and unconventional.
Is accurate and complete.	Is original and continually developing.	Is original and continually developing.
Enjoys school often.	Enjoys self-directed learning.	Enjoys creating.
Absorbs information.	Manipulates information.	Improvises.
Is a technician with expertise in a field.	Is an expert, abstracting beyond the field.	Is an inventor and idea generator.
Memorizes well.	Guess and infers well.	Creates and brainstorms well.
Is highly alert and observant.	Anticipates and relates conversations.	Is intuitive.
Is pleased with own learning.	Is self-critical.	Is never finished with possibilities.
Gets A's.	May not be motivated by grades.	May not be motivated by grades.
Is able.	Is intellectual.	Is idiosyncratic.

©Kingore, B. (2004) *Differentiation: Simplified, Realistic, and Effective*. Austin: Professional Associates Publishing. Chapter: "Understanding and Accommodating Advanced Potential," p. 47.