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From an IQ of 90 to Super Genius: Story Behind 'Brain-Teasers'

The *Silver Express* is pleased to add a feature by Marin County's Gary Gruber, PhD, who is recognized as a leading authority on standardized tests and the originator of the critical thinking skills used to prepare for them. More than 7 million copies of his 35 books have been sold and he has dramatically increased aptitude, intelligence and standardized test scores on tests like the SAT and ACT. His "Brain-Teasers" have generated national interest in problem solving and in developing creativity. He has been called "America's Super Genius" by the Washington Post. Through his program, which actually tracks the student's thinking approach and corrects faulty thinking, Dr. Gruber has been helping Marin students excel on their SATs for more than 30 years.

His lifelong mission came after he learned that he had a 90 IQ in fifth grade. He was devastated and could have given up and believed he was not as smart as his classmates. Instead, he decided to learn more about how IQ tests are devised. He realized that there are powerful strategies and thinking tools one can use.

In college, his interest in tests transformed into a quest for what nature was about and how things worked. He developed a great interest and awe in physics and went on to earn a doctorate in astrophysics. He has a passion for music and the arts, writing newspaper and magazine reviews for plays and concerts. Gary's ultimate quest is to get the nation curious and passionate about problem solving and develop and hone important critical thinking abilities. You can contact Dr. Gruber through his website, drgarygruber.com for information on courses or any questions.

Brain-Teasers

Complete the analogy:

MUSIC is to VIOLIN as:

- (A) notes is to composer
- (B) sound is to musical instrument
- (C) drawing is to crayon
- (D) furniture is to carpentry tools
- (E) symphony is to piano

ANSWER: D (Put MUSIC and VIOLIN in a sentence relating the two words) Music is played on a violin by someone who knows how to play a violin, just as furniture is created by carpentry tools by a person who knows how to use carpentry tools. Anyone can draw with a crayon, etc. Note: Symphony is not played with a piano—it is played by an orchestra.