

Worksheet 4 - OE vs. ADHD Differentiation Chart: Four Gifted Case Profiles

Behavior	OE Type	Possible ADHD Misinterpretation	Clarifying Indicator
Constant talking and energetic movement	Psychomotor OE (Elias, Karim)	Hyperactivity / Impulsivity	Talking can have intellectual depth or excitement; movement may support thinking or help focus.
Frequent questioning and debating	Intellectual OE (Elias, Karim)	Argumentative / Oppositional Defiant	Rooted in curiosity or need for logic; not intended to challenge authority.
Frustration with peers' slower pace	Intellectual OE (Elias)	Low frustration tolerance / Disruptive	Frustration stems from asynchronous development, not defiance.
Doodling while listening	Psychomotor OE (Elias)	Off-task behavior / Distractibility	Doodling may help maintain focus rather than signal distraction.
Daydreaming and immersion in fantasy	Imaginational OE (Dana)		
Overwhelmed by noise or chaos	Sensual OE (Dana)		
Intense emotional reactions to injustice	Emotional OE (Dana, Maya, Elias)		
High empathy and distress for peers	Emotional OE (Maya, Dana)		
Perfectionism and over-preparing	Intellectual OE (Maya)		
Impulsive joke-making and interruptions	Psychomotor OE (Karim)		
Appears bored and disengaged	Intellectual OE (Karim)		
Withdraws in group conflict or chaos	Emotional & Sensual OE (Dana, Maya)		