

Taking a Walk on the Charles River Esplanade

Began walk at 5:08 on 10/11/23

- Smell of freshly cut grass in the air
- The constant roar of cars passing by
- Rowboats and coaches shouting far off in the Charles River
- Squirrels munching on a pile of nuts
- Slight bloat from the food I probably shouldn't have eaten right before the walk
- Geese walking around like they own the place
- Strong sea breeze near the river
- Someone walking his dog while on roller skates

Turned around at 5:23

- Very detailed graffiti of skulls underneath bridge
- Someone biking past me carrying a big skeleton on his back
- Person wearing neon LED equipment on a motorized unicycle



A blurry photo of the person on the unicycle, not very clear since I had to quickly pull out my phone before they sped off at what must have been 20 miles per hour. They were turning and controlling very smoothly, so I would assume they are an experienced driver.

1. In her TED talk, Grandin mentions verbal thinkers, visual thinkers, and pattern thinkers. If you had to choose ONE of these with which you most identify which ONE would you choose? Verbal thinker OR Visual thinker OR Pattern thinker

Visual thinker, but depends on the subject.

2. Grandin states that autistic individuals are often detail-oriented thinkers. Are you a detail-oriented thinker OR a big picture thinker OR equal blend of both?

Equal blend, but focuses on details a lot more because understanding the small things first helps increase comprehension of the big things.

3. Grandin discusses the need to expose kids to a variety of topics/situations so they can find what they're interested in. Briefly describe a topic, area, or activity which you were grateful to be exposed to and why you became interested in it.

Sports. Mom exposed me to badminton as a kid, and it has remained a hobby.

4. Do you openly/publicly identify as neurodiverse? YES OR NO No

5. In her cartoon that contrasts ADHD Storytelling with Non-ADHD Storytelling and in "Sharing Thoughts," Donovan depicts her perspectives on how individuals with ADHD share stories, thoughts, and ideas. If you were to create a cartoon of how you share with your closest friends what would it look like and why? (think about objects, shapes, colors, other aspects of visual style, etc.)

Loud and bright.

6. Overall many humans tend to rely most on sight. Which sense OTHER THAN SIGHT is most important to you? Why? Hearing Smell Touch Taste

Hearing, doesn't know how else to communicate

7. Which ONE of these non-human minds below would you most want to journey into? (if there are no risks in doing so) Briefly explain what fascinates you most about experiencing the world through the kind of non-human mind you choose.

Another mammal Bird Fish Reptile Mollusk Insect

Mollusk, they are the most different from us.

8. Birch et al. discuss five dimensions of consciousness in the context of non-human animals: p-richness, e-richness, integration at a time (unity), integration across time (temporality), self-consciousness (selfhood). Which ONE of these is most interesting to you? Why?

P-richness, interesting how some animals have completely different senses from us (electroreceptors, detecting magnetic pull)

9. Do you identify with a specific social class? YES OR NO No

10. Do you consider yourself bi/multilingual? YES OR NO

No, can understand Chinese, but doesn't really speak it.

11. Do you identify with more than one culture? YES OR NO

Yes, half Chinese and half white.

12. Name a culture or sub-culture you belong to/identify with. Briefly describe an experience, set of interactions, or tradition that you enjoy and associate with that culture/sub-culture. Why do you find this experience, interactions, or tradition memorable? Culture and sub-culture for this question can be ethnic, national, regional, focused on an activity you enjoy, etc.

Lunar New Year, eating food and being around family.

13. In relation to your peers, how likely do you feel you are to take risks on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being extremely likely to take risks in most situations and 5 being extremely unlikely to take risks in most situations. 1 2 3 4 5

3: not that crazy, but in the right situation will take risks

14. Describe a risk you are glad you took. What made the decision risky? Why are you grateful you decided to take a chance?

In ninth grade, joining robotics team. I didn't know anything about it, but joined and had a lot of fun going to competitions and being around the team.

15. Choose 3 activities of the 12 creative activities below that you would be most interested in doing. Rank them 1-3 in order of preference (1 = most preferred)

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Writing songs | Writing stories or film scripts | Drawing/painting pictures |
| Taking photographs/videos | Designing video games | Designing scientific experiments |
| Designing products or devices | Designing fun activities for kids | Performing in plays |
| Working behind the scenes in theater | Dancing for an audience | Playing instrument/singing for audience |

1. Designing products or devices 2. Designing fun activities for kids 3. Designing video games

16. Csikszentmihalyi argues for the importance of Interest, Perseverance, Dissatisfaction, and Social Context for being intrinsically motivated and making significant creative contributions. Think of a specific area/activity for which you have long felt a strong intrinsic motivation. Which of Csikszentmihalyi's four aspects do you think has been MOST important to your motivation in this area? They are likely all significant but **CHOOSE JUST ONE** that seems most important.

Interest **OR** Perseverance **OR** Dissatisfaction **OR** Social Context

Interest

17. What's your major or a potential major you think you might want to pursue?

Mechanical Engineer

18. Which 3 of Gardner's 9 Intelligences are strongest in you? Rank them 1-3.

Interpersonal, logical-mathematical, spatial

19. Do you believe your thinking is affected by whether you are sitting or walking?

YES OR NO If yes, how is it affected? If no, why do you think it is not?

Yes, autopilot when walking ???

20. As Otis describes, cognitive neuroscientist Maria Kozhevnikov's studies showed that what has often been called visual thinking involves two distinct ways of processing information – **spatial abilities** which involve perceiving an object's distance, dimensions, direction, and speed and **object skills** which consist of recalling an object's shape, color, texture, and surface details.

Evaluate your abilities in these areas. Do you think you have . Stronger Spatial Abilities **OR**

Stronger Object Skills **OR** Are Equally Strong in Both

Equally Strong

21. Name a potential job that interests you. Does this job connect directly to your major or potential major? YES OR NO

Structural design, some type of engineer, yes!

22. In what ways do you think that your interest in this job might link to the kind of mind you already have? In what ways do you think that working in this job might (re)shape your mind?

Connects to logical-mathematical skills, would improve interpersonal skills

23. What's the hardest thing you've ever had to learn? What was difficult about it/why was it difficult?

Chemistry (conversions)

24. Describe the kind of thinking that is most pleasurable for you. Why is that type of thinking so fun?

Creative thinking (daydreaming)

25. If someone said to you, "Take a walk on Comm Ave" what specifically would you first picture if you imagined yourself doing that? Write 4-5 phrases or 1-2 sentences to describe what images initially come to your mind.

long road with a tram ringing its bell nearby while a car drives 80 mph through a yellow light