SAVANTS · EPISODE 13

Living Clocks: People Who Master the Dimension of Time

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Today we delve into one of the most fascinating and sometimes inexplicable phenomena of savant syndrome: the ability to time with astonishing precision. What does this mean? Imagine your brain is like a living clock, as precise as a high-end quartz watch. Some people with savant syndrome can know the exact second in which something happened without the help of clocks or electronic devices.

For some of these people, time is not a straight line but a network of internal connections. Their brain counts internal pulses, almost as if it had an internal clock. These pulses are signals that their brain uses to keep time with extraordinary accuracy. These skills are like having a sixth sense for time.

- Some people can remember events with almost photographic accuracy.
- Others can anticipate events with remarkable precision.
- And some can synchronize their actions with external events with almost supernatural exactness.

Introduction to the Phenomenon

Savant syndrome is a rare and complex phenomenon characterized by extraordinary abilities in specific areas, often in people with some form of intellectual disability. Today we focus on a particular ability: the ability to measure time with extraordinary precision.

This ability is so surprising that it sometimes seems magical. But in reality, it is an extraordinary brain skill that allows us to understand and anticipate time in a way most of us cannot.

The Clock Brain

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Notable Cases

Some people can remember events with almost photographic accuracy. They can remember the exact moment something happened, as if they had a live recording in their brain. Others can anticipate events with remarkable precision, almost as if they could see the future. And some can synchronize their actions with external events with almost supernatural exactness.

How It Works

The ability to time with such precision is due to a complex network of neural connections that process and measure time in great detail. These neural connections work together to count internal pulses, creating a kind of extremely precise internal clock.

Implications

This ability offers us a unique window into understanding how the human brain works. It shows us that, despite our limitations, the human brain is capable of performing extraordinary tasks when focused on specific areas.