

14 I can discuss aspects of character

A Personal qualities 🎧

Online dating: find your dream partner

Katarina's profile:

I'm a **spontaneous, happy-go-lucky** sort of person, but I'm pretty **down-to-earth** too. My friends say I'm a real **chatterbox** but maybe that's because I'm truly **passionate** about people, ideas, life, etc. I'll **give** anything a **go**, **within reason**!

Katarina describes her ideal match:

I'm **drawn to** men who are **considerate** and happy to show **affection**. A guy with **integrity**, and NOT **pretentious**. As you can imagine, I think **spontaneity** is a positive **attribute** – I love things to be a bit unpredictable.



Glossary

spontaneous	acting in an open and natural way, without worrying about what you say or do. spontaneity N.
happy-go-lucky	not caring or worrying about the future.
down-to-earth	sensible and realistic in things you say or think.
chatterbox	INF a person who talks a lot. chatty ADJ.
passionate	very enthusiastic or interested in sth. passion (for sth) N.
give sth a go	be prepared to try sth. SYN have a go, give sth a try.
within reason	according to what is practical, possible, or sensible.
be drawn to sth/sb	be attracted to sb/sth.
considerate	always thinking about other people's wishes and feelings. SYN thoughtful. OPP inconsiderate.
affection	the feeling of liking or caring about sth/sb. affectionate ADJ.
integrity	the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.
pretentious	trying to appear important, intelligent, etc. to impress others.
attribute	a quality or feature of sb/sth.

1 Correct the mistakes.

- I've never been drawn by people just because they're affectionate.
to _____
- My cousin's a very lucky-go-happy person.

 - You can wear what you like to school, with reason. _____
 - I'd love to have a go for skydiving. _____
 - She's very kind and inconsiderate; she's always helping people. _____
 - My father had a lifelong passionate for classical music. _____
 - She's good fun but she's a real chatty!

 - He's a great boss – really down-the-earth.

2 Complete the sentences.

- Integrity is usually considered to be a positive _____.
- Marisa was very cold and strict with her children and showed them little _____.
- If you want to try skiing, why don't you just give it a _____?
- She's always using foreign words when she speaks – I just find that very _____.
- He loves to do things without any planning – he's very _____.
- I've never trusted Morgan; he's got no principles. He lacks _____.



Remember to test yourself

B Character in a work context

- A **What did you make of** the two candidates for the job?
- B I thought Joe Pascoe was **a real character** – **quick-witted**, and **shrewd**.
- A Shrewd, yes, and I'd say pretty **ruthless** too. But I didn't **take to** him personally. I thought he **came across as** rather **pushy** and a bit **conceited**. Catherine actually **struck me as** being more suitable for this job.
- B She certainly seemed very **conscientious** and **trustworthy**, but I wonder whether she's got the necessary **charisma**, or whether she's **assertive** enough for this role.
- A Maybe not. But she's not the kind of person who'd **get up people's noses**, which Joe might.



Glossary

What do you make of sb/sth?	= What's your impression of sb/sth?	conceited	DISAPPROVING thinking you are very important, clever, etc.
character	INF An interesting or unusual person can be called a character (or a real character).	strike sb (as sth)	give sb a particular impression.
quick-witted	able to think quickly; intelligent.	conscientious	taking care to do things carefully and correctly.
shrewd	good at judging people and situations. SYN astute .	trustworthy	able to be relied on as good, honest, etc.
ruthless	determined to get what you want and not caring about others.	charisma	a quality that makes other people like you and be attracted to you.
take to sb/sth	start liking sb/sth.	charismatic ADJ.	
come across (as)	make a particular impression.	assertive	behaving confidently so that people take notice of what you say.
pushy	INF trying hard to get what you want, especially in a rude manner.	get up sb's nose	INF annoy sb very much.

3 Positive or negative? Write P or N.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 She gets up my nose. _____ | 6 She's pretty ruthless. _____ |
| 2 He's pretty trustworthy. _____ | 7 He's a real character. _____ |
| 3 She strikes me as shrewd. _____ | 8 He's not very astute. _____ |
| 4 He's very quick-witted. _____ | 9 I'd say she was conscientious. _____ |
| 5 He comes across as quite pushy. _____ | 10 She's very charismatic. _____ |

4 Complete the text.

There's a new guy living next door to us and I didn't know what to (1) m_____ of him at first. He wasn't very friendly and he walked about as if he was 'Mr-Know-It-All', so he (2) s_____ me as rather (3) c_____. I just didn't (4) t_____ to him at all. He took my parking space several times, which really got up my (5) n_____. So, last night, I decided to be (6) a_____ and challenge him about it. He was fine and apologized! I was really quite surprised.

5 ABOUT YOU Complete the questions, then write your answers or ask another student.

- Do you consider yourself to be c_____ nsc_____ nt_____ s? _____
- How _____ ss_____ rt_____ v_____ are you if things don't go your way? _____
- Do you think you're shr_____ d with money? _____
- Do you have the capacity to be r_____ thl_____ ss if necessary? _____
- How tr_____ stw_____ rthy do you consider yourself to be? _____

