

Character Traits



1. Complete the following sentences with the words from the box

sneaky	sensible	reliable	polite	charismatic
outgoing	stubborn	insane	shy	naughty
strict	mean	cheerful	tough	enthusiastic

- a) She's so *stubborn*, you'll never get her to change her mind.
- b) The teacher is very *strict*, she doesn't even let the kids chew gum in class.
- c) It's always *sensible* to bring an umbrella with you in autumn
- d) You have to be *tough* if you want to be a boxer.
- e) My cat is very *sneaky*, he always pretends he hasn't been fed to get more food.
- f) The trains in some Asian countries are not very *reliable*.
- g) I was really *shy* when I was a kid, I couldn't look anyone in the eye.
- h) You spent \$10,000 on a watch?? Are you *insane*?
- i) In some countries it is *polite* to burp after eating to show you enjoyed the meal
- j) Some of my students don't seem very motivated, but Sarah is always very *enthusiastic* to learn new things.
- k) I wish I could be like my sister, she's so *outgoing*! She's always going out to parties and meeting new people.
- l) She's always so *cheerful*! Even when something bad happens she seems happy!
- m) He's a very *charismatic* guy, people just seem to want to be around him.
- n) James don't be so *naughty*! You have to listen in class and follow the rules!
- o) My boss is always yelling at me, he's so *mean*



2. Pair work: think of a person you know and describe them to you partner. Use the words above and any other words that describe this person.

Eg. "My daughter can be a little shy sometimes, but once she relaxes she is a really cheerful girl!"



3. We often use compound adjectives (two words joined together) to describe personality. Match sentences below with a compound adjective from the box that describes the speaker.

short-tempered	absent-minded	big-headed
level-headed	self-conscious	self-centred
laid-back	hard-working	open-minded

- a) It's fine, I don't mind working on the weekend, as long as the job gets finished. *hard-working*
- b) Oh god I can't find my keys again. I lose them every time I put them down! *absent-minded*
- c) What are you doing? The light turned green 10 seconds ago! Are you blind?? *short-tempered*
- d) Yes the ship is sinking, but we have plenty of time to get to the life boats, so nobody needs to panic. *level-headed*
- e) Why should I care about what happens to the world in 100 years? I'll be dead by then, so who cares? *self-centred*
- f) I don't understand why people get so stressed out. Just have a cup of tea and relax. *laid-back*
- g) I hate answering the teachers questions, I feel like I always sound stupid. *self-conscious*
- h) Honestly I'm clearly the best person at my company. Nobody else is even close. *big-headed*
- i) I'm always willing to try new things, and I'm always ready to change my opinions. *open-minded*



4. Pair work: Choose an adjective from exercise 1 and 3 above and ask your partner "who is the most..... person you know?" and have a conversation.

E.g. *Who is the most hard-working person you know?*