

### 1 ADJECTIVES

a Complete the sentences with an adjective from the list.

bright /braɪt/    conscientious /ˌkɒnʃiˈenʃəs/  
determined /dɪ'tɜːmɪnd/    gentle /'dʒentl/  
resourceful /rɪ'sɔːsfl/    sarcastic /sɑː'kæstɪk/  
self-sufficient /ˌself-sə'fɪʃnt/  
spontaneous /spɒn'teɪniəs/    steady /'stedɪ/  
straightforward /ˌstreɪt'fɔːwəd/  
sympathetic /ˌsɪmpə'tetɪk/    thorough /'θʌrə/

- 1 He's quite *resourceful*. He can usually work out how to solve a problem.
- 2 He's very \_\_\_\_\_. Whatever part of a job he's doing, he does it with great attention to detail.
- 3 My nieces are both really \_\_\_\_\_. They get very good marks at school in all their subjects.
- 4 She's such a \_\_\_\_\_ person. She's honest and open and says just what she thinks.
- 5 She's very \_\_\_\_\_. Once she's decided to do something, nothing will stop her.
- 6 He's very \_\_\_\_\_. He never needs anyone else's help.
- 7 He's not very \_\_\_\_\_. When I was ill last week, he didn't even phone me.
- 8 She is so \_\_\_\_\_! She worked all weekend to make sure she got everything done.
- 9 My sister's a very \_\_\_\_\_ person. She's calm and kind and she never gets angry.
- 10 Her boyfriend is a \_\_\_\_\_ kind of guy. He's sensible and she can really rely on him.
- 11 He's very \_\_\_\_\_. He can suddenly decide to go to Paris in the morning and in the evening he's there!
- 12 Our maths teacher used to be so \_\_\_\_\_. She loved making comments that made us feel small.

b 1.5 Listen and check.

#### False friends

Be careful with *sympathetic*. Many languages have a similar adjective – *sympathique* (French), *simpatico* (Italian), *sympatyczny* (Polish), *sempatik* (Turkish) – which means *friendly, nice*. The same is true of *gentle*; this is not the same as, e.g. *gentil* (French), *gentile* (Italian), which mean *kind* or *polite*.

### 2 USEFUL PHRASES WHEN DESCRIBING PERSONALITY

a Complete the sentences with a phrase from the list.

a bit of a    a bit too    comes across    deep down    on the surface  
on the whole    tends to

- 1 My father *tends to* avoid conflict – he never argues with my mother, he just leaves the room.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ he seems self-confident, but \_\_\_\_\_ he's quite insecure.
- 3 I worry about my grandmother. She's \_\_\_\_\_ trusting, so it's easy for people to take advantage of her.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ he's pretty laid-back, though he can sometimes get very stressed about work.
- 5 She's \_\_\_\_\_ control freak – she always needs to organize everything and everybody.
- 6 He \_\_\_\_\_ as quite sarcastic, but in fact he's really friendly.

b 1.6 Listen and check.

### 3 IDIOMS

a Match the **bold** idioms 1–10 to their meanings A–J.

- 1  B My dad's got **a heart of gold**.
- 2  My brother-in-law is very **down to earth**.
- 3  My boss is a bit of **a cold fish**.
- 4  My brother's **a real pain in the neck**.
- 5  My mum's **a soft touch**.
- 6  My uncle has **a very quick temper**.
- 7  I know I shouldn't criticise your family, but your sister is really **full of herself**.
- 8  He comes across as aggressive, but in fact he **wouldn't hurt a fly**.
- 9  My brother never **lifts a finger** around the house.
- 10  My cousin's always **the life and soul of the party**.

- A She's unfriendly and she never shows her emotions.
- B ~~He's incredibly kind to everyone he meets.~~
- C He's so annoying – he's always taking my things.
- D She's great at telling jokes and making people laugh.
- E I can always persuade her to give me extra pocket money.
- F He expects the rest of us to do everything.
- G He's the gentlest person I know.
- H He gets angry very easily.
- I He's very sensible and practical.
- J She thinks she's the most important member of the family.

b 1.7 Listen and check.

**ACTIVATION** Think of people you know for two adjectives from **1**, a phrase from **2**, and an idiom from **3**. Tell your partner about them and why they suit the description.



## 1 ADJECTIVES

- Committed
- Helpful
- Experienced
- Adaptable
- Passionate



FRAN  
"So when it come to selecting STAFF these are the qualities I'm looking for."

### a Match sentences 1–8 to A–H.

- 1  C My job as a divorce lawyer is very **challenging** /'tʃælɪndʒɪŋ/.
- 2  Working as a checkout assistant can be a bit **monotonous** /mə'nɒtənəs/ and **repetitive** /rɪ'petətɪv/.
- 3  I'm a primary school teacher. I find working with children very **rewarding** /rɪ'wɔːdɪŋ/ (**fulfilling** /fʊl'fɪlɪŋ/).
- 4  I work in a small design company and my job's really **motivating** /'məʊtɪveɪtɪŋ/.
- 5  Being a surgeon is very **demanding** /dɪ'mɑːndɪŋ/.
- 6  I always wanted an exciting job, but sadly, mine is incredibly **tedious** /'tiːdiəs/.
- 7  He's in a **dead-end** /'ded end/ job in the local factory.
- 8  She's got a very **high-powered** /haɪ 'paʊəd/ job in finance.

- A I have to do exactly the same thing every day.
- B I never mind having to work overtime.
- C It tests my abilities in a way that keeps me interested.
- D It's important and comes with a lot of responsibility.
- E It's really boring and it makes me feel impatient all the time.
- F It makes me happy because it's useful and important.
- G The wages are low and there's no hope of promotion.
- H It's very high pressure and you have to work long hours.

### b 1.10 Listen and check.

**ACTIVATION** Think of a job you could describe with each adjective in 1.

## 2 COLLOCATIONS

### a Complete the sentences with a word from A and a word from B.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>A</b> academic career (x2)<br>civil events fast job<br>work | <b>B</b> experience hunting ladder<br>manager move qualifications<br>servants track |
|--|---|

- 1 I'm hoping it'll be a good career move to go from publishing to advertising.
- 2 I've been unemployed for six months now, so I spend most of my time \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 My brother works as an \_\_\_\_\_, organizing conferences.
- 4 I left school at 15, so I had to look for a job that didn't require any \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 My problem is that all the jobs I want to apply for ask for some \_\_\_\_\_, and as I've just finished university, I don't have any.
- 6 I'm a junior doctor, and if I want to move up the \_\_\_\_\_, I need to work in several different hospitals and departments.
- 7 In Britain, people who work for government departments are called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 In some careers, people with very good qualifications are put onto a \_\_\_\_\_ so they get promoted more quickly.

### b 1.11 Listen and check.

### c Complete the two words which collocate with the groups below. What do the phrases mean?

maternity paternity sick compassionate unpaid	I _____	freelance permanent (opp temporary /fixed-term) full-time (opp part-time) zero-hours
		c _____

## 3 THE SAME OR DIFFERENT?

### a Look at the **bold** pairs of words or phrases. Write **S** if they have the same or a very similar meaning and **D** if they are different. If the meaning is different, what's the difference? If the meaning is the same, is there a difference in register?

- 1  S I get on very well with my **colleagues** / **co-workers**.
- 2  I've had enough of my job. I think I'm going to **quit** / **resign**.
- 3  Three-quarters of the **staff** / **workforce** are women.
- 4  400 workers have been **laid off** / **made redundant**.
- 5  He's been **out of work** / **off work** for nearly six months.
- 6  She **was sacked** / **was fired** for refusing to work on Sundays.
- 7  Fantastic news! I'm going to **get promoted** / **get a pay rise**!
- 8  What **skills** / **qualifications** do you have?
- 9  We're too busy – we need to **hire** / **employ** more staff.
- 10  The salary's a bit low, but we have some great **perks** / **benefits**.

### b 1.12 Listen and check.

### 1 EXPRESSIONS WITH GET

a Complete the sentences with an expression from the list.

hold of into trouble with out of the way  
(my / your, etc.) own back on rid of the chance the impression  
the joke the wrong end of the stick to know

- 1 I **get** the impression you're a bit annoyed with me.
- 2 When I told him to meet us at the station, he **got** \_\_\_\_\_ and went to the bus station, not the train station.
- 3 Since we stopped working together, we hardly ever **get** \_\_\_\_\_ to see each other.
- 4 Everyone else laughed, but I didn't **get** \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 When you **get** \_\_\_\_\_ him, I think you'll really like him.
- 6 I need to speak to Martina urgently, but I just can't **get** \_\_\_\_\_ her.
- 7 I want to **get** \_\_\_\_\_ that awful painting, but I can't because it was a wedding present from my mother-in-law.
- 8 I'm going to **get** \_\_\_\_\_ my brother for telling our parents I got home late. Now I won't lend him my bike.
- 9 He's going to **get** \_\_\_\_\_ his boss if he's late again.
- 10 I tried to walk past him, but he wouldn't **get** \_\_\_\_\_.

b 3.7 Listen and check. What do the expressions mean? Explain them in your own words.

### 2 IDIOMS WITH GET

a Match sentences 1–10 to A–J.

- 1 **Get real!**
  - 2 **Get a life!**
  - 3 I'm **not getting anywhere** with this crossword.
  - 4 She really **gets on my nerves**.
  - 5 She really needs to **get her act together**.
  - 6 They **get on like a house on fire**.
  - 7 You should **get a move on**.
  - 8 Your grandfather must be **getting on** a bit.
  - 9 My boss just never **gets the message**.
  - 10 She always **gets her own way**.
- A It's just too difficult for me.  
B Is he in his eighties now?  
C They have exactly the same tastes and interests.  
D Her exam is in two weeks and she hasn't even started studying.  
E If you don't leave soon, you'll miss the train.  
F Everything about her irritates me, her voice, her smile – everything!  
G Everyone just does whatever she tells them to.  
H I keep dropping hints about a pay rise, but he takes no notice.  
I —There's no way you can afford that car!  
J You're 40 and you're still living with your parents!

b 3.8 Listen and check. What do the idioms mean? Explain them in your own words.

### 3 PHRASAL VERBS WITH GET

a Match the **bold** phrasal verbs to A–L.

- 1 **J** How did you and your boyfriend **get together**?
- 2 It can take a long time to **get over** a break-up.
- 3 I hate being interrupted when I'm trying to **get on with** my work.
- 4 We keep telling our teenage son how important it is to study hard, but it's impossible to **get through to** him.
- 5 She's studying economics at university, and then she wants to **get into** banking.
- 6 What's the best way to **get around** your city, on foot or by public transport?
- 7 Don't try to cheat in the exam, you'll never **get away with** it.
- 8 They have just enough money to **get by**, but they have to watch every penny.
- 9 I need to work this weekend because I **got behind** during the week.
- 10 The weather here is terrible in winter, it really **gets me down**.
- 11 I promised I'd help Matt move house, but I **got out of** it by saying I had a bad back.
- 12 Please leave a message and I'll **get back to** you as soon as I can.

- A recover from  
B start a career or profession  
C move from place to place  
D make sb understand  
E manage with what you have  
F fail to make enough progress  
G make sb feel depressed  
H respond to sb by speaking or writing  
I avoid a responsibility or obligation  
J —start a relationship  
K continue doing  
L do sth wrong without getting caught

b 3.9 Listen and check.

**ACTIVATION** Look at A–L in a and remember the phrasal verbs.

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