

# Profiles of Underachieving Gifted Students

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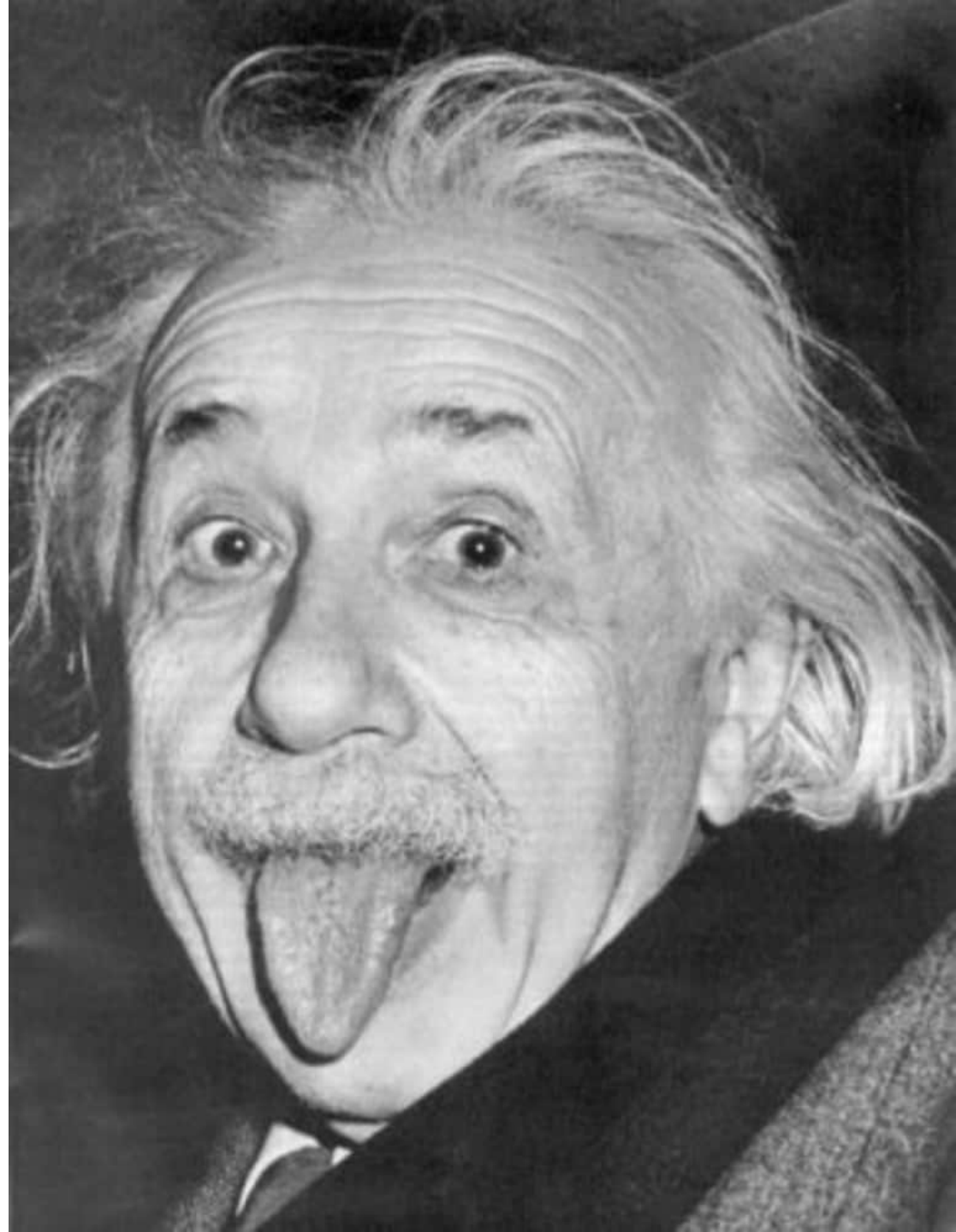
# Profiles

- ▶ We will be looking at the profiles of five actual people
- ▶ Listen to the student's situation
- ▶ After hearing the causes of underachievement, you are going to choose the one most likely the issue with the student
- ▶ We will discuss these

The “CARING” factor

**CARING**

# Profile 1



# Who cared?

- ▶ Albert Einstein had a mentor by the name of Max Talmey. He met the ten-year old Einstein as a medical student. He ate lunch weekly with the Einstein family and gave the boy several books about science and philosophy. They interacted for a period of five years, which coincide with Einstein underperforming at school because he did not care for the strict rote learning.

## Profile 2



# Who cared?

- ▶ Eminem did not have many role models growing up but one who did show he cared about him was Ronnie Polkinghorn, his mother's half brother. He introduced Eminem to rap by giving him the Breakin' soundtrack with a rap song featuring Ice T. They would record rap tapes together that started Eminem down the road to rap stardom.



# Profile 3





# Who cared?

- ▶ Although Agatha Christie grew up in a happy home, schooled by her mother, she did not get the chance to interact with other kids much but did form a friendship with a group of girls with whom she was in a production of a play. This is what caused her to grow to love the theatre and to begin an interest in writing.

# Profile 4



# Who cared?

- ▶ Dylan Klebold wrote in his journals he felt as though no one cared for him other than his parents and his close circle of friends. He suffered from depression and suicidal thoughts that nobody knew about. It was this lack of care that caused much resentment of his classmates which built up to the Columbine shootings.

# Profile 5



# Who cared?

- ▶ Winston Churchill's parents were important figures in English society but were neglectful parents, not spending much time with him as a youth. The person who did was his nanny, Elizabeth Ann Everest, who taught him reading, writing, and arithmetic. She also acted as a close confidant whom he could go to when he needed to talk to someone. She is often credited with instilling in him the morals that guided him as a leader of his country.



# *Remember*

“Children are not  
born  
underachievers.  
Underachievement is  
*learned*, therefore  
it can be  
unlearned.”

(Davis and Rimm, 2004, p. 317)