

## Describing Characters

### PERSONALITY

**Positive:** friendly, generous, helpful, caring, loving, approachable, charming, courteous, well-mannered, sympathetic, considerate, interesting, fun, brave, peaceful, admirable.

**Negative:** cruel, mean, unfriendly, horrible, greedy, disingenuous, unhelpful, selfish, uncaring, unapproachable, discourteous, ill-mannered, unsympathetic, inconsiderate, intolerable, bitter, heartless, spiteful, vengeful, tedious, wearisome, smug, cowardly, violent, despicable.

### AGE

young – old  
immature – mature  
in years e.g. 21, 78 years old  
baby, child, teenager, adult,  
middle-aged, elderly  
child, parent, grandparent

### SMELL

**Positive:** perfumed, fragrant, aromatic, sweet  
**Negative:** stink, sweaty, foul, smelly, pong

### LOOKS

#### Body

tall – short  
thin – fat, broad  
small – large  
strong – weak  
young – old

#### Facial features

ears / nose / eyes – big or small  
eye colour e.g. blue, brown  
eyebrows e.g. thin, bushy  
glasses  
facial hair e.g. beard, moustache  
hair colour e.g. blonde, ginger  
amount of hair – e.g. bald, hairy  
nose – e.g. pointy, round  
neck e.g. short / long, thin / thick  
teeth e.g. straight / crooked  
mouth – big / small  
chin – square / round

### SOUNDS

#### Voice

loud – quiet  
deep – high  
irritating – pleasant  
confident – shy  
stuttering – smooth  
nasal, squeaky, hoarse  
accent e.g. cockney, Scottish

## Describing Objects

### LOOKS

**Positive:** attractive, beautiful, resplendent, sparkling, lovely, alluring, captivating, gorgeous, handsome, pretty, fresh, picturesque

**Negative:** ugly, unattractive, unlovely, grotesque, worn, unsightly, hideous, horrid, repulsive, revolting, objectionable

#### **Neutral:** new – old

modern – ancient  
smooth – rough  
shiny – dull  
bright – dark  
hard – soft  
wet – dry  
cuddly, dirty, dusty, gooey, solid, sticky, uneven  
material e.g. metal, glass, leather, cloth, wool, stone, wood, rock  
small, tiny, miniscule, petite  
large, enormous, huge, immense

### SOUND

noisy, quiet, bang, boom, buzz  
crackling, mumble, murmur,  
chugging, whirring, growling,  
moaning, rumble, rustle, screech,  
shriek, splash, whistling

### SMELL

Dusty, damp, musty, fresh, sweet,  
sour, bitter, stink, stench, scent,  
spicy, whiff, reek, delicious,  
disgusting, essence, fragrance,  
fragrant, incense, burning,  
smouldering, salty,

### WHERE?

country e.g. England, Brazil  
city e.g. London, Manchester  
city / urban – countryside / rural  
prepositions e.g. under, besides  
building: in the ... school, house  
room: in the ... bedroom, kitchen  
outside the ... shop, garage

### SIMILES and Metaphors

Use things like the sun / moon / stars / diamonds / pearls / ice / flames /  
Use animals like a snake / fox / lion / eel / worm / eagle / bull / ox

Similes use as or like e.g. He was **as** brave as a lion in war.  
Metaphors say the thing or person is something else e.g. He was a lion in war.