

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 dearth
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.

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
5. b liberty e. ability to change easily
6. c self-respect f. not thinking you are better than others
7. d faith g. a firm trust in oneself or others

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