

Vocabulary

Physical Appearance: tall / short / average / medium height / blond(e) / brunette / ginger / light-/dark-/red-/fair-/grey-haired / blue-/green-/brown-/hazel-eyed / slim / thin / muscular / chubby / overweight / cute / handsome / gorgeous / stunning / average / bearded / clean-shaven / tattooed

Personality: outgoing / social / shy / reserved / sensitive / confident / arrogant / independent / sensible / strict / responsible / opinionated / clever / smart / kind / easy-going / silly / self-conscious / lazy / selfish / rude / (un)reliable

Interests: to be (not very/all that) interested in / quite keen on (BrE) / fond of / completely/ totally obsessed with / passionate about / excited about / bored by / I can't wait to / am looking forward to / am dreading

Feelings: very / fairly / quite • well / all right / happy / relaxed / calm / not (too) bad • / (just) fine • / okay • / a bit depressed / worried about / stressed (out) about / upset about / confused by/about / overwhelmed by / embarrassed by/about / annoyed with/ about/at (AmE) / angry with/about/at (AmE) / sorry for/about

Pair Discussion

Imagine that you are going to meet two friends at a café. They've never met each other before. You may be late, but you want your friends to find each other if they arrive on time. Describe to one friend what the other

Personal Questions

- What does your mother/your best friend/boyfriend/girlfriend look like?
- What is he/she like?
- What do you (and your friends) like/enjoy doing?
- How are you? / How have you been?

"He's/She's... quite tall / very short... with short, dark, curly hair / light green eyes..."

one looks like. You can also tell your friend a little bit about the person so that they have something to talk about until you get there. At the end, check to make sure your friend remembers what you have told them.

* You can find a sample dialogue on the September 2017 CD.

Language for Describing People

He's/She's quite a/an [adjective] person...

He/She is one of the [superlative] people I know / I've ever met...

Most of my friends/classmates are interested in / fond of...

When we were younger, my brother/sister/best friend was more...

You'll recognize his/her...

Language Points

- We can modify almost any feeling, such as "I'm feeling **fairly** relaxed." or "I'm doing **quite** well." But we don't usually use these modifiers with the words **fine** and **okay**. For a neutral response to "How are you?" you can say "**I'm (doing) fine**", "**I'm okay, thanks**." or "**Not (too) bad**."
- In a speaking exam, you can show that you truly understand the meaning of an adjective of personality by using the word to describe someone, and then giving **examples** that show that you're correct. e.g. *James is really reliable. I know that I can really count on him to follow through on his promises.*

"He's/She's confident / opinionated / shy... He/She always / usually / never + [examples that show the meaning of the words]... My brother/sister/friend used to be/was really lazy / very outgoing when he/she was young, but now he/she/they are more..."

"I'm interested in... / excited about... / passionate about... languages / going to the cinema... / I can't wait to... graduate from high school / I'm looking forward to... going to university..."

"I'm fine / not bad / quite well... To be honest, I've been a little... I'm confused by / annoyed with..."

Bridge

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