Walter White Feats Document



Walter White is the main protagonist of the iconic AMC crime drama: Breaking Bad. He is portrayed by Brian Cranston and was created by Vince Gilligan. He is widely regarded as one of the best characters in TV history next to figures like Tony Soprano and Scarface. However this is not a document regarding an in depth character analysis. This is a document going into great detail of how intelligent a high school chemistry teacher turned Kingpin can actually be. How smart is Walter White? Well let's find out! This will be covering the entire series from Series 1 all the way to series 5B.

Green - Full Scale IQ & Observation

Cyan - Strategy, Planning, & Tactics

Red - Manipulation & Deception

Orange - Emotional Intelligence & Adversity Capacity

Pink - Miscellaneous/Other

Season 1 Feats



Episode 1

7:20: Walter White wins a Nobel prize for the project of crystallography in 1985, this knowledge is further shown during Walter White's lecture to the students. He showcases this by stoking a flame from a gas pipe while explaining the changing energy levels of electrons and how molecules can change their bonds by spritzing said flame with Aluminum or Copper Sulfate in a container, as well as changing the flames into pure red flames by doing the same process but with liquid Strontium Chloride or Lithium Chloride. This could easily go into crystallized intelligence as well, but to cause these chemical reactions and having won a group a nobel prize thanks to his work leads me to believe it is a combination of both his fluid reasoning and his experience. Walter White is able to give this lecture while monitoring the behavior of everyone in the room to see if they are paying attention. He is also shown reading the classroom's body language only to find one of his students not doing what they are supposed to do before calling him out on it. After his students' rude outburst of loudly dragging a chair across the room to prove his point, Walter is still able to give his lecture and continue on with his class period as though nothing had happened.
(Crystallized Intelligence, Experience, Fluid Reasoning Index, Processing Speed Index, Emotional Engagement, Emotional Perception, Emotional Management)
9:04

The scene cuts to Walter White working part time at a car wash to make ends meet and go from check to check. At the end of his shift he is approached by Bogdan who reveals that he is shorthanded and needs Walter to clean tires and cover for someone who recently quit their job. Upon being requested to do this. While Walter reacts with slight aggression, he goes and does his job while switching his position at the register with Bogdan. While it was a rather annoying thing for Walter to deal with, Walter still showcases pretty decent emotional management in this scene. While Walter is cleaning the tires off, he is recognized by a student of his who goes out of his way to make fun of him, while he reacts with slight surprise. He continues to clean the wheel as if it didn't affect him, or at least trying to minimize his embarrassment.
(Emotional Management)

10:40

Walter walks into his house and is greeted with a surprise birthday party where he slightly jumps. During this scene Walter receives multiple backhanded compliments by Hank Schrader and continues to smile and enjoy the party like nothing is happening. Hank hands Walter his gun, which is the first instance of his backhanded compliment, the second instance was when Hank told him: "You have a brain the size of Wisconsin. But we're not going to hold that against you." Of course this was just a joke of endearment, but it showcases how little people thought of Walt in his family. Hank continues to make the birthday all about him by turning on the news and showing a huge drug bust he had achieved with the DEA, during this news broadcast, it shows a hefty amount of money on screen.With Walt watching he asks Hank how much money these dealers made. Hank confirms that this money is 700,000$ which causes Walter white to begin considering the decision of using his previously mentioned chemistry skills to begin his empire.
(Emotional Engagement)

16:11

Walter White after passing out during his job and being sent to the hospital gets diagnosed with Lung Cancer that is inoperable. During this news, he zones in on a single mustard stain that the doctor has. And that is the only thing that appears to bother him. It is during this moment that Walter White begins to cement his choice to quit his job and begin his journey into the criminal underworld. Afterwards, Walter returns back home to Skyler where he lies to her about his visit to the hospital by saying his day was fine and nothing more.
(Emotional Management, Emotional Engagement, Information Control)

20:36

Walter continues to contemplate his choice during his shift at Bogdan's car wash. He is soon approached by Bogdan to do more wipe downs due to him being short handed yet again. Walter White was contemplating his choices up to his life. It is more than likely that Walter is still thinking about a mixture of things, his diagnosis, the amount of money that drug money can bring. What is confirmed is that Walter is thinking of Hank's offer for a ride along and maybe start studying the lab's that create drugs. While this is happening, Bogdan becomes shorthanded yet again which ultimately cements Walter's choice in leaving his job and following through with his decision of joining Hank. In the following scene, Walter calls Hank and tells him about his interest in the ride along offer he made to him on his birthday.
(Emotional Engagement)

22:38

Walter, Hank and Gomez sit down and wait for the school bus to pass by the road so that Hank can give his team the signal to go and infiltrate the meth lab and bust a dealer called: "Cap'n Cook". Walter throughout this stake out merely observes how the DEA operates, and how they stake out low level drug dealers. Hank begins to talk about how nasty Meth labs can be just on a good day and mentions why the squad wears filters due to mustard gas. Walter corrects Hank by telling him that it is phosphine gas instead, showcasing his knowledge in chemistry. While this raid is happening, Gomez and Hank make a bet on the appearance of: "Cap'n Cook". But Walt slowly becomes more and more interested in the chemistry behind making meth. This is confirmed by asking Hank if he could see the labs, Hank agrees to let Walter do this and goes into the lab along with Gomez only to see his former student: Jesse Pinkman escape the raid by the skin of his teeth and drive off. Here Walter sees the license plate on Jesse's Car and is able to memorize that information as well as using it to eventually track him down in 0.99 seconds according to my stopwatch, possibly longer, but less than likely due to how fast Jesse was driving away.
(Processing Speed Index, Working Memory Index, Knowledge)

27:02

Later on Walter White is able to go back into the school's filing system and locates Jesse's house with a proposition. He is able to guess and predict that Jesse is going to assume that he is there to turn him in or stake out and bring the D.E.A. with him. Walter ensures Jesse that no one is looking for him. With Jesse still on edge, he would clearly want Walter to leave, and even berates him for whatever speech he is about to give. Walter begins to intimidate Jesse with the information he learns and continues with his proposition. He is able to accurately analyze Jesse's situation to which he proposes a partnership in cooking crystal Meth with Jesse. To ensure Jesse is on board, Walter threatens to turn Jesse in.
(Direct Manipulation, Information Gathering, Blackmailing)

31:38

Walter is later seen stealing lab equipment from the high school. In order to do this, he would have had to take several factors into account:

Factor A. The surveillance cameras around his classroom, near certain entrances, and the blindspots of each camera, and their locations as well as how to get out of the school without raising suspicion or being seen.

Factor B. Potential Janitors, Students, and staff nearby that could end up catching on to what he was doing, and possibly alerting authorities, especially with probable belief of suspicious activity.

Factor C. What he might do if he was questioned about where the equipment had gone onto. And the timing of his thievery.

This would mean Walter:

1. Used his memory of the School's layout to calculate exactly where he would need to go in order to be able to avoid being detected by as many cameras as possible, and was able to successfully navigate around each blindspot before entering the school when executing his plan. From a careful analysis, it is safe to say Walter had carried through his theft during after school hours.

2. Take only what he needed to begin establishing a meth lab, meaning he only needed one of each item, by doing this he is able to make his theft less noticeable, and keep people from questioning the amount for a certain amount of time so that he could properly set up a cover story if it were to come to that point.

3. With the time of day being during Walter's after school shift being over, he was able to facilitate an easy way of potentially framing the janitor, later on in the show, (which I will go into further detail in this doc.) The Janitor, who was known as Hugo Archilleya would have to have been cleaning that particular classroom around the same time when the lab equipment went missing, white it is unknown if Walter thought this far ahead when executing his theft, but given how he showed enough foresight to take both surveillance cameras and raising suspicion with staff, he might have had some level of thought for who might be a suspect when the theft is eventually brought up.
(Foresight, Strategic Shielding, Strategic Logistics, Strategic Broadcasting, Indirect Manipulation, Visual Spatial Index)

In the following scene, Walter shares and explains his knowledge on the equipment he and Jesse will be using to cook their product. Differentiating the VolumetricFlask from the boiling flask, educating Jesse once again like he had done when Jesse reveals that Walter flunked him.
(Knowledge)

The next step in their plan to kick off their cooking career is the location. At first, Walter White suggested using Jesse's home, however Jesse, with his knowledge on basic locations of where and when to cook meth would explain to Walt how easy that is for them to get caught at his own house, and a rented storage area will be one of the first places to look.

Walter takes all of the money he has and gives it to Jesse for him to buy the RV that Jesse himself suggested. When asked by Jesse why he's getting into the drug business, he responds at first with the typical answer of being in it for the money. When further questioned on this, Walter admits that he is "awake" and then doubles down on telling Jesse to buy the RV.
(Emotional Realization)

37:12

While Walter Jr. is trying to get his new pants on, a group of people proceed to make fun of him for the way he spoke. Walter seeing this, immediately began to formulate a plan to not have his family be involved, rather he wanted to make it look like a random stranger suddenly walked up to the main guy making fun of his son, to assume he is a total stranger. He tells Walter Jr. and Skylar to leave the building before walking out of the back door, walking around the building, and immediately re-entering to knock the guy onto his back by kicking his leg out from underneath him as well as stepping on his ankle. By showing this kind of ruthlessness, the man would eventually stand back up to "mess him up" as he threatened. Walter would go on to call the man's bluff and taunt him, daring him to take his shot before eventually scaring them all off with his "psycho" act.
(Direct Manipulation, Fear Inducement, Planning Formulation Speed)

Later on, Walter and Jesse would begin their cook, Walter creating Glass grade meth, indicating its purity. This was enough to impress Jesse, who had previously dismissed Walter for thinking he didn't understand the "art" behind his cooks when he was partnered with Emilio. Walter, while being complimented by Jesse remained humble, telling Jesse it was basic chemistry. By doing this, Walter White is able to establish himself as a competent chef, one that Jesse, in his excitement was about to try it, only to be told by Walter not to consume their own product, Jesse argues, but he is still excited enough to proceed with distribution, going immediately to Krazy 8 and presenting it to him.
(Influence Building, Crystallized Intelligence)

This was soon revealed to be a trap, Emilio had made Bail that same morning, and Jesse had been accused of being a snitch, as informed by Emilio before Jesse had even arrived. When being pressured to reveal who was responsible for the new meth on the street, Krazy 8 and Emilio would drive up to Walter White, where Walter would quickly have to assess the situation. Seeing Jesse in the car with Emilio. Walter proposed to sell the meth to Krazy 8 and Emilio, almost persuading a business partnership, until Emilio recognized Walter being the guy from the D.E.A.

After being pointed out on who he was. Emilio made the assumption of him being from the DEA, and accusing Jesse again of being a rat. This turned a potential business partnership into a trap where both Emilio and Krazy 8 held a now unconscious Jesse, and a frightened Walter at gunpoint. Krazy-8 recognizes Walter's skills as "an artist" making it seem like he was going to kill him then and there, prompting Walter to formulate a plan, as mentioned earlier, and with Walter White's chemistry knowledge, he would convince both Krazy 8 and Emilio to show him his recipe, knowing that they likely aren't that knowledgeable as chemists. His plan goes as follows:

1. Lure them into the RV to show them the cooking process.

2. Create the recipe for phosphine gas.

3. Run out of the RV while holding his breath.

In one fell swoop, he was able to eliminate, or neutralize both Krazy 8 and Emilio as well as keeping himself and Jesse safe, with the fire men showing up due to Emilio throwing the cigarette into the dead grass,
(Planning Coverage, Strategic Shielding, Direct Manipulation, Planning Formulation Speed, Trap Setting, Trap Evasion)

The episode ends with Walter and Skylar talking to one another.

Episode 2

The episode picks up after the events of the first episode.