



CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOUR



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Expemo code:
139F-N6C9-TLF7

1

Character traits

Study the following adjectives. Find their meaning in a dictionary and complete the sentences below.

~~arrogant~~
~~honest~~

~~boring~~
~~rude~~

~~cheerful~~
~~shy~~

~~funny~~
~~smart~~

~~generous~~
~~friendly~~

- Joseph is very friendly. Everybody likes him!
- My grandmother is very generous. Every time I see her, she gives me 100 dollars!
- George is so funny. I always laugh when I spend time with him.
- Darrel is very arrogant. He thinks he is better than everybody else.
- Jack is very smart. He can learn a new language in just one month!
- Steven is quite boring. When I listen to him, I want to sleep.
- Akiko is very honest. She never lies.
- Kate is really rude. She never says "please," "thank you," or "you're welcome".
- Angela is a very shy girl. She doesn't speak when there are a lot of people around her.
- Pedro is a very cheerful guy. He likes smiling and laughing.

Which of these adjectives are qualities? Which are flaws?

Work in pairs. Think about your friends or acquaintances. Tell your partner about their qualities and flaws using adverbs of frequency, for example:

Tony is usually friendly and generous, but sometimes he can be moody.



2 Opposites

Complete the opposites with 'dis' or 'un':

1. friendly - un friendly
2. honest - _____ honest
3. funny - _____ funny

Now match the adjectives on the left with their opposites on the right:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. generous | a. confident |
| 2. boring | b. interesting |
| 3. shy | c. miserable |
| 4. smart | d. polite |
| 5. rude | e. selfish |
| 6. cheerful | f. stupid |

Test your partner. Read an adjective and ask your partner to tell you its opposite. Example:

Student A: *What's the opposite of 'selfish'?*

Student B: *The opposite of selfish is 'generous'.*

3 Describing behavior

Some of the adjectives in this lesson can also describe a person's behavior. Study the sentence below about John, a 40-year-old American tourist in Paris.

John is being stupid.

Normally, we don't use the present continuous of the verb 'be'. However, when we talk about somebody's behavior, we can use the present continuous of 'be'. The meaning is:

John is behaving in a stupid way right now. (NOT: John is generally stupid.)

In pairs, look at what John said below. Describe how he is behaving using the present continuous of 'be' + adjectives from this lesson.

1. "I learned French in a week. I'm so wonderful!"
2. "I can't help you. I'm not from France. Please go away!"
3. "I hate this job. I do the same thing every day. I don't want to go back to work."
4. "I'm American."
5. "I look older, but I'm only 28 years old."
6. "Thank you very much for your help."



Work in pairs. Take turns to select and read a sentence from below. Your partner should say how you are behaving using "You are being ..."

1. "You can stay at my place for a month, for free."
2. "I'm _____ years old."
3. "I don't like you. Go away."
4. "I'm the best person in the world."
5. "No, I don't want to lend you any money."
6. "Let's go to the casino. We can win a lot of money."
7. "Thank you for helping me with my homework. That was very nice of you."
8. "Hello, nice to meet you!"

4**Talking point**

How do different nationalities behave?

Remember, when we talk about people's 'general behaviour', we say '*They are ...*', for example:

Italians are usually cheerful and friendly.



Key

1. Character traits

- | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| 2. generous | 3. funny | 4. arrogant | 5. smart | 6. boring |
| 7. honest | 8. rude | 9. shy | 10. cheerful | |

Explain what qualities and flaws are. Qualities: friendly, generous, funny, smart, honest. Flaws: arrogant, boring, rude. 'Shy' could be considered a neutral or negative character trait, depending on the degree.

2. Opposites

- | | | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 2. dis | | 3. un | | | |
| 1. e | 2. b | 3. a | 4. f | 5. d | 6. c |

3. Describing behavior

Possible answers:

- He's being arrogant.
- He is being rude
- He is being miserable.
- He is being honest.
- He is being dishonest.
- He is being polite.

Possible answers (some answers can depend on the context):

- You're being generous.
- You're being honest/dishonest.
- You're being rude/unfriendly.
- You're being arrogant.
- You're being selfish/smart.
- You're being stupid.
- You're being polite.
- You're being friendly.