

# I can talk about character

## How I see myself

Dan (33) 'I'm **ambitious**, **self-confident**, and **generous**. I'm also very **impatient**.'



Kaz (18) 'I'm always **cheerful**, I'm **easy-going**, and I've got lots of **energy**.'



Giles (45) 'I see myself as **honest**, **hard-working**, and generally **tolerant**.'



## How others see me

'Some people really like me; others think I'm **arrogant** and maybe **aggressive**.'

'My parents don't think I'm very **responsible**; my friends just think I'm **crazy**.'

'Other people probably think I'm a bit **dull**, without much **sense of humour**.'

## spotlight *crazy, mad, stupid*

**Crazy** INT and **mad** mean 'not sensible or practical; a bit stupid'.

Both words can describe a person or an action or idea, but the meaning is not always negative. They can describe someone who is a bit out of control but just wants to enjoy life. **Stupid** is always negative.

## Glossary

<b>see sb as sth</b>	• imagine or think of sb in a particular way.
<b>ambitious</b>	• having a strong desire to do well or be successful. OPP <b>unambitious</b> . <b>ambition</b> N.
<b>self-confident</b>	• feeling sure about your own ability. OPP <b>insecure</b> .
<b>generous</b>	• happy to give more money and help than is usual. OPP <b>mean</b> . <b>generosity</b> N.
<b>impatient</b>	• not able to stay calm and wait for sth/sb. OPP <b>patient</b> . <b>patience</b> N.
<b>arrogant</b>	• thinking you are better than other people. OPP <b>modest</b> . <b>arrogance</b> N.
<b>aggressive</b>	• likely to fight or argue. <b>aggression</b> N.
<b>cheerful</b>	• feeling happy.
<b>easy-going</b>	• relaxed and not worried by what other people do.
<b>energy</b>	• the ability to be very active without getting tired. <b>energetic</b> ADJ.
<b>responsible</b>	• able to act sensibly and intelligently. OPP <b>irresponsible</b> .
<b>honest</b>	• always telling the truth. OPP <b>dishonest</b> . <b>honesty</b> N.
<b>hard-working</b>	• able to work with effort and for a long time. OPP <b>lazy</b> .
<b>tolerant</b>	• able to accept ideas you don't agree with. OPP <b>intolerant</b> . <b>tolerance</b> N.
<b>dull</b>	• boring.
<b>sense of humour</b>	• the ability to laugh at things and see when sth is funny.

### 1 Positive or negative, or can it be both? Write P or N or B.

► She's very cheerful. P

1 He's very arrogant.       

2 They're a bit dull.       

3 Both boys are very honest.       

4 My boss is very tolerant.       

► He's very ambitious. B

5 She's so modest.       

6 He's very self-confident.       

7 Karen is so mean.       

8 My brother is absolutely mad.

## 2 Correct the spelling mistakes.

- |               |             |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ► honest      | onest       | 3 generos   | 6 agressive |
| 1 energie     | energie     | 4 cheerfull | 7 paciente  |
| 2 responsable | responsable | 5 energetik | 8 tolarant  |

## 3 Match 1–8 with a–i.

- |   |   |                    |
|---|---|--------------------|
| ► feeling sure about your own ability       | c | a aggressive       |
| 1 boring                                    |   | b cheerful         |
| 2 likely to fight or argue                  |   | c self-confident ✓ |
| 3 thinking you are better than others       |   | d tolerant         |
| 4 always telling the truth                  |   | e sense of humour  |
| 5 ability to laugh at things                |   | f dull             |
| 6 feeling happy                             |   | g arrogant         |
| 7 unhappy to give money or help people      |   | h honest           |
| 8 able to accept ideas you don't agree with |   | i mean             |

## 4 Complete the tables.

ADJECTIVE	OPPOSITE	ADJECTIVE	NOUN
► patient	impatient	ambitious	ambition
honest		honest	
responsible		tolerant	
lazy		aggressive	
generous		arrogant	
ambitious		generous	
self-confident		patient	

## 5 Complete the words in each sentence.

- If you disagree with Matthew, he can get a bit aggressive.
- 1 My brother's a bit irresponsible and does some c things; but he's OK.
- 2 Keiko's a good person to share a flat with: she's very e g.
- 3 I like Zoltan; he's got a great s of h.
- 4 Hamdi is a fantastic musician, but very few people realize this because he's so m.
- 5 Since Katy got a new job and a boyfriend, she's become more s c.
- 6 My brother's lazy, but my sisters have always been very h w.
- 7 I don't think young Andy is r enough to drive a car.
- 8 Andrea has so much e; she's always doing something.

## 6 ABOUT YOU Answer the questions, or ask another student.

- 1 Are you ambitious? If so, in what way?
- 2 Would you say you're hard-working or a bit lazy?
- 3 Are you intolerant of anything? If so, what?
- 4 When do you get impatient?
- 5 How do you see yourself? Write three adjectives.
- 6 Which two qualities do you think are the most important: honesty, patience, tolerance, or generosity?