**CHARACTER**

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**TOPICAL VOCABULARY**

1. **Types of character**

**(Типы характера)**

sanguine [`sxNgwIn] живой, жизнерадостный, сангвистический

choleric [`kOlqrIk] раздражительный, желчный

melancholic ["melqn`kOlIk] грустный, меланхолический

phlegmatic [fleg`mxtIk] вялый, флегматичный

**2. Traits of Character**

**(Черты характера)**

hard-working / industrious [In`dAstrIqs] трудолюбивый

lazy [`leIzI] ленивый

polite [pq`laIt] вежливый

impolite ["Impq`laIt] невежливый

shy [SaI] застенчивый, робкий, нерешительный

rude / coarse [rHd] [kLs] грубый

modest [`mOdIst] скромный

quiet / calm [`kwaIqt] тихий, спокойный

ambitious [xm`bISqs амбициозный, честолюбивый, стремящийся к

 чему-либо

 naughty [`nLtI] капризный, непослушный

well-balanced ['wel`bxlqnst] уравновешенный

unbalanced [An`bxlqnst] неуравновешенный

well-bred ['wel`bred] благовоспитанный

ill-bred ['Il`bred] невоспитанный

sincere [sIn`sIq] искренний

insincere ["InsIn`sIq] неискренний

frank [frxNk] искренний, открытый, откровенный

reserved [rI`zWvd] замкнутый, скрытный, сдержанный,

 необщительный

discreet [dIs`krJt] осмотрительный, благоразумный,

 сдержанный, рассудительный, скромный

honest [`OnIst] честный, правдивый

dishonest [dIs`OnIst] нечестный

kind [kaInd] добрый, милый, сердечный, славный

cruel [kruql] жестокий

kind-hearted ['kaInd`hRtId] добрый, мягкосердечный

open-hearted ['oupqn"hRtId] чистосердечный

heartless [`hRtlIs] бессердечный

sadistic [sq`dIsIk] садистский

good-natured ['gud`neICqd] добродушный

wicked [`wIkId] злой, безнравственный

sociable [`souSqbl] общительный

unsociable [An`souSqbl] необщительный

self-assured / self-confident ['selfq`Suqd] самоуверенный, самонадеянный

easy-going ['JzI"go(u)IN] беспечный, добродушный, беззаботный, с

 легким характером

arrogant [`xrqgqnt] высокомерный, надменный, заносчивый

cheerful [`CIqful] веселый, бодрый

sullen [`sAlqn] угрюмый, сердитый, замкнутый

boring [`bLrIN] надоедливый, скучный

generous [`Genqrqs] щедрый

greedy (of, for) [`grJdI] жадный

reliable [rI`laIqbl] надежный, заслуживающий доверия

unreliable ["AnrI`laIqbl] ненадежный, не заслуживающий доверия

noble [noubl] благородный

patient [`peISqnt] терпимый; упорный, настойчивый

tolerant [`tOlqrqnt] терпимый

impatient [Im`peISqnt] нетерпеливый

intolerant [In`tOlqrqnt] нетерпимый

talkative [`tLkqtIv] разговорчивый, болтливый

taciturn / silent [`txsItWn] молчаливый

touchy [`tACI] обидчивый

hypersensitive ["haIpq `sensItIv] с повышенной чувствительностью

thick-skinned [TIks`kInd] нечувствительный, толстокожий

selfish [`selfIS] эгоистичный

unselfish ['An`selfIS] бескорыстный

careful [`kFqful] заботливый, старательный, внимательный,

 аккуратный

careless [`kFqlIs] беззаботный, беспечный, легкомысленный,

 невнимательный, неаккуратный

courageous [kq`reIGqs] храбрый, отважный, смелый

brave [breIv] храбрый, смелый

cowardly [`kauqdlI] трусливый, подлый

two-faced ['tH`feIst] двуличный

straightforward ['streIt`fLwqd] прямой, откровенный, честный

practical [`prxktIkql] практичный

unpractical ["An`prxktIkql] непрактичный

tactful [`txktful] тактичный

tactless [`txktlIs] нетактичный, бестактный

obstinate [`ObstInIt] упрямый

decisive [dI`saIsIv] решительный

indecisive ["IndI`saIsIv] нерешительный

boastful [`boastful] хвастливый

impudent [`Impjud(q)nt] дерзкий, бесстыдный, наглый

imprudent [Im`prHdqnt] неблагоразумный, опрометчивый,

 неосмотрительный

self-centered ['self`sentqd] эгоцентричный

ill-natured ['Il`neICqd] грубый, злобный

mean [mJn] подлый, низкий, нечестный

truthful [`trHTful] правдивый

cunning [`kAnIN] хитрый, коварный

artful [`Rtful] хитрый, ловкий, проворный

artless [`RtlIs] бесхитростный, простой

thrifty [`TrIftI] экономный, бережливый, расчетливый

eccentric [Ik`sentrIk] странный, эксцентричный; чудак

abrupt [q`brApt] резкий, грубый (манеры)

inquisitive [In`kwIzItIv] любопытный, пытливый, любознательный

inquiring [In`kwaIqrIN] пытливый, любознательный

tender [`tendqr] нежный, мягкий, чувствительный

sly [slaI] лукавый, хитрый, пронырливый

just [GAst] справедливый

fair [fFq] порядочный, справедливый

considerate [kqn`sId(q)rIt] внимательный к другим, деликатный

faithful [`feITful] верный, преданный

brutal [brHtl] жесткий, бесчеловечный, зверский

resolute [`rezqlHt] решительный

diligent [`dIlIGqnt] прилежный, старательный

attentive [q`tentIv] внимательный

inattentive ["Inq`tentIv] невнимательный

self-possessed ['selfpq`zest] хладнокровный

**3. Intellectual Ability**

**(Умственные способности)**

intelligent [In`telIGqnt] умный, смышленый

unintelligent ["AnIn`telIGqnt] неумный

bright [braIt] сообразительный, смышленый

dull [dAl] тупой, глупый

smart [smRt] умный, остроумный, сообразительный;

 энергичный, быстрый

foolish [`fHlIS] глупый

clever [`klevqr] умный

silly [`sIlI] глупый, неразумный, слабоумный

witty [`wItI] остроумный

half-witted ['hRf`wItId] слабоумный, очень глупый

wise [waIz] мудрый

unwise [An`waIz] глупый, неблагоразумный

stupid [`stjHpId] тупой, глупый

brainy [`breInI] умный, мозговитый

brainless [`breInlIs] безмозглый

broad-minded ['brLd`maIndId] широких взглядов, с широким кругозором

gifted [`gIftId] одаренный

narrow- -minded [`nxrou"maIndId] ограниченный, недалекий

talented [`txlqntId] талантливый

untalented [An`txlqntId] бездарный

progressive [prqgresIv] прогрессивный

dogmatic [dOg`mxtIk] категорический, не допускающий возражений

***Ex.1. Form nouns with suffixes –ness, -ity, -ence (ance), - ation.***

polite generous inable friendly faithful fair

serious tender incapable brutal stupid frank

sincere inactive fearless sociable cheerful considerate

careless resolute diligent selfish imprudent foolish

independent noble indifferent amoral unsociable

***Ex. 2. Choose the right prefix.***

**a) in- b) un- c) dis- d) im- e) ir-**

sincere different frank resolute honest sociable

gifted faithful talented friendly capable balanced

just human active reliable sensitive decent

attentive proper considerate reasonable prudent responsible

kind passionate fair

***Ex. 3. State the meaning of the suffixes* -ful, -less *and the prefixes* un-, im-, ir-, in-, il- *by translating the following pairs of words.***

thoughtful – thoughtless kind - unkind

truthful - truthless patient - impatient

careful - careless beautiful - beautiless

meaningful – meaningless hopeful – hopeless

responsible – irresponsible sincere – insincere

tolerant – intolerant logical – illogical

***Ex. 4. Form adjectives with these suffixes:***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **-ative (-ive)** | **-ous** | **-less** | **-able (-ible)** | **-ant (-ent)** | **-ful** | **-ish** |

response tolerate ambition heart selfishness sociability

cheer diligence generosity rely patience talk

care courage tact obstinacy boast impudence

truth intelligence fool brain independence industry

***Ex. 5. Translate adjectives with the suffix – ish. Mind that it has different meanings.***

foolish (person) N + ish = like a noun

coldish (weather) A + ish = quite, fairly adjective

selfish (person) reddish (hair)

snobbish (person) longish (hair)

boyish (figure) biggish (crowd)

childish (behavior) tallish (person)

girlish (laugh) bluish (color)

**Ex. 6. *Form compound adjectives beginning with* well-, good-, kind-, self-, strong-, open-, broad-, ill-.**

 assured

 minded

behaved

balanced

well educated

good adjusted

kind bred

self brought up

strong paid

open known

broad informed

ill hearted

 taught

 willed

 mannered

 natured

**Ex. 7. *A. Give the opposite of the adjectives below.***

 ***B. Find a noun which can follow both adjectives.***

 **ADJECTIVE OPPOSITE NOUN**

1. careful careless man

2. hard-working \_\_\_ \_\_\_

3. quiet \_\_\_ \_\_\_

4. responsible \_\_\_ \_\_\_

5. progressive \_\_\_ \_\_\_

6. well-balanced \_\_\_ \_\_\_

7. cheerful \_\_\_ \_\_\_

8. well-known \_\_\_ \_\_\_

9. polite \_\_\_ \_\_\_

10. strong \_\_\_ \_\_\_

11.open-minded \_\_\_ \_\_\_

12. cruel \_\_\_ \_\_\_

***C. Complete the following phrases. Use the adjectives you gave in answer to 6 B.***

1. a \_\_\_ person 7. a \_\_\_ student
2. a \_\_\_ character 8. a\_\_\_ scientist
3. \_\_\_ manners 9. \_\_\_ world
4. a \_\_\_ man 10. \_\_\_ views
5. a \_\_\_ American 11. a \_\_\_ boy
6. a \_\_\_ leader 12. a \_\_\_ answer

***Ex. 8. Match the words in pairs of synonyms.***

**a)**

1. rude a. clever

2. sincere b. good-natured

3. patient c. foolish

4. courageous d. calm

5. gifted e. industrious

6. wise f. coarse

7. smart g. frank

8. silly h. tolerant

9. hard-working i. brave

10. quiet j. talented

11. kind k. brainy

**b)**

1. straightforward a. curious

2. stubborn b. unwise

3. cunning c. devoted

4. just d. cruel

5. discreet e. attentive

6. sullen f. honest

7. easy-going g. obstinate

8. inquiring h. sly

9. brutal i. fair

10. considerate j. gloomy

11. faithful k. careful

12. imprudent l. careless

*Ex. 9. Use the adjectives listed below to complete the following sentences describing character as in the example:*

childish, cruel, dishonest, friendly, lazy, mean, moody, rude, shy, stubborn, tactless

*Then choose from the list below the adjective which has a meaning almost the same as the word you have just used. Write each adjective next to its synonym.*

blunt, deceitful, idle, immature, insolent, miserly, obstinate, timid, sociable, spiteful, temperamental

e.g. Maria is a friendly/sociable girl who loves meeting people and gets on well with everyone.

1. A good example of Roger's \_\_\_ behavior was the time that he refused to finish a game of chess because he was losing.

2. Andrew is so \_\_\_ that he does nothing all day except sit and watch television.

3. Sandra is a rather \_\_\_ girl who enjoys upsetting people and getting them into trouble.

4. Gerald tends to be a(n) \_\_\_ person; it's difficult to believe what he says or to trust him.

5. Speaking to strangers is terrifying for Elaine because she is so \_\_\_.

6. Melissa tends to be \_\_\_ and often upsets people by saying what she thinks without considering their feelings.

7. My brother is very \_\_\_; he can suddenly change from being perfectly charming to angry or miserable.

8. Mr. Purvis is a rather \_\_\_ old man who refuses to change his mind once he has reached a decision about something.

9. The way that he shouts at his teachers is just one example of his \_\_\_ behavior.

10. I think Carol is \_\_\_ because she only spends money when she absolutely has to.

***Ex. 10.*** ***Match the words in pairs of antonyms.***

1. polite a. inconsiderate

2. sincere b. inattentive

3. frank c. insensitive

4. honest d. passive

5. talented e. unselfish

6. capable f. greedy

7. hard-working g. unfair

8. just h. rude

9. fair i. insincere

10. generous j. unfrank

11. selfish k. dishonest

12. active l. untalented

13. sensitive m. incapable

14. attentive n. lazy

15. careful o. unjust

16. considerate p. unreliable

17. reliable q. careless

***Ex. 11. State which characteristics can be considered as positive or negative.***

fair – brutal considerate – obstinate

selfish – faithful insincere - modest

just – sly polite - rude

naive – cunning thrifty - mean

self-assured - arrogant original - eccentric

frank - abrupt inquiring - inquisitive

ambitious – bossy kind – cruel

good-natured - wicked greedy - generous

obstinate – careful two-faced – sincere

***Ex. 12. Define the type of a person being described.***

1) a person who is always cheerful, confident, energetic, positive and optimistic a) melancholic

2) a person who is irritable, hastily (запальчивый) in all his / her actions, inclined to anger b) phlegmatic

3) a person who is a great and heavy thinker c) choleric

4) a person who is cold, indifferent, not easily excited into a passion d) sanguine

***Ex. 13. How do you qualify a person who is:***

1. ***independent***  a) enjoys meeting people and making new friends;

**2*. sociable*** b) decides things for himself, doesn't ask people for help or advise;

**3. *emotional*** c) often gives friends gifts and enjoys spending money on other people;

***4. generous*** d) whether he is excited or sad, he shows his feelings very easily;

***5. impatient*** e) has a very high opinion of himself;

***6. arrogant*** f) doesn’t like to wait for anything;

***7. unbalanced*** g) loses his / her temper quickly;

***8. knowledgeable*** h) reads a lot and knows much about the world;

***9. touchy*** i) not easily giving way to argument or persuasion ;

***10. boastful*** j) is easily hurt;

***11. obstinate*** k) can’t keep a secret

***Ex. 14. Do as shown in the model.***

**MODEL**: What do we call people who talk too much?

 - We call them ***talkative.***

1. What do we call people who never tell lies?

2. What do we call people who are fond of the company of others and who are friendly?

3. What do we call people who are open, show clearly the thoughts and feelings?

4. What do we call people who don’t like to work?

5. What do we call people who always say “please” and “thank you”?

6. What do we call people who are ready to give freely what they have to others?

7. What do we call people who think of and are interested in one’s own needs and welfare without care for others?

***Ex. 15. Guess what kind of people these drawings characterize.***

   

   

   

***Ex. 16. Using the words listed below characterize the people who reveal***

a) different attitudes towards life;

b) different attitudes towards other people.

a) - looking on either the bright or the black side of things;

- practical, not dreamy in approach to life;

- calm or not calm with regard to attitude to life;

- outward-looking or inward-looking (i.e. to the world around one or to one's own inner world).

b) - can be always relied on;

- telling the truth to others;

- disagreeing with others;

- wants to do much in his professional life;

- has no moral principles;

- taking pleasure in one's pain;

- relaxed in attitude to self and others;

- not polite to others;

- unhappy if others have what one doesn't have oneself.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a) immoral, pessimistic, sensible, down-to-earth relaxed, tense, extroverted, introverted

b) cruel, sadistic, easy-going, even-tempered, impolite, rude, ill-mannered, jealous, envious honest, sincere, reliable, quarrelsome, argumentative

*Ex. 17. All the sentences below use the simple linking word "because". Rewrite each of the sentences using the linking word or phrase in bold type.*

**e.g.** People often find him offensive because he says exactly what he thinks.

A result of ...

A result of his saying exactly what he thinks is that people often find him offensive.

1. People trust Paul because he is so honest. Since ...

2. He is very successful because he works extremely hard. The reason ...

3. Joan is an interesting person because she has lived in exotic places and has had so many strange experiences

 .... ; as a result, ...

4. Don comes across as being inquisitive because he tends to ask people a lot of questions. ..., so ...

5. I dislike her because she is vain and self-centered. ... due to the fact that (due to being)

***Ex. 18. Rate personal characteristics in order of their importance for a given role or job. Train the following base structures:***

A mother-in-law should (be)... , or It is (more) important for a mother-in-law to (be)...

Teacher: intelligent, pleasant to look at, consistent, moral in private life, fair, honest, authoritative, flexible, have a sense of humor, love children, make lessons interesting, know subject, teach subject well, speak clearly.

Wife or husband: tolerant, considerate, faithful, affectionate to husband/wife, affectionate to children, hardworking, tidy, home-loving, good-looking, rich, thrifty, quiet, well-educated.

Ruler: just, knowledgeable, rich, honest, married, authoritative, charismatic, friendly, hard-working, clever, confident, tolerant, tall, has well-ordered private life.

Baby (one year to eighteen months old): beautiful, toilet-trained, affectionate, obedient, quiet, healthy, cheerful, sociable with strangers, intelligent for its age, sleep through the night, eat well, can play alone for long periods.

Mother-in-law: willing to baby-sit, attractive, generous, young (relatively!), well-dressed, rich, good at organizing home, has many interests, does not interfere, has other married children, lives nearby.

Soldier (a private): disciplined, strong, brave, well-trained, patriotic, intelligent, resourceful, healthy, educated, even-tempered, tidy, cheerful, friendly, shoots accurately, thinks for himself.

***Ex. 19. Explain the meaning of the following:***

a friend in need, a fair-weather friend, a heart of gold, a chameleon, a man of character, a man of no character, a chatterbox.

***Ex. 20. In groups or teams ask each other questions like these:***

- And what exactly is intelligence?

- I think if you are intelligent you have a lot of brains. And what is violence?

- If you are violent you attack people.

***Use the adjectives in the answers.***

***Ex. 21. Translate into Russian.***

1. It was like her to have deceived this person. 2. He proved to be a fair-weather friend. 3. As I listened to the judge my heart sank into my boots. 4. Your friend is not as simple as he appears. 5. You needn't be too sure of winning the contest, you may be disappointed. 6. Don't give me orders in a disagreeable manner. 7. She likes to praise her precious self and to find faults with everybody and everything around. 8. You needn't be suspicious of people who are willing to sacrifice themselves for the sake of others. 9. They say a round chin suggests a very outgoing character. 10.I find it hard to get along with touchy people. 11. The way a person acts depends on his upbringing. 12. People get wiser as they get older. 13. Don't expect your children to obey you. This is both unfair and unwise. 14. No wisdom like silence.

***Ex. 22. Turn the following descriptions into dialogues saying what somebody is like.***

**Model:** My younger brother Jim is a schoolboy. He spends a lot of time at his computers. He is only 15, but very serious for his age. Jim is not very sociable. He is hard-working and does well at school.

* I think your brother Jim is very serious for his age.
* Yes, he spends a lot of time at his computers and he is not very sociable.
* But he seems to be hard-working and does well at school.
* You are right. He is the best pupil in the group.

1***) Jack*** is my cousin. He is a nine-year-old boy. He likes noisy games and his teacher says he can't behave in class. Sometimes even his mother can't manage him. He is lazy about doing his homework and sometimes tells lie. In spite of all his faults everybody likes him.

2) ***This man*** is always complaining about everything around. It gets on my nerves. He is a real bore and hasn't got any sense of humor at all. If you spend more than five minutes with him you just want to sleep.

3) ***Jane*** is a practical young woman. She is good at housekeeping. Jane is an excellent cook and is happy to do housework. Jane is a sociable person and makes friends easily. She is a very good companion.

4) ***Moll*** has the irritating habit of biting her nails but apart from that she is always welcoming and positive. If you don't know her well, you may think she is a bit arrogant, but she isn't really. Actually, she isn't all that bright and often appears puzzled by life.

***Ex. 23. Reveal your attitude to the type of people described.***

1. ***Alan*** likes reading, but only history and biography, not fiction. He likes exploring his city, its streets, churches and museums. He dislikes his job but has no courage to change it. He has no courage to change anything in his life. He is one of the men who are supposed to inherit the earth but can't find his place in it.

2. ***The boy*** is very unhappy. He is often hurt but he can't help it. He has even less faith in himself than he has in others. He continues to be dependent and unhappy, while he struggles for independence chiefly by taking a negative attitude towards society. He is critical of teachers and other authorities. The boy has none of the accepted standards of conduct.

3. ***Daniel*** is rather a colorless boy, both in appearance and in personality. He is of average height, neither handsome nor attractive. There is nothing about his behavior, either negative or positive, that serves to differentiate him to a casual observer. He is shy and passive. He is an insignificant member of the school group.

4. ***I'm*** not as enthusiastic about people as you are. I don't take people for what they look and sound. I try to size them up according to their deeds. That's why I pass my judgment only on second thought. Very often some little things make us change our opinion of a person for the worse...

5. ***Betty*** is a pretty girl, very graceful and quick. Her home environment is a permissive one. She is free to go out with boys, to go to movies, to dances, etc. She is never punished, and she isn't afraid of her parents like some of the girls are. In summary, Betty is mature for her age physically, emotionally, intellectually. She is self-confident and unusually secure in her social relations.

***Ex. 24. Read the description of some people's character and behavior. Imagine you were forced to be in their company (at the party, on a bus trip, trapped in a lift) for some time and say what might happen.***

1) My neighbor is a man of 40, not good-looking and not yet ugly. He is nearly bald and the hair that remains is reddish. His eyes are small, blue or grey. He looks commonplace. He is just a good, dull, honest, plain man, a pretty bore. One can admire his quality but avoid his company.

2) She is attractive. She got lovely hair but the trouble is she knows it as well. She thinks she is the greatest. She always thinks she's the best at everything. All she ever thinks about is herself. She can't stand criticism of herself.

3) I felt depressed about the whole ghastly situation. I hate the way Chris and Susi just refuse to talk to each other - it has an awful effect on the children. I know these days this sort of break-up is common, but being so close to it makes me feel very miserable. There's a sinking, empty feeling in the stomach as you realize that a part of young life is being destroyed. Actually, I get very angry just talking to Chris but I don't think that really helps anyone.

***Ex. 25. Read these brief character descriptions. Which of these four people sounds most like you? Which would you most like to meet?***

Angela



"I'm an active and energetic person - I can't bear just sitting around doing nothing. It makes me impatient and restless. But I know what I want, and I think I've got what it takes to achieve my goals. Does that make me sound horribly ambitious and selfish? I hope not!"

Kevin



"I'm the kind of person who knows how to have a good time. I suppose you would call me fun-loving, but it's more than that. I actually believe in a calm, cool, easy-going approach to life and I can't bear unnecessary anxiety and pressure. I believe in being and taking life as it comes ..."

Larry



"My problem can be summarized in one word: self-confidence. I just don't have enough. I'm shy with other people, who must think I'm boring and stupid sometimes. Lack of confidence also makes me indecisive: I spend days trying to make up my mind what to do about quite simple things. I'm told I sometimes look moody, but in fact I like being with other people ..."

Katherine



"How do I see myself? Well, I'm forgetful and disorganized - some would say absent-minded! But I've got quite a lot of willpower, really, and I've got ideas. I'm a hard worker too when I'm doing something I'm interested in. I'm not very articulate when it comes to public speaking but I quite enjoy being the centre of attention, and I don't get in the least bit nervous."

***Ex. 26. Fill in this table with positive and negative traits of character. Then explain why you think so.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TRAITS OF CHARACTER** | **POSITIVE** | **NEGATIVE** |
| **adjectives** | **nouns** | **adjectives** | **nouns** |
| polite | politeness | rude | rudeness |
|  |  |  |  |

***Example***: A polite person always shows regard for others in manners, speech, behavior, etc. He is well-behaved and kind to others.

***Ex. 27. There are some interesting expressions characterizing people. Guess what kind of person they describe and then check your answer with the key. Can you apply these words to yourself or persons you know?***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. a pain in the neck | 1. She talks on and on about her opinions and ideas. |
| b. a rolling stone | 2. He’s always got his head in the clouds, always fantasizing. |
| c. a slow coach | 3. Everyone thinks he’ll get rapid promotion. He’s destined to succeed. |
| d. a tomboy | 4. He loves taking dangerous risks. |
| e. a daydreamer | 5. He dresses and behaves in a very careless, often disgusting way. |
| f. a dare-devil | 6. She’s a girl who likes to play rough, boys’ games. |
| g. a battle-axe | 7. He’s a bit wild, always getting into fights and other trouble. |
| h. a golden boy | 8. She’s very aggressive and bossy. She likes to dominate. |
| i. a tearaway | 9. He’s a real nuisance. I can’t stand him. |
| j. a wind bag | 10. He’s always slow and behind the others in his work or studies. |
| k. a slob | 11. He can’t settle down. He goes from job to job, place to place. |

Key: a-9, b-11, c-10, d-6, e-2, f-4, g-8, h-3, i-7, j-1, k-5

***Ex. 28. Using the table below try to characterize yourself. You may start speaking beginning with the words …***

***- As far as I can judge …***

***- From my point of view …***

***- To tell you the truth …***

***- Generally speaking …***

**I AM …**



**\*mama’s boy \*a fitness fanatic (заводила) \*a conformist / a non-conformist**

**\*my parents’ pride & joy \*a ring leader, not a follower \*a cheat**

**\*my mama’s blue-eyed boy \*a bold piece \*an erudite**

**\*my most severe critic \*an unpredictable teenager \*a demon for accuracy**

**\*my own worst enemy \*a black sheep in the family \*a rage (гнев)**

**\*a dreamer \*a thrill seeker (любитель (искатель) острых ощущений)**

**\*a daydreamer \*an outdoor explorer \*a hot head**

**\*an incurable romantic \*a know-it-all (всезнайка) \*a sports crazy man**

**\*an unbeliever \*a heavy drug user \*a self-absorbed individual**

**\*a little imp (little devil) \*a near alcoholic \*an untidy slob**

**\*an optimist / pessimist \*a drunk \*a coach potato**

**\*a fatalist \*a natural/incorrigible liar \*a natural athlete**

**\*an extremist \*a bit of an odd ball \*a brain**

**\*a man of my word \* a heart breaker \*a hell raiser**

**\*a churchgoer/theatergoer \*a charlatan \*a trouble-maker**

**\*an art lover \*a well-wisher \*a loose cannon**

**\*a nature lover \*a boaster \*a society smoothie**

**\*a workhorse \*a go-getter (пробивной) \*a womanizer**

**\*a workaholic/bookaholic \*a do-gooder \*an original thinker**

**\*a domesticated creature \*a vulgar showoff \*a bad & irregular letter writer**

**\*a homeboy/homebody \*a quick study \*the luckiest man alive**

**\*a sound/heavy sleeper \*a real beast \*a wouldn’t-hurt-a-fly type**

**\*an early riser/bird \*a social climber \*a reserved type**

**\*a night owl \*an adventurer \*an indoor/outdoor type**

**\*a light/chain smoker (заядлый) \*much of a loner \*a fastidious type**

**\*a big/light eater \*an egomaniac \*a stay-at-home type**

**\*a convinced atheist \*a sucker for homeless cats \*a religious person**

**\*a well-bred person \*a history buff \*a cheerful person by nature**

**\*a laughing stock (хохотушка) \*a lay-about \*a lazy person by nature**

**\*a gardening enthusiast \*almost a vegetable \*a bubbly person**

**\*a complete wreck \*a maverick \*an extroverted person**

**\*an easy crier (плакса) \*an achiever \*a very funny person**

**\*a keen mountaineer \*an idle being \*a very stylish person**

**\*an environmentalist \*no stranger to police \*a fiendish person**

**\*a risk-taker \*no saint \*a conniving person**

**\*a strong-willed man \*a devotee of “TITANIC” \*an adventure-loving person**

**\* a city man \*a bully (хулиган) \*a very down to earth person**

**\*a town-bred child \*a big head \*a straight speaking person**

**\*a TV/DIV/history addict \*a glutton (обжора) \*a clear thinking person**

**\*a do-it-yourselfer \*an armchair detective \*a life-loving person**

**\*a chain coffee drinker \*a bad loser \*a pleasure-loving person**

**\*a crossword puzzle fanatic \*an alarmist (паникер) \*a snappy person**

**\*a healthy food fanatic \* a wife-beater \*a good hearted person**

**\*hell on two feet (дьяволенок) \*a busybody \*a witty type of a person**

**Zodiac Signs**

**Step 1.  Prepare a handout of Zodiac-sign descriptions like the following.**

**Capricorn** (December 22—January 19)
--**Positive personality traits**: responsible, persistent, disciplined, calm
--**Negative personality traits**: pessimistic, conservative, shy

**Aquarius** (January 21—February 19)
--**Positive personality traits**: inventive, clever, humanitarian, friendly
--**Negative personality traits**: aloof, unpredictable, rebellious

**Pisces** (February19—March 20)
--**Positive personality traits**: romantic, devoted, compassionate
--**Negative personality traits**: indecisive, escapist, idealistic

**Aries** (March 21—April 20)
--**Positive personality traits**: generous, enthusiastic, efficient
--**Negative personality traits**: quick-tempered, selfish, arrogant

**Taurus** (April 21—May 20)
--**Positive personality traits**: reliable, stable, determined
--**Negative personality traits**: possessive, greedy, materialistic

**Gemini** (May 21—June 21)
--**Positive personality traits**: witty, creative, eloquent, curious
--**Negative personality traits**: impatient, restless, tense

**Cancer** (June 22—July 22)
--**Positive personality traits**: intuitive, nurturing, frugal, cautious
--**Negative personality traits**: moody, self-pitying, jealous

**Leo** (July 23—August 22)
--**Positive personality traits**: confident, independent, ambitious
--**Negative personality traits**: bossy, vain, dogmatic

**Virgo** (August 23—September 22)
--**Positive personality traits**: analytical, practical, precise
--**Negative personality traits**: picky, inflexible, perfectionist

**Libra** (September 23—October 22)
--**Positive personality traits**: diplomatic, easygoing, sociable,
--**Negative personality traits**: changeable, unreliable, superficial

**Scorpio** (October 23—November 21)
--**Positive personality traits**:  passionate, resourceful, focused
--**Negative personality traits**: narcissistic, manipulative, suspicious

**Sagittarius** (November 22—December 21)
--**Positive personality traits**: optimistic, adventurous, straightforward
--**Negative personality traits**: careless, reckless, irresponsible

**Step 2. Find out which sign of the zodiac students were born under.**

Distribute worksheets to all students.  Ask them to complete the first two sentences.
Q1. I was born on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (birth date).
Q2. I am a/an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (sign).
(Sample Answer: I was born on May 26th.  I am a Gemini.)

**Step 3. Do you agree or do you disagree with these personality description words?**

Have students read the strength keywords and the weakness keywords of their own sign.  Make sure the students have access to a good dictionary.  Allow them to think for a while. Read the third and fourth questions on the worksheet.  Before students write their answers, tell them there are no correct or incorrect answers.

Q3. Which two traits do you think are true about you?  List a reason for each.
(1)    I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reason:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
(2)    I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reason:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
(Sample Answer: I am creative.  I hate old and repeated stuff.  I love everything presented in its unique and fresh style.)

Q4. Which two traits about you do you think are false? List a reason for each.
(1)    I am not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reason:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
(2)    I am not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reason:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
(Sample Answer: I am not tense.  I always feel relaxed in my daily life.)

**Step 4.  Share with Peers (1)**

Pair up the students. Don’t pair up students with the same signs.  Ask them to introduce the characteristics of their own sign to their partners.  Either reciting or retelling the handout information is OK.

**Step 5.  Share with Peers (2)**

Each student should tell his/her partner the reason why he/she agrees or disagrees with the description words by using the answers written on the worksheet.  While they are listening to their partner, they may complete questions 5-8.

Q5. My partner was born on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.(birth date)
Q6. He is a/an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.(sign)
Q7. My partner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reasons: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Q8. My partner is not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Reason: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Step 6.  Share with Peers (3)**

Divide students up into small groups and ask them to report about their partners’ personality traits to the group.

**Step 7.  Collaboration Task (1)**

After the report, students can think about these questions.

* Do astrological signs tell you who you are?
* Are astrological signs a mirror of oneself?
* Do you believe in astrological signs?

Then take turns exchanging opinions with group members.

**Step 8.  Collaboration Task (2)**

Make each group collaborate to choose five character words to portray a teacher, a celebrity, or a person known by all classmates.  Then the teacher can pick any one from each group to report their portrayed character.  Tell the whole class why they choose these five words to describe the target person.  A second member or a third from the same group might be asked to give more supporting details of their portrayed one.

**Step 9.  Follow–up Homework: Personality Profile**

Choose a member of your family.  Categorize character words to describe this family member. Remember this homework is about the vocabulary we use to describe "personality"—what people are like not in their physical appearance, but in the way they naturally think and act.  The worksheet can be designed as follows.

**Personality Profile of My Sister**

1.    How would you describe your sister in terms of:
(a)    **ability:** sharp and talented
(b)    **attitudes toward study/work:** devoted and reliable
(c)    **attitudes toward life:** optimistic and calm
(d)    **attitudes toward people:** sociable and patient

2.    Name a weakness that you would like to advise your sister about and explain why you would like her to change it?
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3.    Name a strong point that you think your sister possesses.  Explain how this strong point has helped her in her daily life.
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Ex. 29. Read the text and discuss the questions raised by the author.***

**Intelligence**

What makes one person more intelligent than another? What makes one person a genius, like the brilliant Albert Einstein, and another person a fool? Are people born intelligent or stupid, or is intelligence the result of where and how you live? These are very old questions and the answer to them are still not clear.

We know, however, that just being born with a good mind is not enough. In some ways, the mind is like a leg or an arm muscle. It needs exercise. Mental exercise is particularly important for young children. Many child psychologists think that parents should play with their children more often and give them problems to think about. The children are then more likely to grow up bright and intelligent. If, on the other hand, children are left alone a great deal with nothing to do they are more likely to become dull and unintelligent.

Parents should also be careful what they say to young children. According to some psychologists, if parents are always telling a child that he or she is a fool or an idiot, then the child is more likely to keep doing silly and foolish things. So it is probably better for parents to say very positive things to their children, such as "That was a very clever thing you did" or "You are such a smart child".

What do you think? Are people born intelligent or do they become intelligent with the help of good parents and teachers?

Do intelligent people always do well at school or at the University? Why? Why not?

***Ex. 30. Speculate on the following.***

1. There's a certain interconnection between a person's appearance and character. They say, for example, that a very full mouth suggests a very open warm character while tight, compressed thin lips suggest a person who is rather mean,
and two-faced.

1. The best way to define a person's character is by observing his behavior and manners. Actions speak louder than words.
2. A fair face may hide a foul heart means that a person might be a chameleon, constantly changing his mood and color.
3. The character differences between different nationalities can cause wars.

***Ex. 31. Think and answer the questions.***

1. What kind of person will never attract anyone's attention?

2. What kind of people are often lonely?

3. What kind of people would you ask for help/advice?

4. What kind of people often disobey instructions?

5. What traits of character would you appreciate in a wife / a husband, a mother/ a father, a son / a daughter, your best friend / your colleague? What traits would you dislike most?

6. What traits of character are required to make a good teacher (a good doctor, a good lawyer, a good journalist, a politician)? What traits might prevent one from becoming a good specialist in those fields?

7. What are the essential factors that help to mould a person's character: back­ground and environment; educational possibilities; cultural standards; circumstances?

8. What are the ways and means by which a person's character is revealed and estimated: appearance, speech characterization, manners and attitudes, likes and dislikes?

*Ex. 32. The following text describes twin brothers. Read it, circle the words or phrases describing personality and behavior, and underline the justi­fications or examples given.*

*Describe two people who are very different, despite their apparent similarity.*

Jason and Jonathan are identical twin brothers, who are in the same year at school as I am. Physically, they are indistinguishable; they are like "two peas in a pod", as the saying goes. They have the same short blond hair and fine features, and they tend to dress in the same casual style. When you get to know them, however, it soon becomes clear that their personalities are completely different.

**Jason** is very outgoing, assertive and ambitious — the sort of per­son who might run a large corporation. An example of this is the fact that he is already the president of the school debating society. Although people tend to find him rather pompous and conceited, to me he simply seems full of confidence. For instance, he is much more likely to say "I can do it" than "I'm the best". It is true that he comes across as stubborn, though, due to his habit of refusing to admit he is wrong in any disagreement.

**Jonathan**, on the other hand, is more of an introvert. He very rarely socializes, preferring to spend his time on his own. He is a dreamer who can spend hours staring at the clouds. As a result, he sometimes gives the impression of being lazy, while a few people even regard him as slow-witted. On better acquaintance, however, he turns out to be not only enthusiastic and energetic, but also deeply caring which is shown by his tireless work on behalf of various charities.

*Ex. 33. Read the model below and give the topic of each paragraph. Then, list which aspects of description have been included, and underline the justifications/examples given.*

*Describe a person you regard as eccentric*

Chris Martin moved into the house next door to mine two years ago. Even before he came round to introduce himself the fol­lowing day, I could tell that he was truly eccentric.

Perhaps the most striking thing about Chris is his appearance. His slender body is usually adorned in some kind of tight-fitting, multi-colored catsuit which makes him look like a comic book super hero. He generally tops this off with one of his flowing capes and a mask. His hair is as crazy as his clothes, going from yellow at the front, to red, to blue to green at the back, and it sticks up as if he's styled it with the aid of a powerful electric current. He has some rather strange mannerisms, too, such as his tendency to bow when introducing himself for the first time.

In spite of his strange appearance, Chris is a truly decent person and the world would be a better place if there were more people like him. He is very polite, friendly and is genuinely caring, always remembering birthdays with a photograph of a bouquet of flowers and bringing me chicken soup or Japanese tea if I'm ill. Chris will help if he possibly can and is ready to listen to everyone's problems. He tends to be aggressive from time to time, but this is because people make fun of him.

Although Chris could never be described as ordinary, I enjoy having him as a neighbor. Life is never boring when you have someone like him living next door, and his combination of unpredictability and gen­uine kindness make him a valuable friend.

*Ex. 34. Read the model below, underline the topic sentences of each paragraph, and then complete the outline plan.*

*Describe a person you admire and explain why you admire him or her.*

The person I admire most is not famous at all, yet to my mind his achievements are as important as those of any historical figure. Gary Young is a fellow student of mine at college, and for him this fact itself is a major achievement.

Gary suffers from cerebral palsy, which makes it almost impossible for him to control his movements. As a result, he spends his life in a wheelchair, cannot write with a pen or pencil, and speaks so slowly and strangely that it takes patience to understand what he is saying. This, together with his thin, twisted body and awkward facial expressions, can often cause people to treat him as if he were a backward child.

However, behind his physical appearance, Gary is a warm, fun-loving, intelligent person. His disability affects his muscles, not his mind or personality. He enjoys the same things any student does - listening to music, meeting friends, and so on - and he is not only the best student in our class, but also has a wonderful sense of humor and genuine interest in other people. Unable to express himself easily in conversation, he uses a special typewriter to write letters to his friends, and beautiful poems which show the true depth of his thoughts and character. He lives a very regular life, studying every day and never allowing him­self to fall behind in his schoolwork. Of course he enjoys going out as well, and he believes that a balance of work and play make life happy and fulfilling.

The main reason I admire him so much is that he is determined to lead a normal life, in spite of the physical difficulties he has to overcome. Although his condition prevented him from going to school, he gave himself an education by studying at home. He lives alone, cooking and cleaning with the help of equipment he designed himself, and he leads a full social life with his many friends, including visits to the theatre, or even (on one memorable occasion when I was with him) to the funfair.

Another reason I admire Gary, is the fact that he never feels sorry for himself. He says, for instance, that being unable to move around simply gives him more time to think. In fact, he always manages to see the bright side of any situation, so that, far from needing his friends to comfort him, he actually cheers us up when we are worried or depressed!

I would admire Gary as a person even if he didn't have any disability; the fact that he does, and refuses to let it spoil his life, makes him the most remarkable person I know.

* ***Introduction – Gary – fellow student***
* ***Main Body***

***Describe:***

**Physical appearance** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Personality / Behavior / Interests** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Life / Lifestyles / Beliefs** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Explain / Reason***

**“Why”** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Conclusion***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Ex. 35. Before* **reading the texts remember how to use the words:**

person [`pWsn], personal [`pWsnl] ***человек, личность***: a young person; a person of strong character; personal responsibility; personal opinion.. What kind of person is he? Who is that person you were talk­ing to? There was not a single person there. He has al­ways been a person of strong character. That is my personal opinion.

personality ["pWsq`nxlItI] ***личность***: a strong personality; a new personali­ty. What makes a personality? Nobody doubts that he is a per­sonality.

to mould [mould] ***формировать*** : to mould a personality; to mould a new perso­nality; to mould a person's character. Moulding a new perso­nality is not a simple task. What helps us to mould a person's character?

moral [`mOrql] ***мораль, моральный*** : a story with a moral; moral value; to give somebody moral support. What is the moral of the fable? The moral sup­port I was given turned out to be very helpful and encouraging.

**civic** I`sIvIk] ***гражданский***: civic duty; civic courage; civic pride. Do you have a feeling of responsibility and civic duty?

conscience [`kOnSqns] ***совесть***: a clear conscience; a good conscience; the voice of conscience; to act according to one's conscience; to go against one's conscience. Is your conscience clear?

conscientious ["kOnSI`enSqs] ***совестливый, добросовестный***: a conscientious worker; to be conscien­tious in one's duty. He is a highly respected person: he always does his duty conscientiously.

to judge by [GAG] ***судить, составлять мнение***: to judge by appearance; to judge by words; to judge by deeds. What do you judge a person by? Don't judge a man by his looks. Can you judge a person only by his words?

**anxious** [`xNkSqs] ***озабоченный, беспокоящийся, желающий***: to feel anxious about something or somebody; to be anxious for something; to be anxious to do something. The girl's parents were anxious about her future. The people of the world are anxious for peace. Though I had a lot of work to do and was anxious about it, I felt that I could not refuse my friend who needed my help very much. Don't be anxious if I am late.

**indifferent** [In`dIfrqnt] ***равнодушный***, **indifference** [In`dIfrqns] ***равнодушие***: to be indifferent to something; to be indifferent to suffering, to danger; not to be indifferent to art, music; to remain indifferent: to show indifference; to treat somebody with indifference. How can you be so indiffer­ent to the sufferings of others? The explorers were indifferent to the dangers and hardships of the expedition. We cannot re­main indifferent in this discussion. He treated my request with indifference. Success or failure cannot be a matter of indiffer­ence to a person.

**firm** [fWm] *твердый, стойкий*: a firm character; a firm voice; a firm decision; to be firm with somebody. He said it in a firm voice. Are all parents always firm with their children?

**stubborn** [`stAbqn] ***упрямый, упорный***: a stubborn person; a stubborn struggle or fight; stubborn resistance. Don't be stubborn!

**frank** [frxNk] *искренний, открытый, откровенный*: to be frank with somebody; a frank look in one's eyes; a frank answer; frank advice; a frank manner. Let's be frank. I'll be perfectly frank with you. The boy was afraid of being punished, still his reply was frank. I can't help believing him — he has such a frank look in his eyes.

**reserved** [rI`zWvd] ***скрытный, сдержанный, необщительный*** : a reserved person; reserved behavior. He is always silent or says little; he seldom shows his feelings or opin­ions. They say he is a reserved person.

**to rely** **on** [rI`laI] ***полагаться; доверять***: to rely on one's friend; to rely on (upon) some­body's word or promise; to rely fully. Can you fully rely on him? You may rely on me. I rely on you to arrange everything.

**reliable** [rI`laIqbl] ***надежный***: a reliable person; reliable information. You shouldn't be anxious about it; the work will be done properly and in time. He is a very reliable person.

**to trust, trust** [trAst] ***доверять; полагаться на:*** to have trust in somebody; to trust somebody with something. He says he will come early but I don't trust him. 1 trust him more than I trust my brother. I trust him as I would myself. He is not the sort of man to be trusted. I would never trust him with such responsible work. A child usually has per­fect trust in his mother.

intelligent [In`telIGqnt] ***умный, смышленый***: an intelligent person; intelligent eyes; an intelligent question or reply. At the competition the boy asked a very intelligent question, the boys from the other team could not answer it.

persistent [pq`sIstqnt] ***настойчивый, упорный***, persistence [pq`sIstqns] *настойчивость, упорство*: to be persistent in something; to do something with amazing. persistence. He is persistent in everything he does. Her persistence in studying music is amazing. Persistence and courage are wonderful qualities.

straightforward [streIt`fLwqd] ***честный, прямой, открытый***: a straightforward person; a straight­forward explanation; a straightforward answer; to be straight­forward about something. It is not always easy to give a straightforward reply.

confident [`kOnfIdqnt] ***уверенный, самонадеянный*** confidence [`kOnfId(q)ns] *уверенность, смелость*: to be confident of something; to feel confident of something; to be confident of victory; to be confident of success; confident manner; to have confidence in the future; to lose confidence in something. He feels confi­dent of passing the examination. We are confident of success. Are you confident that everything will go well? He answered all the questions with confidence.

to put up with *терпеть, мириться*: to put up with hardships; to put up with some­body. 1 can't put up with it any longer. Their purpose was so important that they were ready to put up with all the hardships.

guilt [gIlt] ***вина, виновность***, guilty *виновный*: to be guilty of something; to look guilty; a guilty look; a guilty person; a guilty conscience. He felt he was guilty of nothing. She couldn't imagine what she was guilty of.

**innocent** [`Inqsnt] ***невиновный, невинный; наивный***: to be innocent of something; an innocent look; to look innocent. Don't be so innocent as to believe every­thing he says. Don't look so upset. It was just an innocent joke.

**decent** [`dJsnt] ***приличный, порядочный***; **indecent** ***неприличный, нескромный***; decent people; decent clothes; decent language and behavior; decent conditions; to look decent; to speak decently about somebody; to treat somebody decent­ly; to behave decently. Poor people cannot always live in decent conditions. Never tell stories that are not decent.

**sympathy** [`sImpqTI] ***симпатия, сочувствие***: to express sympathy; to feel sympathy for somebody. He has no sympathy for such people.

**to sympathize with** [`sImpqTaIz] ***сочувствовать***: I can sympathize with you but I cannot help you.

***Ex. 36. Read the text and decide which two of these seven pupils would be the best form representatives. Explain why. It will be up to you to make a choice.***

Jack is popular with his classmates and most of his teachers. He works hard in the classroom, but sometimes he can be noisy. He is not deliberately disruptive, but he does find it difficult to sit still for long periods. He is full of energy. He is late for school more often than most pupils but he is always willing to help teachers and pupils.

Jack is generally good-tempered, but he has been in two fights since he came to Maxton School. He is quite happy at school and doesn't seem to have any strong opinions about how the school could be changed. He gets on well with his parents although he frequently quarrels with his elder sister.

Jane plays netball for the school team for her year, she is very popular with her fellow pupils. She takes the lead in arranging extra netball practices and class parties. She has a lively personality and a sense of humor. Her teachers like her but they complain about her unpunctuality and the lateness of her home­work.

There is one particular teacher she does not like; she has been accused of being insolent to this teacher, but Jane denies this strongly.

She has strong opinions about how the school should be run. Out of school she is dressed in very up-to-date clothes and collects all the latest records. She is a keen competitor.

Len is a very intelligent boy. He is not very good at games; in fact he shows little interest in sport in general. He is no weakling however; no bully can take advantage of him. He reads book after book, plays chess well and is very good at Mathematics. He is a friendly person but perhaps does not make friends as easily as some of the other pupils. But he has two or three good pals in the class.

Whatever he gives his mind to, he does with great determination. His parents are very proud of him. He lives in a flat on a housing estate near the school. He is not very talkative, but when he does speak, the other pupils tend to listen to him. Some of this classmates think he is rather dull and something of a 'goody-goody'.

Maggie thinks that there are many things wrong with the school. She has ideas about changing the school rules; for instance, she does not like wearing school uniform. She also rebels against doing homework and believes that being punished by detention is wrong.

Some of the teachers think she is a trouble-maker. Some of her classmates think she is loud and bossy: others think she is a very lively person. Maggie's mother is a local councilor so she is accustomed to hearing her parents talk about important matters. She is intelligent, full of energy and seems to have opinions about everything.

Don is in the football team and is popular with both the boys and the girls in his class. He is vice-captain of the football team and is a very keen competitor. Some of the team think he would make the good captain. Don is excellent at practical subjects, especially craft and woodwork. He is very even-tempered and has frequently broken up fights between boys in his class. Don's father owns a large local business so he always has plenty of pocket money. He received good reports from school although he is not a brilliant pupil.

He likes school and thinks there is very little wrong with the rules or the way the school is run. He is always volunteering to help the teachers. When some money went missing from the school cloakroom, he was able to give the staff information about who the culprit was.

Some adults say of Betty that she lives in a world of her own. Sometimes she is full of energy; at other times she seems to be in a dream. She is brilliant at drawing and her Art teacher thinks she has real talent. In her other subjects, however, she tends to be untidy and is always being told off for not wearing some part of her school uniform. She is not very punctual. Her parents are separated and she lives with her mother in a house near the school.

She thinks many of the school rules are silly and she is not afraid of saying what she thinks. She once organized a petition about the quality of school lunches, a petition that was presented to the Headmaster. Some of the teachers think that Betty is too rebellious.

Jean loves drama. She 'starred' in the school Christmas pantomime. Out of school she goes to ballet and tap dancing classes and she says that her ambition is to become an actress. The fact that she is so good at acting has made her the target for some jealousy and even bullying from some of the other pupils. Her mother was very upset when she heard that Jean has been bullied and she felt she had to come to see her form teacher about the matter.

Jean is hard-working and she likes school. Her teacher thinks she is a very likeable and enthusiastic pupil. Jean doesn't have any particular ideas about changing school, but because she likes to act she wishes her school put on more plays.

***Ex. 37. Read the texts and make a short description of yourself.***

**What are you like? What sort of person are you?**

**Max:** I am just like my father – ***obstinate*** & ***determined***. I know exactly where I want to go. I’ve got a pretty good idea about my future. That is why I think it’s important to study well.

**Ann:** Perhaps I'm a bit of an ***individualis***t because I always do only what really interests me. I don't like to mix with the crowd. I like to use the computer but only for work. I'm interested in lots of things and always want to learn something new. If it is worth my while, of course.

**Eustace:** I'm ***sociable***, ***communicative***, ***joyful*** and ***optimistic***. That's why I have a lot of friends. I am an ***easy-going*** person with a sense of humor. I am not a bore, so my friends never get bored when I'm around.

**Jane:** I'm ***ambitious*** and ***success-oriented***. I do only what is worthwhile. I am not the sort of person who would waste her time going to parties and failing exams. I know how much depends on passing them well.

**John:** I'm ***curious*** about everything. I'd rather work with a group than by myself. I'd enjoy a career in research. Math is my best subject. I find math problems a challenge rather than a chore. My friends often ask for my help in science labs or borrow my notes to study for a test.

**Dennis:** I enjoy working with my own hands. People say 1 am very handy with tools, and that is true. I recently built a bookcase and designed a cabinet for my stereo equipment. I think there are quite a few occupations for me to explore after I finish school. I might work as a carpenter or a civil engineer. I would like to take a closer look at jobs like these that involve working with my own hands. I think I can make the most of myself there.

**Carol:** I am very particular about my clothes. I like to dress well keeping up with the latest fashions. I'm always on the lookout for something special which will single me out from the others. I love to dance and have fun at parties. I love music with rhythm you can dance to. I spend most of my time playing computer games. I have always been keen on them.

**Jennifer:** Well, I think that in life you haveto think about others, not only study and have fun. It's important to give a hand to those who need it. In my spare time I work with a group which is interested in social and ecological problems. We help toclean beaches and woods or organize charity concerts, things like that.

It sounds like hard work but we really enjoy ourselves. I believe it is necessary for every young person to participate in community service. I also like music but mostly singers and groups who are involved in something worthwhile. I think it's crazy to spend all your money on fashion ... I prefer to spend it on a good film or book.

**PERSONAL TRAITS OF CHARACTER**

Meeting people for the first time we always make a judgment based on their appearances though the proverb tells us not to make this mistake. Still we look at the face, try to guess age or profession, listen to the way a person speaks. The same way other people might estimate us. Let’s try to look at ourselves as if we are strangers and this criticism might help us improve our character.

Certainly, the very first look is at your face and build or figure.

If your face has a rosy complexion and your bright eyes shine at the world you are a person who spends a lot of time outdoors, doesn’t sit in front of telly and combines work and fun reasonably. The well-combed hair and neatly cut nails will tell everyone that you are a tidy person who respects yourself and the people around you. A stooping back and badly cleaned teeth wouldn’t be considered positive and would betray your dislike of physical exercise and laziness. Now, what can you say about your appearance?

The world of emotions makes its imprints on appearance, too. What emotions are the most frequent in your life? (joy, sorrow, anger, excitement, shame, pride, enthusiasm, loneliness, misery, love.)

If you are a determined and strong-willed person you would never give up and behave coolly and calmly whatever happens in your life. Only weaklings would scream or fly into a rage. Good-humored people take things as they are and think of ways out of difficulties.

Much is connected with your attitude to people. If you are communicative, sociable people would appreciate you and you would have lots of friends. On the contrary, hostile, tactless, false and deceitful persons are repulsive and are doomed to stay alone.

Certainly, there is no ideal person in reality but if we tried to portray such a person they would possess the following qualities: He/she must be kind-hearted and friendly, but modest at the same time. Generosity and sincerity are the traits that would attract everybody. A good friend is definitely a person who is interesting to speak to – he must be witty and intelligent. Vain and impudent people are very difficult to deal with, they consider themselves the hub of the universe and never try to look at themselves critically. Today’s idea of courage has changed and it’s not necessary to fight with wild animals or travel to unknown lands. But diligence and industry are the qualities that are always valued.

There are no ideal people. We should take the world as it is but try to improve it starting with ourselves. What positive qualities do you consider absolutely necessary for everyone? Which negative traits can’t you agree with? Why?

*Ex. 38. Read the texts and describe the character of the British.*

TEXT 1

**The English Character**

Englishmen are naturally polite and are never tired of saying "Thank you" and "I'm sorry". They are generally disciplined; you never hear loud talk in the street. They do not rush for seats in buses and trains, but they take their seats in queues at bus stops. They will never shut the door in your face but will hold it open for you.

English people do not shake hands when meeting one another; they just smile and say, "Hello!" They say "How do you do" sometimes, but not very often. Only to people they meet for the first time.

Englishmen do not show their emotions even in tragic situations. They seem to remain good-tempered and cheerful under difficulties.

Most English love gardens and this is probably one reason why so many people wish to live in houses more than flats. They want to have a bit of land where they could plant something: tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, or grow flowers. They love flowers, especially roses, very much.

The Englishman says "My house is my castle", because he doesn't wish his doings to be overlooked by his neighbors. It's a tradition with English people to have fireplaces in their houses. A fireplace is a place where a fire is made. It is usually made of stone in the wall of a room and with a chimney in the roof. A chimney, therefore, is the main feature of almost every roof.

The fireplace is the natural centre of interest in the room. People may like to sit at a window on a summer day, but for many months of the year they like to sit round the fire and watch the dancing flames. In the evening when the members of the family come home, they like to gather round the fireplace and exchange the day's experience.

In recent years, however, the television set is becoming the centre of interest in the room. Yet in many houses you will still see fireplaces, sometimes with columns on each side and a shelf above it, on which there is often a clock, or a mirror, or photo­graphs; but many fireplaces are now modernized, they are gas or electric fireplaces.

The English people like animals very much. Pet dogs, cats, horses, ducks, chickens, canaries and other friends of man have a much better life in Britain than anywhere else. In Britain they have special dog shops selling food, clothes and other things for dogs. There are dog hair-dressing saloons and dog cemeteries.The English arrange dogs' shows and organize dogs' supper parties for winners of dogs' competitions. They do all they can to make animals feel well in their homes, and outside their homes too. There were photographs in English newspapers of a mother-duck and her young family crossing slowly the road from Hyde Park Lake to the waters of Kensington Gardens. All traffic around was stopped to let Mamma Duck and her little ones walk quietly from one park to another.

In recent years the English began to show love for more "exotic" animals such as crocodiles, elephants, tigers, cobras, camels.

You will not be surprised, we think, when we tell you that London Airport has a special animal "hotel". Every year thousands of animals arrive at London Airport. Some stay the night there; others stay several weeks. In one month, the "hotel" looked after 47,000 creatures: birds, insects, fish, elephants, monkeys and other animals.

There are about 4 million dogs, 6 million cats, 8 million caged birds and lots of other animals in Britain.

The English people believe that they are the only nation on the earth that is really kind to its animals.

Most people in Britain work a five-day week, from Monday to Friday; schools are also closed on Saturdays. How do the English spend their week-end?

Those who live in cities and towns like to go away for the week-end. They may go to stay in the country or at the sea. Every Englishman is fond of the countryside. His idea of the countryside is a nice thatched cottage with roses round the porchand in the garden, the fresh air and bright sun, no wind or rain. No crowds of people, silence and leisure. And he goes away to the countryside, though it is often not like he expects it to be.

Those who stay at home at the week-end try to do all the jobs they were too busy to do during the week. Some go shopping on Saturday mornings (the shops in the centre of big cities usually close at one o'clock in the afternoon on Saturdays and shops are closed all day -on Sundays), some do the house — washing, cleaning, gardening. Some men go and watch the most important sporting events (football, rugby, horse-racing and others) that take place only on Saturday afternoon, others sit and watch the sport programs on television.

Saturday evening is the best time for parties, dances, going to the cinema or theater.

For many English families Sunday begins with getting up an hour or so later than during the rest of the week.

After breakfast they may go to work in the garden or wash the car, or take the dog for a walk, or pay a visit to a "pub".

Sunday is a day for inviting friends and relatives to after­noon tea.

Englishmen do not go to museums or art galleries on Sundays like many people in our country do, because museums and galleries are closed on Sundays. It is only in recent times that such places as the National Portrait Gallery and the Tate Museum have been open on such days.

It is surprising for us to know that no big sporting event takes place on Sundays.

On Monday morning, when people come back to work they ask each other, "What did you do at the week-end?", "Did you have a nice week-end?"

TEXT 2

**ENGLISH HABITS OF POLITENESS**

Some greetings in England are very informal: a simple "good morning" or a wave of the hand across the street is quite enough. Handshakes are only exchanged on a first introduction or as a token of agreement or congratulation. "Sorry" takes the place of "no" when you cannot do something for a person or give a positive answer in situation like "May I use your pen?", "Do you know the time?" or "Have you any size seven shoes?". "Pardon" is the polite way of asking somebody to repeat what he has said.

English people do not readily ask each other to do anything; they prefer to wait for a service to be offered before asking for it. If they do ask, then they say something like "I don't really like asking you, but..."

It is considered polite to give up one's seat to a woman who is standing, to open door for her, carry things for her, and so on.

**ENGLISH CHARACTERISTICS**

In a nation of many millions of people, there are many different kinds: good and bad, honest and dishonest, happy and unhappy.

The British people, who live in other countries, are not fully typical of their nation. As usual, they live a completely different life from the life in Britain. However, we can talk about some gene­ral things. The best-known quality of the English, for example, is reserve. A reserved person is one who does not talk very much to strangers, does not show much emotion. He never tells you anything about himself. If English people are making a journey by train, they will try to find an empty compart­ment. If they have to share the compart­ment with a stranger, they may travel many miles without starting a conver­sation. If a conversation does start, per­sonal questions like "How old are you?" or even "What is your name?" are not easily asked. Questions like "Where did you buy your watch?" or "What is your salary?" are impossible.

But the people of the North and West of Britain, especially the Welsh, are much less reserved than those of the South and East.

Closely related to English reserve is English modesty. If a person is, let us say, very good in golf, and someone asks him if he is a good player, he will probably give an answer like "I'm not bad", or "I think I'm quite good", or "Well, I'm very keen on golf".

The famous English sense of humor is similar. Its ideal is the ability to laugh at oneself — at one's own faults. "He is a man of humor" or "He has no sense of humor" is often heard in Britain, where humor is so highly prized.

TEXT 3

**THE ENGLISH CHARACTER**

The national character of the English has been very differently described, but most commentators agree over one quality, which they describe as ***fatuous self-satisfaction***, ***serene*** sense of ***supe­riority***, or ***insular pride***. English patriotism is based on a deep sense of ***security***. Englishmen as individuals may have been insecure, ***threatened*** with the loss of a job, unsure of themselves, or unhappy in many ways; but as a nation they have been for centuries secure, serene in their national successes. They have not lived in a state of ***hatred*** of their neighbors, as Frenchmen or Germans have often lived. This national sense of security, hardly threatened by the Armada, or by Napoleon, or by the First World War, has been greatly weakened by the Second World War and by the invention of the atomic bomb.

Many books have been written — even more, perhaps, by Frenchmen, Americans, Germans, and other foreigners than by Englishmen — on English ***traits***, English ways of life, and the English character. Their authors are by no means always in agreement, but they tend to point out what seems to them puzzles, contrasts, in the way the En­glish behave. A few of these contrasts may serve to sum up how the world looks at the En­glish.

First, there is the contrast between the ***unity*** the English display in a crisis, their strong sense for public order, indeed for conformity, and their ex­traordinary toleration of in­dividual ***eccentricities***. Ger­mans are usually ***astounded***by what they regard as the Englishman's ***lack*** of respect for authority and discipline. Frenchmen are often puzzled by the ***vehemence*** of English political debates, by the Hyde Park public orator, and simi­lar aspects of English life, which in their own country would seem signs of ***grave*** po­litical ***disturbance***. This sort of contrast has led to the com­mon belief held by foreigners, and indeed by Englishmen them­selves, that they are a most illogical people, always preferring practical compromises to theoretical exactness.

Second, there is the contrast between English democracy, the English sense of the ***dignity*** and importance of the individual, and the very great social and economic inequalities that have hitherto characterized English life. There has recently been some tendency to allow greater social equality. But Victorian and Edwardian England — which foreigners still think of as the typical England — did display extremes of riches and poverty, and draw an almost caste line between ladies and gentlemen and those not ladies and gentlemen.

Third, there is the contrast between the reputation of the English as hard-headed practical men — the "nation of shop­keepers" — and as men of poetry — the countrymen of Shakespea­re and Shelley. The English tradition in philosophy has always been realistic and hostile to mysticism; yet the English look down on the French as narrow rationalists. The ***apparent*** coldness of Englishmen and their reserve has been almost universally noted by foreigners; but foreigners also confess that they find English reserve not unpleasant, and that once one gets to know an Englishman he turns out to be a very ***companionable*** fellow.

*From “Oxford Junior Encyclopedia”*

TEXT 4

ENGLISH CHARACTER

Great Britain is an island separated from the European conti­nent and its geographical situation and climate influence its inhab­itants. The most striking features of English life are the self-disci­pline, and courtesy of people of all classes. Englishmen are natu­rally polite and are never tired in saying "Thank you", "I'm sor­ry". The British people have also been known as superior, snob­bish and unsociable.

Queuing is a national habit and it is considered polite or good manners to wait your turn. They will become very angry, and even rude, if you 'jump' the queue.

The British have a reputation for being conservative, have established values without questioning their validity; have a strong sense of being different from others. They keep up the left side of the road and use double-deckers. They stick to their own meas­urement system and continue to measure distances in miles (not kms) and yards (not in meters). They buy cheese in pounds and ounces, milk in pints, petrol in gallons.

English people don't like displaying their emotions even in dan­gerous and tragic situations. The Englishman prefers his own house to an apartment in a block of flats, because he doesn't wish his doing to be overlooked by his neighbors. They say "An English­man's house is his castle." The average British family lives in a semi-detached house with a garden in the south of England. They own their house, which is situated in the suburbs of a large town. The house has three bedrooms. On average they have two chil­dren and a pet. The family drives a two-year-old Ford Cortina.

They are rather conservative in many ways. They love famil­iar things. They keep old traditions. The Britons are practical and realistic. English people are famous for their sense of humor. We can find in numerous limericks, jokes, nursery rhymes and tongue twisters.

English people show great love for animals. Pet dogs, cats, hens, canaries and many other animals have a good life in Britain.

The typical Englishman works in a London bank but lives in the countryside, in a house with a lovely garden. Every day he reads *The Times* newspaper and does the crossword on the way to work. He never speaks to anybody on the train, but will talk to you about the weather or cricket if you meet him in the pub at lunchtime. He always wears a dark suit to work and always car­ries an umbrella. He gave up smoking his pipe and wearing a bowler hat some years ago. At the weekend, he wears an old tweed jacket and a pair of gardening trousers. He likes plain, simple food and drinks tea at every opportunity. In his free time, he works in his garden, plays golf or takes his dog for a walk. He is suspicious of all foreigners. He is kind and polite to his wife but does not show her a lot of affection. His wife is a snob who dresses rather badly. They both admire members of the Royal Family and copy their accents, He is proud of his son, who is at Cambridge University, (but would rather die than tell him). He is rather worried about his daughter, who is currently living with a punk, but hopes that she will eventually marry a doctor or an accountant.

The most popular hobby is gardening and the most popular sports are fishing, football and tennis.

Questions:

1. What do you think influenced the formation of the Eng­lish character?
2. What surprises you in the way the British people live?
3. Can you give any provements of the English conserva­tism?
4. Give a character sketch of the typical Englishman.

**TEXT 5**

***Read the texts and compare the typical characteristics of people belonging to different countries and nationalities. Match these characteristics with the "stereotypes" you have.***

**What Are the British like?**

It's difficult to give a general idea of what more than 55 million people are like. It's even more difficult when you consider that there are four different countries in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and also that people from many other countries have come to live here too.

Even if you've never been to Britain however, films, television, books, etc. have probably given you ideas about what British people are like. So, people abroad have very fixed ideas about the British ~ they are cold, reserved, aristocratic, arrogant, lazy, etc.

Actually this is not always true. Of course, some are shy and reserved with strangers, but some are shy and reserved with everybody. Others are very extrovert and talk to anybody. This just proves that you shouldn't make generalizations about people!

But still, some generalizations are firmly fixed in our consciousness. Every­body knows that all Englishmen wear bowler hats, pinstripe suits and carry umbrellas. Scotsmen are mean, hate spending money and drink whisky all day long. Welshmen do nothing but play rugby and sing. And the Irish? Well, they only exist so that other British people can tell jokes about them.

Some generalizations are probably true. The British don't like answering questions about the details of their lives. You must never ask them how much money they earn, or how old they are. Only officials can ask questions like that; that is perhaps why the British don't really like officials.

One more thing British people share is a love of politeness. It's important to be polite in Britain, even to people you don't know. You can hear such words or phrases as "Please", "Thank you", "Sorry, love", "Excu­se me" very often. They will also expect you to be polite in the way that is normal to them. Actually, their politeness isn't always real.

The British don't like people who shout loudly in the street or push their way through crowds with their elbows. Their habit of queering is amazing. At bus stops and cinemas, in shops, banks and in lots of other places you'll have to

join the queue and wait patiently for your turn to be served. Queuing is as British as fish and chips.

The English are famous for their humor which is kind and tolerant. It's tolerant in that the victim of people's jokes, usually shares in the humor too. People seem to be able to laugh at themselves, their mistakes and their weaknesses. It's kind because it softens the harsh realities of life, such as frustrated ambitions, boredom, the sheer grind of working for a living, and the affect of the bureaucratic blunders on our lives. So, if one day English people seem to be laughing at you, and if you are not an arrogant, pompous or hateful person, then don't become offended, because they are laughing with you too, and in the laughter there is kindness, tolerance and generosity. But people don't laugh with the pompous, the arrogant, and the hateful - only at them. And this is an expression of a contempt for such people and what they represent. I find the upper class snobbish, and they make a big difference between themselves and the working class.

The Englishman and the American

"The American, though he dresses like an Englishman, and eats roast beef with a silver fork - or sometimes with a steel knife - as does an Englishman, is not like and Englishman in his mind, in his aspirations, in his tastes, or in his politics. In his mind he is quicker, more universally intelligent, more ambitious of general knowledge, less indulgent of stupidity and ignorance in others, harder, sharper, brighter with the surface brightness of steel, than is an Englishman; but he is more brittle, less enduring, less malleable, and I think less capable of impressions. The mind of the Englishman has more imagination, but that of the American more incision. The American is a great observer, but he observes things material rather than things social or picturesque. He is a constant and ready speculator, but all speculations, even which come of philosophy, are with him more or less material..."

**TEXT 6**

A Letter from Britain

This is a letter from Dave. Dave is an American exchange student in Britain, who is liv­ing in Frank's home, while Frank stays in America with Dave's family.

Dear Frank,

Hi! How are you getting on in the States? I am having a wonderful time here in England with your family and friends. Everyone is so friendly and hospitable. They all welcome me into their homes and treat me as one of the family.

I have been very surprised by English people. I thought they would all be very conserva­tive and traditional. Instead I have found them very open to new ideas. I also thought Eng­lish people would be rather shy. But most people seem very self-confident and sure of them­selves, almost as much as Americans. I find the English very tolerant too. Nobody here seems to mind very much how you dress or what you say. Of course, there are some narrow-minded people too. But I don't think there are as many as there are back home in the States.

I often think of you in my home and what you must be thinking about Americans. I expect you think we are too hard-working and too materialistic. I never realized how much Americans talk, about money, until I came to Britain. And you probably also think that Americans are very rude compared with the British. I don't think we're really so rude, it's just that we don't use all those polite British phrases like "do you mind" and "could I" and "may I".

One difference I have noticed is that the British don't seem as optimistic as Americans. In America we always think we can change things and make them better. But I get the feeling that the British have a rather pessimistic view of life.

I'm feeling lazy so that's all I'm going to write now. I look forward to hearing your im­pressions of America.

Yours, Dave

*Ex. 39. Read the texts and describe the character of the Belarusians.*

TEXT 1

**BELARUSIAN CHARACTER**

First of all, let us see what has been influencing the formation of the Belarusian national character. We'll start with the natural and climatic conditions.

The geographical disposition of a country appears to condition national characteristics. The international contacts appear over the centuries to have ***engendered*** the most distinctive features of the Belarusian National Character - tolerance and hospitality.

With this quality of tolerance goes a certain “please yourself” ***approach***: better to part company without ***fuss***, than to quarrel. Not that the Belarusians are ***faint-hearted*** when called upon to defend their freedom and their native land: few nations have been more fired over the centuries by deeds of *chivalry*, or by patriotic songs and verse than they.

The Belarusian is generally intelligent, tactful, imaginative and hard working. In com­pany he is hospitable, ***convivial*** and a humorist even in ***adversity***.

There is a precise definition for our climate, "moderate". We have no beat or biting frosts, no high temperature jumps in the summertime and winter.

Now to the landscape. Our rivers are flat, calm and not very deep. They are homely and dear. All the rest landscape features follow the same pattern. Hills, rather than mountains. Fields, rather than deserts and prairies. The Belarusian character has no somberness and tense readiness for unexpected dangers. The nature of Belarus does not know storms or any cataclysms in general. Therefore, the Belarusians are trustful and on the whole optimistic, they never expect a misfortune.

The Belarusians are accustomed to work hard, so as to produce something on this soil, sand or clay, that is why they are ***patient*** and ***hardworking***. "Uparty Belarus", or an "obstinate Belarusians" is a very precise definition. The environmental peculiarities require our universality. We must be able of doing much, if not everything. Diligence and university are the qualities that have been and still are helping us to survive. Moreover, the Belarusians are undemanding and modest. To a certain degree they are accustomed to poverty. A Belarusian does not need very much any external demonstrations, he is more oriented at internal work.

The Belarusian music, songs and folklore may also say a lot about the national character. The word "destiny" is often mentioned in our vocabulary, although the Belarusians can hardly be named fatalists. Due to his calm and reserve a Belarusian is more conservative and stable in his styles and ways of life. Sometimes he may seem indifferent to everything around him. But it is also to a certain degree. If there is violence used against him, he has no other choice than to reach for a weapon to defend himself. History proves it too well.

The Belarusians … Who are they? This is a peaceful nation, independent and kind-hearted. They love their motherland, helped it stay alive in wars and give a lot of effort to make it rich and modern.

Different from anyone else, Belarusians are able to adapt to any circumstances — not to change the circumstances but to change themselves, to accept these circumstances, to live them naturally, in harmony and even with pleasure.

The second aspect of the Belarusian character is that a Belarusian holds tight to what he/she has gained. He/she holds on to it with the both hands and becomes united with what was gained. He/she regards the external world with little trust.

At the same time, in the view of Belarusians themselves, they are loved and respected by everyone. People turn to Belarusians for help and support, because they know that a Belarusian will always be responsive and helpful.

To sum up, respondents would most often note the following features***: tolerance*** and a lack of temper. Belarusians are intelligent, tactful, kind, friendly, hard-working, soft, souly, hospitable and merry. They are easy to be ruled; they are hard-working, reserved, not very jolly; they are rather pessimistic, stubborn and peaceful... In com­pany he is hospitable, ***convivial*** and a humorist even in ***adversity***.

In general, Belarusians are fond of proverbs, riddles, marvelous tales of ***miraculous*** icons, of angels and ghosts, ***prediction*** and herbal medicine.

The citizens of Belarus love their families, respect the elderly generation and bring up the young to be grateful to their ancestors and history for happy childhood, freedom and peaceful sky over their heads.

The Belarusians are the great lovers of everything natural. Long time ago our grandparents could make everything necessary for living with their hands. They taught their children the same handicrafts, that's why this tradition is still alive. Especially popular nowadays are different straw hand-made articles, woven flaxen towels and embroidered cloth. Ceramic articles such as cups, bowls, mugs enjoy their popularity too.

TEXT 2

**NATIONAL CHARACTER**

The Belarusians … Who are they? Different from anyone else, Belarusians are able to adapt to any circumstances not to change the circumstances but to change themselves, to accept these circumstances, to live them naturally, in harmony and even with pleasure.

This is a peaceful nation, ***independent*** and ***kind-hearted***. They love their motherland, helped it stay alive in wars and give a lot of effort to make it rich and modern. They are very ***hard-working, friendly, hospitable*** and ***merry*** people. The citizens of Belarus love their families, respect the elderly generation and bring up the young to be grateful to their ancestors and history for happy childhood, freedom and peaceful sky over their heads.

The second aspect of the Belarusian character is that a Belarusian holds tight to what he/she has gained. He/she holds on to it with the both hands and becomes united with what was gained. He/she regards the external world with little trust.

At the same time, in the view of Belarusians themselves, they are loved and respected by everyone. People turn to Belarusians for help and support, because they know that a Belarusian will always be responsive and helpful.

One of the words to specify the national character, which is very difficult to translate in one word - ***"pamiarkouny”***. It means "never in a hurry to say or do something, plus a bit reserved, plus trying to reflect first and only then to take some steps". Every grown up Belarusian will tell you about being "pamiarkouny" as the basic quality of Belarusians.

It is, actually, a rather proper word for my country. It is also something like 'indifference', 'slowness' and 'reluctance', combining both joy and sorrow, tranquility and despair, tiredness of numerous changes and courage to stand in hard circumstances. There is a saying in Belarusian language "Maja hata z kraju" (literally meaning "My house stands aside", i.e. "I don’t care", "I go with the flo", "I keep a low profile" etc.).

The Belarusians are the great lovers of everything natural. Long time ago our grandparents could make everything necessary for living with their hands. They taught their children the same handicrafts, that's why this tradition is still alive. Especially popular nowadays are different straw hand-made articles, woven flaxen towels and embroidered cloth. Ceramic articles such as cups, bowls, mugs enjoy their popularity too.

To sum up, respondents would most often note the following features: ***tolerance*** and a lack of temper. Belarusians are kind, ***soft, souly, hospitable***. They are easy to be ruled; they are hard-working, ***reserved***, not very joily; they are rather pessimistic, stubborn and peaceful...

**How can you describe a new Belarusian?**

He/she is pro-active, relaxed and free. A new Belarusian is rather inclined to intellectual jobs. He/she earns for living by using brains rather by digging the soil. The young generation has more Belarusian identity than the Soviet generation. They express more intrest in their roots and history. The new Belarusian identity has an element of the European identity -- to be a Belarusian and a European at the same time.

1. What kind of people are the Belarusians?

2. What is their nature?

3. Is there anything peculiar about a Belarusian to make him different from a Russian, Ukrainian, Pole or Lithuanian?

4. How can you explain that the Belarusians are tolerant people?

***Ex. 40. Describe one of your friends and speak about his/her positive and negative traits of character.***

***Speak about yourself. Which traits would you try to develop in yourself? Which ones have to be rooted out?***

**SPEAKING**

**WHAT MAKES A PERSONALITY?**

**Say which qualities of character are most valuable and why we ad­mire them in people; which qualities disappoint us and why we hate them in people. Think of examples from books and from your own life.**

**Say what proverbs and sayings come to your mind when you talk about friendship. Discuss what they mean to you.**

**Discuss your ideas of friendship, generosity, words and actions, on the one hand; and of selfishness, meanness, and flattery, on the other hand.**

**Think of characters from the books you have read and the films and plays you have seen, whom you could speak of as of strong personalities. Say what kind of person he or site is; why you think this character is a personality; what makes him a personality; say what you think helped to mould his personality.**

**Speak about people who are respected by everybody. Explain why they are respected and what they are judged by. Say if you would like to develop the same qualities in yourself.**

**Read what Pyotr Klimuk, a well-known cosmonaut, thinks about the most important quality of any person. Say if you agree and why.**

The most important quality of all is human kindness! ... If a person is not kind, if he is selfish, if he cares only about himself, then all his other good qualities—-courage, will-power — are worthless. If you go off into space with such a partner, you are in trouble. In outer space, in whatever situation you might find yourself, you must think not
so much about yourself as about your mate. I think one cannot do his job well and be at the same time indifferent to his mates. This just does not work. You can see what a person is worth through his attitude toward others. If he is devoted to people, he is also devoted to his work, to his country.... And I have one word for all that — kindness. This is the main thing, the essence [esns] (сущность) of what is best in a human being."

**Think of situations from books, plays or films you know and from your own life in which people snowed their firm character or acted just like stubborn people. Speak about it and explain your point of view.**

**Speak about people who you have trust in, on whose words or prom­ise you can fully rely; say why it is hard and unpleasant to deal with unreliable people, with people whom you cannot trust; say why it is important to be reliable, whether you yourself are a reliable person and what you do to be reliable.**

**Do you think persistence is a good quality? Explain why.**

**Do you agree that it is important to develop confidence in oneself? Explain your opinion.**

**Speak about situations in which the only choice is to put up with hardships; speak about other situations in which people must have enough courage to stand up to difficulties.**

**Say what qualities you think are worth developing in oneself.**

***Try to find two characters of wholly different types and describe them. Point out the most striking features in their appearance and character.***

**Traits of Character**

***Positive*: polite, modest, quiet, industrious, honest, wise, knowledgeable, obedient, generous, sincere, merciful, broad-minded, easy-going, self-possessed, just, brave, courageous, merry, frank, careful, strong-willed, grateful, good-humored, earnest, dashing, respectable, witty, devoted, gentle**

***Negative*: impudent, shameless, noisy, lazy, deceitful, silly, ignorant, naughty, greedy, falsity, cruel, intolerant, hot-tempered, shy, envious, hostile, idle**

**Andy**

 Born in Texas, raised all over the Southeast and temporarily stopped in Fort Oglethrope, GA has helped me develop into a uniquely diverse person. I pride myself on my originality and uncompromising morality system.

All through my childhood I have been constantly on the move forcing me to improve my communication and people skills to adapt to the constant change of people in my life. One thing I have learned through all the moving is that keeping in touch with people is very important for a successful future. Meeting all these new people totally broadened my horizon when it comes to accepting different races, religions, lifestyles, and emotional status.

As expected, constantly being on the go has helped to re-enforce my commitment to my family and God. Always knowing they would be there for me was a stronghold I could turn to in times I was troubled. Throughout my life I have always set periodic goals for myself.

My first goal where to graduate elementary, middle and high school with an overall A average, which I am glad to say was achieved in the year 2000. Finishing high school, I had another set of goals already waiting to be accomplished. I knew that without a doubt college was in the immediate future, as was getting a job. I'm currently attending Northwestern Technical College at Rock Springs, GA dual majoring in Web design and Business management.

For where the job comes in, I decided to try to launch a modeling career after completing a very important goal of mine, losing 65 pounds of fat. Having the will power to lose the weight I let stay on for so long has given me the understanding that nothing is outside of my range as long as I stay with it and work hard.

My future aspirations include having a successful modeling career and opening a dance/restaurant club swarming with models and celebrities. I am a very active person constantly craving change and new surrounds. I love to travel, of course, and meeting new interesting people. I enjoy watching and learning different people and mapping them out in my head (don't know why I don't pursue psychology) so I can better understand and communicate with them. I am truly a people person even though sometimes people weird me out with their views.

Some of my favorite hobbies include volleyball, football, dancing, swimming, singing, and music of all kinds. Some other past times that I enjoy are cooking, education, surfing the net, and spending time with family and friends. My all time most enjoyed hobby would have to be modeling and working out. I have found new peace in the fact that I can control the way my body looks and enjoy the fact that finally I get to pursue my dream of modeling.

*Topics for discussion and essays:*

1. Do you agree with the saying “All men are as stubborn as sheep”?

2. Do you think that opposites attract? (Somebody simple-hearted and cheerful will make a good match for someone serious, calm, deeply intelligent or that someone stingy will get along well with a generous person).

3. What are the traits of an ideal wife/husband? Do you think it's good to live with an ideal?

4. What are your best friend's most engaging traits?

5. What makes a student popular with others?

6. What makes a student unpopular with others?

7. What traits of character in your opinion do students appreciate in a teacher?

8. What do you think is more important: beauty or character?

9. Name 10 likes and dislikes in a person's character.

*Topics for Oral Compositions*

1. Describe your mother’s/father’s character.

2. You don't like your neighbor/manager/doctor. Say why.

3. You met a wonderful man on the train. Tell about him.

4. You want to introduce your friend to your younger sister. Try to persuade him he'll like her.

5. You have never met your uncle before. Your father tells you about him.

6. You were in France. Your colleagues are eager to know your opinion of French women.

7. You are a fan of ... a popular singer. Tell about him/her.

8. Tell about your pet's (cat, dog) character.

9. Do you like children? In either case, explain why.

10. You came home on holiday and tell your mother about your roommate.