

Malcolm Gladwell, *Outliers: The Story of Success*. Read the Introduction and chapters 1-4.

1. Why do hockey players born earlier in the year gain not just a short-term but a cumulative advantage that grows over time?
2. In accounting for success, what is the most common explanation offered in American society? How does Malcolm Gladwell challenge that explanation?
3. What is Malcolm Gladwell's rule of 10,000 hours, and why is this relevant to success? Why were the Beatles and Bill Gates in a position to log their hours?
4. What is "practical intelligence" and how is it related to "concerned cultivation"? How do practical intelligence and concerned cultivation help explain why J. Robert Oppenheimer and Chris Langdon, despite each having IQs commonly labeled "genius", had such different life outcomes?