

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1586 How Can You Tell if Somebody is Smart?

How can you tell if somebody is smart? What are the tipoffs that lead you to conclude that a certain someone is intellectually advantaged? I'm Jerry Roberts, and today, we will provide you with not one, not two, but 15 ways to figure it out. That's next on The Extra Point.

I don't find myself within the Internet confine of Reddit very often, but I caught a story of a post there that went viral, asking how people determine that someone is very intelligent.

It must have been a slow day on Reddit, because 3,700 people responded. From those responses, 15 signs of someone's intelligence emerged.

As we make our way down the list, think of the person next to you. How many of these signs do they exhibit? Then again, how many do you display to the world?

Are you ready? According to this quasi-survey in Reddit, not exactly scientific, but there were 3,700 people were chimed in, here are the answers.

1. Smart people admit their mistakes. Some would say this is emotional intelligence, so I guess that would qualify. People tend to be more forgiving of us when we admit our errors.

It's certainly less that way when we try to hide our mistakes and are later found out. That's a big trust loser.

2. They are great problem-solvers. No argument there.

3. They appreciate nuance. This is the ability to see shades of gray in a conversation or topic, not figuring it to be black and white.

4. Smart folks say "I don't know". Sometimes, people who are credited with knowing the most, understand how little they actually do know.

5. They have self-doubt. Many smart people struggle with what is known as "imposter

syndrome." They don't feel they've earned all the praise they receive, or their position.

6. They ask questions. Smart people are highly curious .

7. Smart people love a challenge. They're not threatened by new ideas, problems, or change in general.

8. They can easily and quickly adapt their communication style to fit the situation and people they're talking to at the moment. Now that is a superpower.

We're just over halfway through a viral post, with 3700 responses, asking the question, what are the telltale signs when someone is intelligent.

9. They can simplify big ideas. Another great skill to have is the ability to explain complex issues and thoughts in easily understood terms.

10. They listen to people who disagree with them. Oops, did we lose some folks on this one? Social media casualties, no doubt.

11. They're humble. Wait, do you understand the implications here? If this is true, it means that every candidate for public office in Guam for the past 30 years has been ultra smart. Oh no, you disagree? I have proof. Every single one "humbly" asks for our vote. Case closed.

12. The smart ones pause to consider their response, instead of just blurting out an answer.

13. They're well-spoken. Conversation comes easily to them. Their humor isn't forced. When we are in the presence of such people, we usually think of them as being intelligent.

14. Smart people generally have a dry sense of humor. A quick wit, a casual approach, and an almost effortless way to be funny. You know it when you see it.

(Con't.)

15. They are great storytellers. They can make a point, and then help you remember it with a powerful story.

So, in your estimation, how did the person next to you do?

How did you do?

You can download transcript #1586 at guamtraining.com, and play around with this at work. Have fun with it.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3FM, the Ray Gibson Show, and First Hawaiian Bank, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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