



# 50 ADVANCED PERSONALITY ADJECTIVES

## VOCABULARY & PRONUNCIATION LESSON & QUIZ



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## 25 POSITIVE ADJECTIVES:

1

### **adaptable**

/ə'dæptəbl/ - able to change in order to deal with new situations

She's a great social worker because she's so adaptable.

2

### **affable**

/æfəbl/ - pleasant, friendly and easy to talk to

He was incredibly affable with me when I forgot my ticket.

3

### **ambitious**

/æm'bɪʃəs/ - determined to be successful, rich, powerful, etc.

He's very ambitious and I think he'll do very well in life.

4

### **amicable**

/æmɪkəbl/ - polite, friendly, manages situations without arguing

He seemed very amicable on the phone so I was shocked by his rude email!

5

### **bright**

/braɪt/ - intelligent; quick to learn

You're a bright girl - I knew you would pass the exam!

6

### **broad-minded**

/ˌbrɔːd 'maɪndɪd/ - willing to listen to other people's opinions and accept behaviour that is different from your own

Luckily our boss is quite broad-minded so I'm sure he won't mind.

7

### **conscientious**

/ˌkɒnʃi'ɛnʃəs/ - Used to describe somebody who takes care to do things carefully and correctly

His conscientious manner makes him a fantastic engineer.

8

### **convivial**

/kən'vɪviəl/ - cheerful and friendly

She was a convivial party host who made everyone feel welcomed.

9

### **courteous**

/kɜːtiəs/ - polite, especially in a way that shows respect

I can't believe how courteous the school children were today!

10

### **decisive**

/dɪ'saɪsɪv/ - able to decide something quickly and with confidence

She's quite decisive so I don't think she'll change her mind.



11

**determined**

/dɪ'tɜ:mɪnd/ - able to continue trying to do something even when it is difficult

Her determined nature made her the perfect Olympian.

12

**diplomatic**

/dɪplə'mætɪk/ - able to deal with people in difficult situations

My dad's diplomatic nature made him a great boss.

13

**easy-going**

/i:zi 'gəʊɪŋ/ - relaxed and happy to accept things without worrying or getting angry

He's an easy-going guy with a carefree attitude.

14

**exuberant**

/ɪg'zju:bərənt/ - full of energy, excitement and happiness

Her exuberant nature exhausted me.

15

**frank**

/fræŋk/ - honest and direct in what they say, sometimes in a way that other people might not like

She's very frank but she gets results.

16

**gregarious**

/grɪ'geəriəs/ - sociable

I think you'll get on well as you're both so gregarious.

17

**intuitive**

/ɪn'tju:ɪtɪv/ - able to understand something by using feelings rather than by considering the facts

She's a great teacher because she's so intuitive.

18

**inventive**

/ɪn'ventɪv/ - imaginative, able to think of new and interesting ideas

I'm sure he'll find a use for it - he's incredibly inventive.

19

**modest**

/mɒdɪst/ - used to describe someone who doesn't talk/boast about their own abilities or possessions

I think you're being a bit modest - your English is great!

20

**pioneering**

/paɪə'nɪərɪŋ/ - Used to describe someone who begins or helps develop something new and prepares the way for others to follow

She had an affair with a pioneering cryptocurrency investor.

21

**placid**

/plæsɪd/ - not easily excited or annoyed

Our dog is very placid - he won't jump up at you.

22

**proactive**

/prəʊ'æktɪv/ - able to control a situation by making things happen rather than waiting for things to happen

She's proactive in her work life, but her home life is very different.



23

**quick-witted**

/ˈkwɪk ˈwɪtɪd/ - able to think quickly; intelligent

I wouldn't heckle the comedian - he is very quick-witted!

24

**resourceful**

/rɪˈzɔːsfl/ - good at finding ways of doing things and solving problems, etc.

We didn't have much money growing up but our mother was very resourceful.

25

**versatile**

/vɜːsətaɪl/ - able to do many different things

My personal assistant is incredibly versatile.

## 25 NEGATIVE ADJECTIVES:

1

**aloof**

/əˈluːf/ - not friendly or interested in other people

The dog was aloof: she came to you on her own terms.

2

**belligerent**

/bəˈlɪdʒərənt/ - aggressive and unfriendly

His belligerent attitude drove me up the wall.

3

**big-headed**

/bɪɡ ˈhedɪd/ - arrogant, too proud

He's handsome but also big-headed, which puts me off.

4

**callous**

/kæləs/ - not caring about others' feelings, pain or problems

The headmaster was callous and disregarded the feelings of the students.

5

**cantankerous**

/kænˈtæŋkərəs/ - often angry; always complaining

I'm so sick of her! She is so cantankerous! She is never pleased!

6

**clingy**

/klɪŋi/ - needing another person too much

Stop being so clingy! I need some time alone.

7

**cynical**

/sɪnɪkl/ - not believing that something good will happen

Why do you always have to be so cynical? Lighten up a bit!

8

**detached**

/dɪˈtætʃt/ - showing a lack of feeling

He's very detached. I wonder if something is on his mind?

9

**dogmatic**

/dɒɡˈmætɪk/ - being certain that your beliefs are right and that others should accept them, without paying attention to evidence or other opinions

The politician was the most dogmatic person that I've ever had the displeasure of meeting!



10

**fussy**

/fʌsi/ - too concerned about having things exactly as you want them; hard to please

My client is so fussy! I just can't seem to please him!

11

**gullible**

/gʌləbl/ - too willing to believe or accept what other people tell you and therefore easily tricked

They weren't gullible enough to fall for the prank

12

**impulsive**

/ɪmˈpʌlsɪv/ - acting suddenly without thinking carefully about what might happen because of what you are doing

He's too impulsive! He just bought a Lamborghini on finance!

13

**indecisive**

/ɪndɪˈsaɪsɪv/ - not able to make decisions quickly and effectively

I'm very indecisive when it comes to picking what to wear!

14

**materialistic**

/məˈtɪəriəˈlɪstɪk/ - caring a lot about money and possessions

barbie is so materialistic. All she cares about is fashion!

15

**narrow-minded**

/ˌnærəʊ ˈmaɪndɪd/ - not willing to listen to new ideas or to the opinions of others

The misogynist was incredibly narrow-minded.

16

**obnoxious**

/əbˈnɒkjəs/ - extremely unpleasant, especially in a way that offends people

He's the most obnoxious person I have ever met in my life!

17

**obstinate**

/ɒbstɪnət/ - refusing to change your opinions, way of behaving, etc. when other people try to persuade you to

She's very cute but she is also very obstinate!

18

**patronizing**

/pætrənaɪzɪŋ/ - showing that you think you are better or more intelligent than somebody else

Stop being so patronizing! I am not a child!

19

**possessive**

/pəˈzesɪv/ - demanding total attention or love OR not liking to lend things or share things with others

She had a hard time breaking up with her possessive boyfriend.

20

**resentful**

/rɪˈzentfʃl/ - feeling bitter or angry about something that you think is unfair

Her difficult past made her very resentful.



21

**self-centred**

/ˌself ˈsentəd/ - tending to think only about yourself and not thinking about the needs or feelings of other people

Stop being so self-centred and think about the children!

22

**stingy**

/ˈstɪndʒi/ - not generous, especially with money

I hate going out with her because I always end up paying. She is so stingy!

23

**tactless**

/ˈtæktləs/ - saying or doing things that are likely to annoy or to upset other people

You were so tactless when you commented on her weight!

24

**touchy**

/ˈtʌtʃi/ - easily upset or offended

Don't upset her - she's very touchy.

25

**vain**

/veɪn/ - too proud of your own appearance, abilities or achievements

You're so vain, you probably think this example's about you... 'cos you're so vain!

## TEST YOUR UNDERSTANDING

FILL IN THE GAPS WITH  
THE ADJECTIVE THAT BEST FITS  
THE SENTENCE

1. I wish I was as \_\_\_\_\_ as you - I can never make my mind up!

- a) indecisive
- b) decisive
- c) frank

2. You're too \_\_\_\_\_ - you always understate what you've achieved!

- a) modest
- b) easy-going
- c) proactive

3. My wife has all her clothes made for her as she is so \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) fussy
- b) dogmatic
- c) obnoxious

4. I love my partner but he is a bit too \_\_\_\_\_. I need some space.

- a) clingy
- b) detached
- c) indecisive



5. Were you really \_\_\_\_\_ enough to believe everything she said?

- a) callous
- b) materialistic
- c) gullible

6. The way she spoke to me was so \_\_\_\_\_. She really thinks that she is more important than me.

- a) obstinate
- b) patronizing
- c) impulsive

7. I love how you never wait for things to happen. You're so \_\_\_\_\_!

- a) versatile
- b) placid
- c) proactive

8. I wish I was as \_\_\_\_\_ as you. I always get so stressed out!

- a) easy-going
- b) determined
- c) inventive

9. He is so \_\_\_\_\_. He can't walk past a mirror without admiring himself.

- a) stingy
- b) vain
- c) touchy

10. She was \_\_\_\_\_ in her approach and managed to offend almost everyone.

- a) tactless
- b) self-centred
- c) obstinate.

## Answers:

- 10. a
- 9. b
- 8. a
- 7. c
- 6. b
- 5. c
- 4. a
- 3. b
- 2. a
- 1. b

*The  
End*