

Name: _____

I Have Character



What are character traits?

Character traits are all the parts of a person's behavior and attitude that make up their personality. These are qualities that cannot be seen on the outside but possessed on the inside. Everyone has both good and bad character traits. When talking or writing about these traits they are most often expressed with descriptive adjectives.

What are descriptive adjectives?

Adjectives are expressive words that describe nouns. Descriptive adjectives describe color, size, shape, qualities, or states.

Using descriptive adjectives to describe character traits.

When listing a person's character traits, descriptive adjectives are helpful. They effectively communicate the quality, state, behavior, or attitude of a person.

Example: If you were asked to list your best friend's positive character traits you might say they are *compassionate*, *adventurous*, and *imaginative*.

The above example describes a friend's character traits. To express those qualities we used words like *compassionate*, *adventurous*, and *imaginative*. Those are descriptive adjectives, or expressive words that describe your friend's character.

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Read the poem below.



Hidden Treasure

By Neal Levin

The things that I'm most thankful for
Are sometimes hard to see,
Like confidence and courage
And adaptability,
Integrity, Intelligence,
Humility and health,
Imagination, patience,
And a sense of inner wealth.

I'm thankful that I truly feel
No emptiness or death
Of laughter, love, or liberty
Or evidence of worth.
I'm grateful to have self-respect
And faith and hope and pride.
The things that I'm most thankful for
Are things I have inside.

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Match each vocabulary word from the poem on the left with the correct definition on the right. Write the letter on the line provided.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. _____ confidence | a. being an honest and fair person |
| 2. _____ adaptability | b. being able to speak freely |
| 3. _____ integrity | c. feeling value for oneself |
| 4. _____ humility | d. a strong belief in someone or something |
| 5. _____ liberty | e. ability to change easily |
| 6. _____ self-respect | f. not thinking you are better than others |
| 7. _____ faith | g. a firm trust in oneself or others |

❖ **Now try this:** Find all of the words above in the poem and highlight them.

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Think about the poem Hidden Treasures. In the poem the poet talks about the character traits that he is most thankful for. He describes all the good qualities about himself that cannot be seen on the outside, but he possesses on the inside.

Every person has qualities that makes them special. Think about yourself. What are some positive character traits that you possess? Maybe you are kind, or generous. Maybe you are smart or ambitious. On the lines below tell what inner qualities you are most thankful for.

ANSWER KEY

I Have Character

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2. e adaptability b. being able to speak freely
3. a integrity c. feeling value for oneself
4. f humility d. a strong belief in someone or something
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