

the idea that the verbal and mathematical reasoning skills measured by IQ tests (and SATs) are the sine qua nons of intelligence. This narrow view of intelligence has been thoroughly debunked by contemporary psychological research. In his modern classic, *Frames of Mind* (1983), psychologist Howard Gardner introduced the theory of multiple intelligences, which posits that each of us possesses at least seven measurable intelligences (in later work Gardner and his colleagues catalogued twenty-five different subintelligences). The seven intelligences, and some genius exemplars (other than Leonardo da Vinci, who was a genius in all of these areas) of each one, are:

- ♦ Logical-Mathematical—Stephen Hawking, Isaac Newton, Marie Curie
- ♦ Verbal-Linguistic—William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, Jorge Luis Borges
- ♦ Spatial-Mechanical—Michelangelo, Georgia O’Keeffe, Buckminster Fuller
- ♦ Musical—Mozart, George Gershwin, Ella Fitzgerald
- ♦ Bodily-Kinesthetic—Morihei Ueshiba, Muhammad Ali, F. M. Alexander
- ♦ Interpersonal-Social—Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Queen Elizabeth I
- ♦ Intrapersonal (Self-knowledge)—Viktor Frankl, Thich Nhat Hanh, Mother Teresa

The theory of multiple intelligences is now accepted widely and when combined with the realization that intelligence can be developed throughout life, offers a powerful inspiration for aspiring Renaissance men and women.

In addition to expanding the understanding of the nature and scope of intelligence, contemporary psychological research has revealed startling truths about the extent of your potential. We can summarize the results with the phrase: Your brain is much better than you think. Appreciating your phenomenal cortical endowment is a marvelous point of departure for a practical study of Da Vincian thinking. Contemplate the following: your brain