

8.2 Gen X, Gen Y, Gen Z

Vocabulary describing people

1 Match sentences 1–8 to words a–h.

- 1 No matter how hard you try to persuade Claire to do something, she refuses. g
- 2 Geoff isn't the sort of person you can trust to do the right thing. He tends not to think about the consequences of his actions. ____
- 3 Roger is one of those people who is knowledgeable about all sorts of different subjects. ____
- 4 The thing about Jenny is that it's all about her. She never thinks about other people's needs or feelings. ____
- 5 I can always rely on Sasha to support me, even when I'm in the wrong. ____
- 6 Alex is very quick to find fault with things and tell you what he doesn't like about them. ____
- 7 Samantha clearly thinks she's better and more important than others around her, and can be quite rude, too. ____
- 8 Craig is able to accept things as they are – he isn't over-optimistic. ____

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| a arrogant | e realistic |
| b critical | f self-centred |
| c irresponsible | g stubborn |
| d loyal | h well-informed |

2 Unscramble the words in bold to complete the conversations.

- 1 A Emily always gets so tense and anxious about everything.
B True, she isn't very _____, is she? **syca-nggoi**
- 2 A Ted's quite unusual in the way he thinks and behaves, isn't he?
B Yes, he's not at all _____. **convonalenti**
- 3 A Jack is quite insecure, isn't he?
B True, he needs to be a bit more _____. **flse-centdonfi**
- 4 A Katy is pretty good at fixing computer issues, isn't she?
B She's one of the most _____ people I know. **tche-vysav**
- 5 A Nicola isn't the kind of person who doesn't listen to or accept new ideas, is she?
B Not at all. She's really _____. **enop-demdin**
- 6 A Adrian's life revolves around his kids, doesn't it?
B Yes, he's very _____. **flimay-fusoced**
- 7 A Did you know Victor has two Masters degrees?
B No, I didn't know he was that _____. **elwl ecateddu**

PRONUNCIATION word stress in compound adjectives

3a 8.3 Listen and underline the word with the strongest stress in these compound adjectives. In two of them, there is equal stress on both words.

- 1 easy-going
- 2 self-confident
- 3 well educated
- 4 self-centred
- 5 tech-savvy
- 6 well informed
- 7 open-minded
- 8 family-focused

b Complete the rules about word stress in compound adjectives.

- 1 When the first word is an adjective or adverb and the second word ends in *-ed*, the stress is on the *first / second* word.
- 2 When the first word is *self*, the stress is on the *first / second* word.
- 3 When the first word is a noun, the stress is on *both words / the second word*.

➔ **STUDY TIP** Note that if a compound adjective is followed by a noun, both words in the compound adjective have equal stress. Compare *he's self-centred* and *he's a self-centred person*.

c 8.3 Listen again to the compound adjectives in exercise 3a. Pause the listening and repeat the words.

Grammar participle clauses

- 4 Complete the article with the correct participle form of the verbs in brackets.

A 4G FUTURE:

Four generations in the same workplace by 2030

Imagine a thirty-year-old ¹ managing (manage) someone twice his age or a university graduate ² _____ (work) for someone old enough to be her grandfather. Then consider what a team ³ _____ (consist) of four generations would be like. This is the working environment ⁴ _____ (predict) for the future, according to a recent UK study.

The Future of Work study, ⁵ _____ (conduct) by the UK Commission for Skills, suggests that an aging population, ⁶ _____ (combine) with improved health, will create four-generation or 4G offices ⁷ _____ (make) up of staff in their 70s and 80s ⁸ _____ (work) alongside those in their 20s.



Is this likely to lead to problems caused by differences in attitudes between the generations? Not according to the results of another major survey of 3,000 employees and 900 employers. This survey, ⁹ _____ (call) 'Managing an age-diverse workforce', found that employers and employees very much welcomed the benefits ¹⁰ _____ (offer) by a multi-generational workplace. Employers commented on benefits ¹¹ _____ (include) knowledge-sharing and improved customer service, while employees claim to enjoy the new perspectives and fresh ideas ¹² _____ (inspire) by working with people of diverse ages.

- 5 Complete the sentences with the correct participle form of the verbs in the box.

book come contain leave sing situate stand take

- There was a crowd of people standing outside the building.
- Any luggage _____ unattended will be removed.
- Tickets _____ in advance can be collected from the box office.
- There's a burning smell _____ from the kitchen.
- He won't eat anything _____ meat.
- All you could hear was the birds _____.
- This photo, _____ when I was in Greece, is one of my favourites.
- The apartments _____ at the back of the building have the best views.

- 6 Join the sentences to make one sentence.

- I almost didn't hear the phone. It was ringing. I almost didn't hear the phone ringing.
- The meeting has been cancelled. It was scheduled for 10 a.m. tomorrow. _____
- I am sure I recognize that woman. She is waiting at the bus stop. _____
- The mountain climber was reported missing two days ago. He has now been found safe and sound. _____
- There was a lot of rubbish. It had been left on the beach. _____
- We saw some wonderful paintings at the gallery. They were painted by Rembrandt. _____
- I found a wallet on the street. It contained over £200 in cash. _____
- There was a huge storm. It resulted in many fallen trees. _____

I can ...

Very well Quite well More practice

describe people.

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use participle clauses.

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