Personality

VOCABULARY BANK

1 ADJECTIVES

a Complete the sentences with an adjective from the list.

bright /braɪt/ conscientious /ˌkɒnʃɪˈenʃəs/ determined /dɪˈtɜːmɪnd/ gentle /ˈdʒentl/ ~~resourceful~~ /rɪˈsɔːsfl/ sarcastic /sɑːˈkæstɪk/ self-sufficient /ˌself-səˈfɪʃnt/ spontaneous /spɒnˈteɪniəs/ steady /ˈstedi/ straightforward /ˌstreɪtˈfɔːwəd/ sympathetic /ˌsɪmpəˈθetɪk/ thorough /ˈθʌrə/

1 He's quite *resourceful*. He can usually work out how to solve a problem.
2 He's very _____. Whatever part of a job he's doing, he does it with great attention to detail.
3 My nieces are both really _____. They get very good marks at school in all their subjects.
4 She's such a _____ person. She's honest and open and says just what she thinks.
5 She's very _____. Once she's decided to do something, nothing will stop her.
6 He's very _____. He never needs anyone else's help.
7 He's not very _____. When I was ill last week, he didn't even phone me.
8 She is so _____! She worked all weekend to make sure she got everything done.
9 My sister's a very _____ person. She's calm and kind and she never gets angry.
10 Her boyfriend is a _____ kind of guy. He's sensible and she can really rely on him.
11 He's very _____. He can suddenly decide to go to Paris in the morning and in the evening he's there!
12 Our maths teacher used to be so _____. She loved making comments that made us feel small.

b 1.5 Listen and check.

False friends
Be careful with *sympathetic*. Many languages have a similar adjective – *sympathique* (French), *simpatico* (Italian), *sympatyczny* (Polish), *sempatik* (Turkish) – which means *friendly, nice*. The same is true of *gentle*; this is not the same as, e.g. *gentil* (French), *gentile* (Italian), which mean *kind* or *polite*.

2 USEFUL PHRASES WHEN DESCRIBING PERSONALITY

a Complete the sentences with a phrase from the list.

a bit of a a bit too comes across deep down on the surface on the whole ~~tends to~~

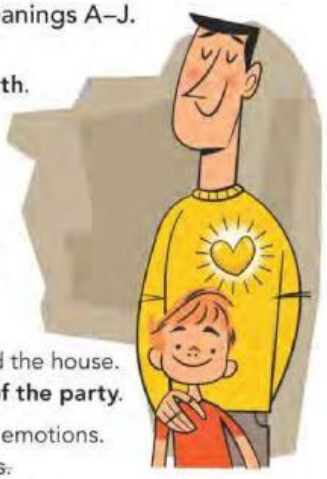
1 My father *tends to* avoid conflict – he never argues with my mother, he just leaves the room.
2 _____ he seems self-confident, but _____ he's quite insecure.
3 I worry about my grandmother. She's _____ trusting, so it's easy for people to take advantage of her.
4 _____ he's pretty laid-back, though he can sometimes get very stressed about work.
5 She's _____ control freak – she always needs to organize everything and everybody.
6 He _____ as quite sarcastic, but in fact he's really friendly.

b 1.6 Listen and check.

3 IDIOMS

a Match the **bold** idioms 1–10 to their meanings A–J.

1 B My dad's got **a heart of gold**.
2 _ My brother-in-law is very **down to earth**.
3 _ My boss is a bit of **a cold fish**.
4 _ My brother's **a real pain in the neck**.
5 _ My mum's **a soft touch**.
6 _ My uncle has **a very quick temper**.
7 _ I know I shouldn't criticise your family, but your sister is really **full of herself**.
8 _ He comes across as aggressive, but in fact he **wouldn't hurt a fly**.
9 _ My brother never **lifts a finger** around the house.
10 _ My cousin's always **the life and soul of the party**.



A She's unfriendly and she never shows her emotions.
~~B He's incredibly kind to everyone he meets.~~
C He's so annoying – he's always taking my things.
D She's great at telling jokes and making people laugh.
E I can always persuade her to give me extra pocket money.
F He expects the rest of us to do everything.
G He's the gentlest person I know.
H He gets angry very easily.
I He's very sensible and practical.
J She thinks she's the most important member of the family.

b 1.7 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Think of people you know for two adjectives from **1**, a phrase from **2**, and an idiom from **3**. Tell your partner about them and why they suit the description. p.8

LIVEWORKSHEETS