

# 9 Personal qualities

## A Positive

My cousin Zara is **incredibly talented**: she's a gymnastics **champion**, and is **currently** the best runner in the country in her age group.



I think my brother Luke is so **brave**. He lost a leg in a motorbike accident five years ago, but now runs marathons to **raise money** for **charity**. I'm very proud of him.



My gran has many great **qualities**: she's one of the **kindest**, **gentlest**, and most **loving** people I've ever met. She never has a bad word to say about anyone and is always there to help you if you need it.



### GLOSSARY

<b>incredibly talented</b>	extremely having a natural ability to do sth well <b>talent</b> <i>n</i>
<b>champion</b>	the person who is the best at a sport or game
<b>currently</b>	now; at the moment <b>current</b> <i>adj</i>
<b>brave</b>	ready to do dangerous or difficult things without fear
<b>raise money</b>	get money from other people for a special purpose
<b>charity</b>	an organization that collects money to help people who need it
<b>proud (of sb)</b>	pleased about sth you or others have done
<b>quality</b>	a thing that is part of sb's character, especially sth good
<b>kind</b>	friendly and good to other people <b>unkind</b>
<b>gentle</b>	quiet and kind
<b>loving</b>	feeling or showing love and care

### 1 Complete the sentences in a logical way.

- ▶ Gentle people are quiet and kind.
- 1 You raise money for other people because they \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- 2 A \_\_\_\_\_ father is kind and caring.
- 3 You feel proud if you've done something \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 If you are a champion, you are the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Brave people are prepared to do \_\_\_\_\_ things.
- 6 Charities usually collect \_\_\_\_\_ to help other people.
- 7 If something is currently true, it's true at the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 A talent is a natural \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9 If something is incredibly easy, it is \_\_\_\_\_ easy.
- 10 If you're unkind, you aren't \_\_\_\_\_ to people.

### 2 Complete the dialogues.

- ▶ Amelia is wonderful with her children.
- 1 Does she have a natural ability? ~ Yes, she's a very loving mother.
- 2 Is Carlos good at tennis? ~ Yes, she's very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Does Shelter collect money for homeless people? ~ Yes, he's the national \_\_\_\_\_ for 16-year-olds.
- 4 Has your father helped you? ~ Yes, it's a national \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Your sister has been very kind. ~ Yes, he's been \_\_\_\_\_ helpful.
- 6 Does the charity need more money? ~ Yes, it's one of her best \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 Are there many students in the school? ~ Yes, they need to \_\_\_\_\_ another £50,000.
- 8 Tom seems to have no fear at all. ~ Yes, there are \_\_\_\_\_ about 400, and more each year.
- 9 It's amazing what Zoe has achieved already. ~ No, he's very \_\_\_\_\_.
- ~ I know, we're all very \_\_\_\_\_ of her.

### 3 ABOUT YOU Write answers to the questions, or ask another student.

- ▶ Do you have a natural talent for something? If so, what is it? I think I have a talent for writing.
- 1 Have you ever been a champion at anything? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Have you ever raised money for anything? If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Think of something you are proud of. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Would you describe yourself as gentle? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 What's one of your best qualities? \_\_\_\_\_



### TEST YOURSELF



## B Negative



When anyone asks my colleague Otto for help, he always **pretends** to be busy and **makes up** an excuse for not having enough time. It's very **annoying** because it's part of his job to help us.

My boss can be very **difficult** as well. She has very **high standards**, which is good, but sometimes she **expects** too much of other people, and she can be a bit **cruel**.

My brother can be quite **unpleasant**. He doesn't **mean** to be, but he just sounds rather angry a lot of the time. People think he's a bit **odd**.

### GLOSSARY

<b>pretend</b>	try to make sb believe sth that is not true
<b>make sth up</b>	tell sb sth that is not true <b>SYN invent</b>
<b>excuse</b>	a reason you give to explain why you have done sth wrong, or not done sth you should have done
<b>annoying</b>	making you a little angry
<b>difficult</b>	A person who is <b>difficult</b> is not easy to please, or will not do what you want.
<b>high standards</b>	wanting people to reach a high level of quality and ability
<b>cruel</b>	very unkind <b>cruelty n</b>
<b>unpleasant</b>	unfriendly and not nice <b>OPP pleasant</b>
<b>mean (to do sth)</b>	intend (to do sth)
<b>odd</b>	strange or unusual

### SPOTLIGHT *expect*

In the text above, **expect** means 'demand that somebody does something because it is their job or responsibility'.

■ She **expects** a lot of people who work for her.

It can also mean 'think that something will happen or that somebody will come'.

■ I **expect** my mother will be here soon.

#### 4 Underline the main stress on these words. Use the **APP** to help you. Practise saying the words.

► annoying

1 pretend

3 difficult

5 expect

7 pleasant

2 excuse

4 standard

6 cruel

8 unpleasant

#### 5 Yes or No?

► He's a difficult person. Do you think he'll do what you want?

No

1 He pretended to be asleep. Was he?

2 He made it up. Was it true?

3 He meant to do it. Did he intend to do it?

4 He was pleasant. Was he nice?

5 He was annoying. Were you angry?

6 He's cruel. Is he kind?

7 You expect something to happen. Do you think it will?

8 He just made up an excuse. Was he telling the truth?

9 He has high standards. Is he easy to please?

10 She's odd. Is she normal?

#### 6 Complete the texts.

► The animals are locked up 24 hours a day. I think that's very cruel.

1 Petra is late for class most days, but always has a different ..... I think she's got a few problems at the moment. She ..... to be OK, but in actual fact, she isn't.

2 When students are late for class they are sometimes honest, but often they ..... an excuse about the buses not being on time, or that the traffic was terrible.

3 I can't keep the flat as clean and tidy as my flatmate, but that's because she has very high ..... and I don't. She puts my things away where I can't find them, which can be ..... and I sometimes get a bit angry with her. She doesn't ..... to be unkind or anything. She's just incredibly tidy.

4 My little sister has lots of problems and ..... a lot of help from me. But when I can't solve her problems, she can be quite ..... to me. She's a ..... person.



### TEST YOURSELF