**Genius**

**Genius is the ability to reduce the complicated to the simple. *(C. W. Ceram)***

**Poverty is the step-mother of genius. (Josh Billings)**

**Genius is nothing more nor less than childhood recovered at will. (Baudelaire)**

**You might take a 15-minute nap every four hours to see if that makes a genius out of you. It’s what Leonardo da Vinci did. (L. M. Boyd)**

**Definition of a genius: a person who aims at something no one else can see and hits it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Every production of genius must be the production of enthusiasm. *(Benjamin Disraeli)***

**Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration. *(Thomas Edison)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**They’ve uncovered some personal papers of Albert Einstein. Turns out he had 10 girlfriends. Think about it: 10 girlfriends – that’s 10 different names, 10 different phone numbers, 10 different birthdays. You’d have to be a genius. *(David Letterman, in Time)***

**The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits. *(Albert Einstein)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**In every work of genius we recognize our own rejected thoughts; they come back to us with a certain alienated majesty. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)**

**If geniuses can sometimes make mistakes, cannot the rest of us on occasion be geniuses? (Joseph Epstein)**

**Heart: “Ben Franklin thought our national bird should have been the turkey. He said that the bald eagle was lazy and cowardly. The turkey, he said, was a true native of America, a bird known for its bravery and intellect.” Friend: “Ben Franklin was a genius, but he didn’t know much about advertising.” *(Mark Tatullli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**Smart is when you believe only half of what you hear. Brilliant is when you know which half to believe. *(Orben's Current Comedy)***

**Every man of genius is considerably helped by being dead. *(Robert Lynd)***

**Adversity reveals genius, prosperity hides it. *(Horace)***

**French writer Jean Cocteau defined genius as: “Knowing how far to go too far.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Hunger is the handmaid of genius. (Bob Phillips, in Phillips' Book of Great Thoughts & Funny Sayings, p. 140)**

**Industry is a better horse to ride than genius. *(Walter Lippmann)***

**In 1925, a guy by the name of Howard Johnson borrowed $2,000 and bought a drugstore in Massachusetts. He channeled his creative juices into the soda fountain. How do you make a better-tasting ice cream cone? Double the butterfat content, he reasoned. He reasoned right. Johnson’s tastebud genius blossomed into an empire. By 1975, there were a thousand Howard Johnson sit-down restaurants and 500 motor lodges. *(Harvey Mackay, in Outswimming The Sharks)***

**Geniuses have very limited tool sets. They have a hammer, and their genius is in looking for nails. (Adam Robinson, chess master)**

**Grandma: “Listen, Earl, just because someone said you look like Albert Einstein doesn’t make you a genius. By the way, what are you doing out here in the yard?” Earl: “Nothing much. Just trying to win the Nobel prize, that’s all.” Grandma: “Huh?” Earl: “Yeah. I hear they give it to people who are out standing in their field.” (Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)**

**Genius is another word for magic, and the whole point of magic is that it is inexplicable*. (Margot Fonteyn, in The Magic of Dance)***

**Only mediocrity can be trusted to be always at its best. Genius must always have lapses proportionate to it triumphs. (Max Beerbihm, essayist)**

**The amount of eccentricity in a society has generally been proportional to the amount of genius, mental vigor, and moral courage it contained. (John Stuart Mill, philosopher)**

**Al: “The only thing I’ll miss about summer is being smarter.” Lars: “Huh?” Al: “I believe it was Thomas Edison who said genius is 99 percent perspiration.” (J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)**

**Grandpa: "You really think Nelson's an artistic genius?" Grandma: "Oh, my, yes. I'm an artist myself, so I can recognize the signs. Just look at him. It's obvious that he's artistically gifted." Nelson: "I've got a conte crayon stuck in my nose." (Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)**

**Genius is nothing but labor and diligence. (Bob Phillips, in Phillips' Book of Great Thoughts & Funny Sayings, p. 140)**

**On the door of our ten-year-old son's bedroom: "Do Not Disturb. Genius at Work." (Foy Cherry, in Reader's Digest)**

**The great pianist, Paderewski, was giving a command performance for a royal family in Europe. After his concert a duchess came to him, bubbling with enthusiasm, and said, “Maestro, you are a genius!” He replied, “Ah yes, but before I was a genius I was a clod." In other words the moment of genius was the result of years of discipline and overcoming and practice, practice, practice. (Eric Butterworth, in Unity magazine)**

**Genius is only great patience. (Count de Buffon)**

**Art critics seem agreed that the only true master of the twentieth century is Picasso and that his “Guernica” is the greatest masterpiece of our time. He created an uncountable number of paintings, sculptures, drawings, and assorted works of art, and each one was of his own conception and invention. He was a true-blue, blown-in-the-bottle, 24-carat, dyed-in-the-wool genius. (Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 37)**

**Everyone is a genius at least once a year; a real genius has his original ideas closer together. (G. C. Lichtenberg)**

**Genius, if thwarted, resolves itself in an infinite capacity for inflicting trouble. (Muriel Spark, novelist)**

**Talent hits a target no one else can hit; genius hits a target no one else can see. (Arthur Schopenhauer)**

**Richard W. Sears of Sears, Roebuck and Co. saw to it his firm's catalogs always were just a little smaller than those of the competition. In living rooms, he said, the smaller of two catalogs will be put on top, so picked up first. He was right. Another example of his marketing genius. (L. M. Boyd)**

**When a true genius appears in the world you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him. (Jonathan Swift)**

**It takes a genius to play a fool. (Michael Rapaport)**

**Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein. *(Joe Theismann, football commentator and former player)***

**Waiting my turn to enter a rotary intersection, I noticed a guy drive around twice, then leave by the same road he’d entered. His vanity license plate read “GENIUS.” (Kathleen Gowdy, in Reader’s Digest)**

**Talent is what you possess; genius is what possesses you. (Malcolm Cowley, American author and critic)**

**What the world needs is more geniuses with humility; there are so few of us left. (Oscar Levant)**

\***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***