18 Personality

Before you start

Vocabulary: Multi-part Verbs

1 **Match these verbs with the multi-part verbs in *italics* in the sentences.**

stop trying, depress, have a good relationship with, do something seriously, annoy, criticise, tolerate, meet, start doing (a hobby or sport)

1 Geoff never lets things *get* him *down*.
2 Alice doesn't *give up* easily and always *gets on with* her work in class.
3 My mum *gets on with* most people and she loves to *get together* with her friends.
4 Tom is good at art and would like to *take up* photography.
5 Charlie is always *getting at* me. In fact, he's always *putting* other people *down*.
6 Mary *puts up with* a lot of criticism.

2 **Match the people in Exercise 1 with Key Words from the box.**

Example 1 *Geoff is cheerful.*

Key Words

bad-tempered, cheerful, confident, creative, disorganised, dynamic, generous, hard-working, helpful, honest, insensitive, materialistic, moody, outgoing, patient, reliable, selfish, shy, sociable, stubborn, sympathetic, tolerant

3 **How would you describe yourself? Write down two or three Key Words. Be honest! Use the multi-part verbs to write two sentences about yourself.**

Example *I'm shy. I get on with people I know, but I don't like meeting new people.*

Skills Focus

Listening

4 **Look at the photo and choose one of the chocolates. Then listen to the radio programme. Do you agree with the description of your personality?**

5 **Match these questions with the answers.**

1 What does she look like?	a) Music and dancing
2 What does she like?	b) Cheerful but disorganised!
3 What is she like?	c) She's tall with dark hair.

6 **Read the Strategies.**

Listening Strategies: Identifying opinions

- Before you listen, try to imagine the people and what kind of things they might say (e.g. Lucy's teacher might talk about her homework, behaviour in class, etc).
- While you listen, write down important words. (e.g. good-looking).
- After you listen, look for synonyms of the words in the questions (e.g. good-looking = attractive).

Now listen to four people describing Lucy and match the people with the opinions.

1 Lucy's best friend	a) thinks she's helpful, sociable and reliable.
2 Her teacher	b) thinks she's attractive, happy, popular, reliable, but a bit disorganised.
3 Her father	c) thinks she's cheerful, helpful and sympathetic.
4 A neighbour	d) thinks she's honest and cheerful, but disorganised and sometimes bad-tempered.

7 **Now listen to the first description again. Complete the Function File.**

Function File

Describing people

Appearance: She's (1) _____ blond hair. It's (2) _____ long, well, shoulder-length. It's (3) _____ straight. She sometimes wears it (4) _____ a ponytail. She's quite tall and slim, and (5) _____ good-looking. Everyone says she looks (6) _____ a model! She's got big, brown eyes. She's eighteen.
Interests: I've known her for ages – we started school together. She (7) _____ listening to music, rock music – she's always got her Walkman on!
Personality: She's got a (8) _____ personality. She's (9) _____ cheerful and sociable. She sometimes (10) _____ a bit disorganised, but really she's (11) _____ reliable.

Pronunciation: Showing Interest

8 **Listen to the first description again. Repeat what the interviewer says.**

Mm, Anything else?, Really?, That's interesting, Yes?, Right

Writing and Speaking

9 **Write notes about someone you know.**

Who are you going to describe?
Alex, my uncle

How long have you known him/her?
all my life

What does he/she look like?
short, black hair, beard

What does he/she like?
football, dogs

What is he/she like?
honest, shy, reliable

10 **In pairs, ask and answer the questions. Show interest using words from Exercise 8.**

Example
A: *Who are you going to describe?*
B: *My uncle. He's called Alex.*
A: *Mm.*

Comparing Cultures

Listen to a man and woman discussing national stereotypes. What adjectives do they use to describe these nationalities?

a) English
b) Scottish
c) American

Do you believe these stereotypes? How would you describe your national stereotype?

QUOTE … UNQUOTE
'Intellect has powerful muscles, but no personality.'
Albert Einstein