

## WHAT ARE YOU LIKE?

### Describing oneself's personality

#### -advanced-

*From Advanced Speakout book*

**B** Look at the words in the box. Give examples of how people with these qualities might behave.

perceptive inspirational over-ambitious conscientious  
obstinate neurotic open-minded prejudiced apathetic  
insensitive solitary rebellious mature inquisitive

**C** Find a word in the box above to describe someone who:

- 1 notices things quickly and understands people's feelings.
- 2 has an unreasonable dislike of a thing or a group of people.
- 3 is not interested or willing to make the effort to do anything.
- 4 is determined not to change their ideas, behaviour or opinions.
- 5 deliberately disobeys people in authority or rules of behaviour.
- 6 spends a lot of time alone because they like being alone.
- 7 is unreasonably anxious or afraid.
- 8 is willing to consider or accept other people's ideas or opinions.

**1 A** Find pairs of opposite adjectives in the box.

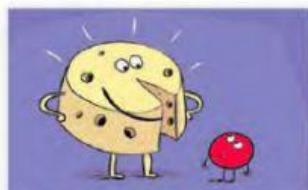
considerate circumspect conservative temperamental impetuous  
easy-going gregarious selfish liberal introverted

**B** Match the adjectives in the box with statements 1-10.

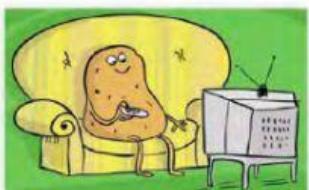
- 1 She expects everyone to help her, but she never does anything for anyone else!
- 2 My boss is happy one minute and screaming the next.
- 3 The manager doesn't like new ideas; he wants to do everything the old way.
- 4 That child talks to few people; he prefers to sit quietly and read or just think.
- 5 That girl is so relaxed that she never seems to worry about anything.
- 6 She's very cautious; she thinks carefully before she decides to do something.
- 7 She's tolerant and she wants her employees to be free to do what they want.
- 8 That man makes too many instant decisions without thinking about the consequences.
- 9 When he sees me, he always brings a gift and asks about my family.
- 10 She loves socialising; she goes to parties every night.

**C** Can you think of people (friends, famous people, fictional characters) who match the adjectives above?

1 A Read sentences 1–6 and look at the pictures. How could you complete the idioms?



1 She has a lot of power. In that organisation she's a ...



2 He must be the laziest person I've ever met. He's a total ...



3 She sometimes gets out of control. She's a bit of a ...



4 He ruined the company's reputation. He was a ...



5 She broke her arm and still refused to give up. She's a ...



6 He complains whenever we try to have fun. He's a bit of a ...

B Check your ideas. Match idioms a)–f) in bold with sentences 1–6 above.

- a) **rotten apple**: one bad person who has a bad effect on all others in the group
- b) **loose cannon**: an unpredictable person who may cause damage if he/she is not controlled
- c) **couch potato**: a person who lives a sedentary lifestyle, never doing any exercise
- d) **wet blanket**: a negative person who ruins other people's good times
- e) **big cheese**: an important, influential person
- f) **tough cookie**: someone who is strong enough to deal with difficult or violent situations