

Are You a Genius?

reading

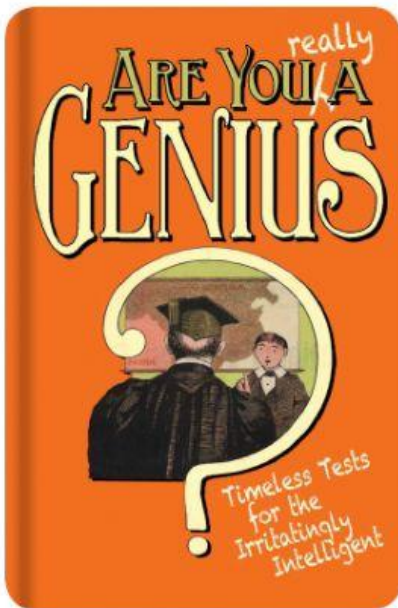
What tests are given to children and adults to test their intelligence, in your country? At what ages are children typically tested?

Before Mensa, the largest and oldest high-IQ society in the world, was formed, Robert Streeeter and Robert Hoehn published a book with difficult brain teasers to discover clever people. Their book has recently been republished.

■ Read the article below about the book and attempt the brain-teasers, explaining your answers as you go.

Telegraph

April 2015



Are you a GENIUS?

What the nation needs is more geniuses. So said Robert Streeeter and Robert Hoehn, two self-styled intelligence experts in the Thirties, who set out to discover clever people by publishing a book posing devilishly difficult brain teasers for members of the general public.

Now their book has been republished and here we offer you a selection of its tortuous tests – so you can discover if YOU are a genius...

1 Four men can build four boats in four days. How long will it take one man to build one boat?

2 Which is heavier, milk or cream?

3 What one word means both 'dodge' and 'immerse' and is a bird?

4 If a clock is stopped for a minute every ten minutes, how long will it take the minute hand to complete a revolution?

5 What adjective which means 'of or relating to a city, citizens, or citizenship' spells the same from right to left as it does from left to right?

6 When seen in a mirror, which of the following words printed in capital letters will look the same as when viewed directly? **MAN TOOT DEED**

7 A man lived in a house that could be entered by only one door and five windows. Making certain that there was no one in the house one day, he went out for the afternoon. Upon his return, although the windows were still locked and unbroken and the door had not been

forced, he discovered a thief in his house robbing it. If the thief did not use a skeleton key, or pick any of the locks, how did he get into the house?



8 If a hen and a half lays an egg and a half in a day and a half, how many eggs will seven hens lay in six days?

9 The first two syllables of the name of one of the States of the United States is suggested by a girl's name. The third syllable is suggested by a word meaning 'come down to earth'. What is the name of the State?

10 In the following word, eliminate the second letter and every alternate letter thereafter. What word do the remaining letters form?

GLEAM

Are You a Genius?

reading

11 Rearrange the following letters so that they make the name of an article of furniture: **CHOCU**

12 My father is the brother of your sister. What relative am I of yours? Cousin, nephew, son, uncle, son-in-law?

13 By eliminating one letter in each of four words in the following sentence, a

new sentence of an entirely different meaning will remain. **They heard meat was stewed.**

14 Which two of the following words are composed of the same letters?

AGATE, AGITATE, GATES, STAGS, STAGE, GRATE

15 The first part of the name of a certain make of

American car is suggested by a word meaning 'call'; the second, by a word meaning 'insinuation'. What is the make of the car?



- ☞ Which do you think is the hardest question? Is the book something you are likely to read?
- ✍ What questions would you ask to discover clever people? Write five questions to ask the other members of the class in order to test their intelligence. Use the questions from the book as inspiration.



*e.g. Rearrange the following letters so that they make the name of an article of furniture: **HAI RC***

- ✍ Choose five words from the article that you would like to learn and write an example sentence for each one.



🕒 What does the phrasal verb in this extract from the article mean?

Telegraph

April 2015

...who **set out** to discover clever people by publishing a book posing devilishly difficult brain teasers for members of the general public.

✍ There are a number of phrasal verbs with **set** in English. Complete the gaps with the following prepositions to make the phrasal verbs defined.

aside back (x2) off (x2) out up

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1 set _____ | arrange, organise (a meeting, etc.) |
| 2 set (someone) _____ | cost (someone) |
| 3 set _____ | impede or reverse the progress of |
| 4 set _____ (or _____) | begin a journey |
| 5 set _____ | detonate (a bomb etc.) |
| 6 set _____ | put to one side, keep for a special purpose or future use |



✍ Complete these sentences with the phrasal verbs above:

- 1 If we set _____ early, we should arrive by lunchtime.
- 2 He set _____ to reach the peak of the mountain, but stopped halfway.
- 3 They set _____ the business last August.
- 4 Every month I set _____ some money for my summer holiday.
- 5 The terrorists set _____ the bomb outside a government building.
- 6 The recession set _____ their plans to expand the business by six months.
- 7 I've set _____ an interview for you with Mr Smith tomorrow, please don't forget.
- 8 The new computer set him _____ \$2,000.

✍ Write sentences about yourself with the phrasal verbs.

e.g. My car set me back \$20,000 and it's a lemon.