Evaluate the statement that ‘intelligent people are more successful’.

This is a difficult issue to debate as the definition of intelligence is subjective in this postmodernist era. From the 1960s (IQ) intelligence quotient has been used to measure intelligence. IQ tests measures short term memory, the ability to reason and verbal skills.

Some research including a diverse range of more than a 100,000 people, has shown that a general IQ score cannot predicts someone’s intelligence and therefore cannot predict their likelihood of success and therefore each gauge has to be looked at separately and proving that IQ tests might not be as reliable as we once thought.

Also, the definitive meaning of intelligence is ‘the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skill’ so we might have to consider the long-term memory to evaluate the speed at which the knowledge is gained which can be applicable to various situations. If our ability to reason depends on ‘knowledge’ this can cause a person to set off in a philosophical tangent on what knowledge is.

Therefore, to evaluate this statement, I am going to use the British education system (where Intelligence is measure by the grades you get within a qualification, such as GCSEs, A-levels and Degree etc. These Grades taken from written examinations taken from students and compared against the criteria of an exam board.) and IQ.

Another point that might make the conclusion of this statement subjective is, the various meanings of success. The most common measurement of success is through the wealth of a person, which is how much property, businesses or money etc., someone owns.

Some people might agree with the statement that ‘intelligent people are more likely to be successful’ because data of people with the top ten world highest IQs are all successful, with secure jobs, high incomes and are popular. Other people in the same opinion might premise there argument by saying that a person who is well educated, are more likely to secure higher positions within their filed of speciality such as managers and directors. This has been proven by the study of Lympstone (an area towards south west of England) where the pass rate of A-level exams is a 100 percent and the population with formal qualifications is high therefore more people have jobs as director and mangers and one percent of the population is member of the council.

However, some people might disagree arguing that success achieved by the availability of opportunity. For example, if success is defined as how wealthy a person is and their fame the people who become famous through beauty competitions such as ‘Miss world’ and ‘Miss Universe’ and use that, to their advantage to sell products and become rich doesn’t prove that, they attained their position through intelligence. Other people simply become successful overnight people like Danielle Bregoli can it really be argued that her statement “cash me out side, how about that” the work of intelligence.

In conclusion, I agree to some extent that intelligent people are more likely to become successful, as they are able to sustain there success of wealth and fame. Through using their money towards causes such as natural disasters which make them more appealing to their supporters earning them more admiration which can then be used in businesses to sell products or in self promotions such as getting roles in movies. This is due to their intelligence and their ability to reason with long term benefits of investment. Personally I believe that success is the feeling of fulfilment which might not benefit the economy but collecting one’s own attributes and becoming stable is also a difficult and needs to be recognised.