

Lesson
22

Personality Profile

Vocabulary

All the words in this lesson may be used to describe human behavior.

aloof (uh LOOF) ADJ. reserved; removed in interest or feeling (*Larry's aloof manner disguised the fact that he was really very shy.*)

arrogant (AR uh guhnt) ADJ. overly proud; haughty (*The all-star pitcher's arrogant attitude made the other players avoid him off the playing field.*)

astute (uh STOOT) ADJ. shrewd; having keen insight and judgment (*It took an astute observer of the political scene to predict whom the nominee would be.*)

belligerent (buh LIJ ur uhnt) ADJ. hostile; aggressive; fond of fighting (*The young truant was belligerent when confronted by the police.*)

boisterous (BOY stur uhs) ADJ. having to do with enthusiasm and high spirits (*The boisterous crowd swarmed out of the stadium after their team won the championship.*)

eccentric (ik SEN trik) ADJ. odd; peculiar (*My aunt was considered eccentric, but I never thought her behavior was strange.*)

evasive (i VAY siv) ADJ. intending to be vague or to avoid (*I am not satisfied with your evasive answer; I want a fuller explanation.*)

frigid (FRIJ id) ADJ. cold in feeling; lacking warmth (*Your frigid greeting convinced me that I was not welcome.*)

genial (JEEN yuhl) ADJ. cheerful; kindly; friendly (*The genial host welcomed his guests and made them feel comfortable.*)

immature (IM uh TYUR) ADJ. lacking complete growth or development; childish in manner (*Carol's parents felt she was too immature to have her own car.*)

impertinent (im PUR tuhn uhnt) ADJ. rude; disrespectful (*Rita's impertinent answer shocked her elderly grandmother, who valued manners above all else.*)

inquisitive (in KWIZ i tiv) ADJ. curious; interested (*Some people said Tony was too nosy for his own good, but he maintained he was just inquisitive.*)

jovial (JOH vee uhl) ADJ. good-humored; full of fun; jolly (*Your jovial manner makes people glad to be around you.*)

practical (PRAK ti kuhl) ADJ. sensible; level-headed; not speculative (*It is odd how one twin is so practical, while the other is such a dreamer.*)

precocious (pri KOH shuhs) ADJ. unusually bright or mature for one's age (*The precocious toddler had already learned how to read.*)

provocative (pruh VAHK uh tiv) ADJ. tending to excite, stir up, or stimulate (*My history teacher often discusses provocative issues when he wants to initiate a debate.*)

scrupulous (SKROO pyuh luhs) ADJ. conscientious; attentive to detail; careful to do what is right (*I was scrupulous about filling out my application correctly.*)

suave (swahv) ADJ. polished; smoothly agreeable or polite (*My brother's suave manner made him seem older than his fifteen years.*)

uncouth (uhn KOOTH) ADJ. crude, ill-mannered, or rude (*The party was ruined by the uncouth guests who threw food.*)

vain (vayn) ADJ. conceited; overly proud of one's appearance, abilities, or achievements (*I am disgusted at how vain Liz has become since she won the beauty pageant.*)

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Exercise 1

Choose the letter of the word that best completes the sentence.

1. It was very ---- of you to notice that I am uncomfortable in these surroundings—not many people would have noticed.
A. uncouth **B.** aloof **C.** provocative **D.** astute
2. The hostess's ---- manner made it clear the party was not her idea.
F. jovial **G.** practical **H.** frigid **J.** suave
3. Regina was ---- about observing protocol when she was introduced to the ambassador and her husband.
A. inquisitive **B.** scrupulous **C.** evasive **D.** genial
4. The university dean was skeptical about admitting the ---- fourteen-year-old to the freshman class.
F. precocious **G.** practical **H.** suave **J.** evasive
5. A newspaper reporter must be ---- to be successful.
A. inquisitive **B.** uncouth **C.** eccentric **D.** boisterous
6. Jack's sister gave him an etiquette book to help him overcome his ---- behavior.
F. uncouth **G.** suave **H.** astute **J.** evasive
7. Kyle's ---- experience proved invaluable on our rock-climbing expedition, as the rest of us had learned only from books.
A. evasive **B.** arrogant **C.** genial **D.** practical
8. "Only a(n) ---- person would find such a dumb joke funny," sniffed Bette.
F. arrogant **G.** scrupulous **H.** immature **J.** suave
9. In the movies, it is usually the ---- and sophisticated hero who wins the heroine.
A. boisterous **B.** suave **C.** vain **D.** impertinent
10. Religion and politics are often ---- topics.
F. jovial **G.** aloof **H.** provocative **J.** frigid

Exercise 2

Choose the letter of the word that most nearly has the *opposite* meaning of the word in capital letters.

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| 11. ALOOF
A. distant C. difficult
B. friendly D. solemn | 16. IMPERTINENT
F. pointed H. respectful
G. clever J. crude |
| 12. GENIAL
F. hostile H. gentle
G. welcoming J. strict | 17. BOISTEROUS
A. brash C. mysterious
B. calm D. loud |
| 13. VAIN
A. haughty C. silly
B. helpless D. modest | 18. ARROGANT
F. humble H. proud
G. steady J. uncertain |
| 14. JOVIAL
F. cheerful H. deceptive
G. round J. depressed | 19. EVASIVE
A. harsh C. forthright
B. tricky D. understated |
| 15. ECCENTRIC
A. eager C. strange
B. normal D. tricky | 20. BELLIGERENT
F. cocky H. gloomy
G. welcoming J. passive |

Vocabulary
Exercise 1

- 1 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 2 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 3 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 4 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 5 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 6 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 7 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 8 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 9 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 10 (F) (G) (H) (J)

Exercise 2

- 11 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 12 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 13 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 14 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 15 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 16 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 17 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 18 (F) (G) (H) (J)
- 19 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 20 (F) (G) (H) (J)