

# [His situations’. it is general mental adaptability](https://assignbuster.com/his-situations-it-is-general-mental-adaptability/)

His definition emphasized 3 phases of beha­viour: (i) The ability to take and maintain a given mental test. (ii) The capacity to make adaptations for the purpose of attaining a desirous end. (iii) The power of auto-criticism. The numerous definitions can be classified into four groups: I. Biological II.

Educational III. Faculty IV. Empirical.

#### I. Biological Definitions:

Here the emphasis is upon adjustment or adaptations of the organism and its environment.

Stern: ‘ Intelligence is a general capacity of an individual consciously to adjust his thinking to new requirements’. The famous writer H. G.

Wells defines it as ‘ acting in novel situations’. It is general mental adaptability to new problems and condition of life.

#### II. Educational:

The emphasis is on learning ability. Buckingham: Intelligence is the ability to learn. Here also learning may be regarded as adjustment or adaptation to various situations.

#### III.

#### Faculty:

The attempt is generally to delimit or restrict intelligence and set it off from other powers or faculties of the mind. Binet’s: Various definitions belong mainly here e. g., Intelligence as common sense.

Huggarty says “ It is a practical concept connoting a group of complex mental processes traditionally defined in systematic psychologies as sensation, perception, association, memory, imagination, discrimination, judgements and reasoning.

#### IV. Empirical:

Here the emphasis is on practical results in intelligence. Thorndike: Power of good responses from the point of view of truth. Ballard: Relative general efficiency of minds measured under similar conditions of knowledge, interest etc.

Freeman: Degrees of intelligence seem to depend on the facility with which the subject- matter of experience can be organised into new patterns.