

## Understanding Place: taking an 8-way thinking approach

*Gilbert's 8 Way Thinking challenges and supports learning by engaging the learner with the 8 intelligences, which we all possess, but in which we have different preferences and strengths.*

**How would you interpret this?**

Intelligence	Shorthand	Enquiry questions might be
<b>Linguistic intelligence</b> – words and language	Words	What is this place called? How can we describe it with words?
<b>Logical-mathematical intelligence</b> - logic and numbers	Numbers	How can we use numbers to describe and explain this place? What can we count, measure, calculate? What can numbers tell us?
<b>Spatial intelligence</b> - images and space	Sights	What can we see? What images are found here? What images best represent this place and why? How could you map this place?
<b>Bodily-Kinaesthetic intelligence</b> – body movement control	Actions	What can you do here? What are other people doing? What does the landscape allow you to do?
<b>Musical intelligence</b> – music, sound, rhythm	Sounds	What can we hear here? What do sounds tell us about this place?
<b>Interpersonal intelligence</b> – other people's feelings	People	What do other people think about this place? How much do they value it and why?
<b>Intrapersonal intelligence</b> - self awareness	Feelings	How do I feel here?
<b>Naturalist intelligence</b> – natural environment	Nature	How is the natural environment being sustained or improved? What natural features are there?

**Some key geography questions:** where is this place? What is it like and why? What are its characteristics? What human and physical features are there and how do they interact? What patterns and processes are happening here and why? How does it connect to other places? How can I map it? What is special about this location? What do people do here? How and why is this place changing? What would I like it to look like in the future?

**Using ideas from** Gilbert, Ian 2006 *8 Way thinking* [www.teachingexpertise.com](http://www.teachingexpertise.com) issue 12 summer 2006