

PERSONALITY ADJECTIVES vocabulary, reading and listening

Match the comments with the personality adjectives in the box.

aggressive	ambitious	independent	jealous	reliable	self-confident
selfish	sensible	spoilt	stubborn		

- 1 'When I want something, my parents always give it to me.' _____
- 2 'I don't like my boyfriend talking to other women.' _____
- 3 'I'm always there when my friends need my help.' _____
- 4 'Those are my pens and you can't borrow them.' _____
- 5 'I'm going to go to bed early so I can sleep well before my exam tomorrow.' _____
- 6 'I'll hit you if you do that again!' _____
- 7 'I feel quite comfortable 'when I'm speaking in public.' _____
- 8 'I'd like to be the manager of a big multinational company.' _____
- 9 'That's what I think and I'm not going to change my mind.' _____
- 10 'I'd prefer to do this on my own, thanks.' _____

Write the opposite adjectives. Use a negative prefix if necessary.

- 1 generous _____
- 2 kind _____
- 2 lazy _____
- 3 mature _____
- 4 organized _____
- 5 talkative _____
- 6 tidy _____

Extreme family ties

Family can be an important part of a person's life, and for some nationalities being close to your family is more important than it is to others. For example, families in Southern Europe are generally quite close, although in the past they spent even more time together. This is also true of families in the Middle East. But it is the Bedouin people who have the closest ties of all.



Traditional Bedouin families live in large tents about half the size of a basketball court. The tents are divided into two sections: the first is for receiving guests in true Bedouin style – they have the reputation of being the world's most generous **hosts**. Visitors are always served a big meal as soon as they arrive. The second part of the tent is the family's shared kitchen, living room, dining room, and bedroom. They don't have tables and chairs, as the whole family sits on the floor to eat. And instead of beds, everybody sleeps on **mattresses**, which are piled into a corner of the room during the day.

Several generations usually share the tent. The head of the family is the mother, and she is the one who gives the orders. Her husband and her children live with her, even when the children are married and have their own children. The sons and sons-in-law look after the animals, while the daughters and daughters-in-law clean the tent, cook the meals, and look after the younger grandchildren. The older ones are left to run around outside. There may often be as many as 30 people under the same roof.

The few young people who have left the family to live in the city visit their mothers nearly every day. It can be quite a surprise to see a **shiny** new Mercedes **pull up** outside one of the tents and watch a smart young man get out to greet his relatives.

Bedouin people do not like to be separated from their families and there is a very good reason why. If they are poor, sick, old, or unemployed, it is the family that **supports** them. Elderly people are never **left alone**, and problems are always shared. Children who work in the city are often responsible for their families financially. In this way, Bedouin families aren't just close; they are a lifeline.

READING

Read the article. Choose the correct answers according to the information given.

1 In the past, most families in Southern Europe and the Middle East were ...

- a smaller b closer c richer

2 There isn't much ... in a Bedouin tent.

- a furniture b light c space

3 Bedouin ... spend most of the day inside.

- a men b women c children

4 Young Bedouins who live in the city ...

- a hardly ever go home.
b don't earn much money.
c don't lose touch with their families.

5 Members of a Bedouin family help each other to ...

- a survive. b get a job. c choose clothes

LISTENING

Listen to a couple, Terry and Jane, talking about going to live with the in-laws.

Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

1 Terry and Jane are both very tired. ____

2 Terry is more optimistic about the future than Jane. ____

3 Terry's parents have suggested the family move in with them. ____

4 Terry says that if they all lived together, his parents would babysit. ____

5 Jane thinks that the new plan would mean less housework for her. ____

6 Jane worries that the grandparents would spoil the children. ____