

TEXT 4 PARENTS AND CHILDREN – ALLIES OR FOES?

The main causes for problems between parents and children:

Legal responsibilities of parents for their children:

Parents' expectations of their children:

Newborns:

Toddlers:

3-year-olds:

6-year-olds:

10-year-olds:

14-year-olds:

18-year-olds:

Describing people – character

Keywords: character, appearance, personality, look, behaviour, relations, children, teenagers, adolescents, adults

Obey, annoy, polite, honest, proud, conscience, violent, brave, bad-tempered, determined, lazy, reliable, cheerful, frank, mean, selfish, considerate, honest, punctual, sympathetic, ambitious, greedy, polite, sociable, brave, imaginative, proud, grateful, kind, snobbish, tolerant, strict, selfish, sentimental, aggressive, courageous, cheerful

A) Intellectual ability (+ intelligent, bright, clever, smart, shrewd, able, gifted, talented)
(- stupid, foolish, half-witted, simple, silly, brainless, dumb)

B) Attitudes toward life Looking on the bright side/black side of things = optimistic/pessimistic
Outward-looking/inward-looking = extroverted/introverted
Relaxed x tense
Romantic, sensitive, sensible, practical, down-to-earth

C) Attitudes towards other people

enjoying others' company (sociable, gregarious), disagreeing with others (quarrelsome, argumentative), taking pleasures in others' pain (cruel, sadistic), relaxed in attitude to self and others (easy-going, even-tempered), not polite to others (impolite, rude, ill-mannered, discourteous), telling the truth to others (honest, trustworthy, reliable, sincere), unhappy if others have what one does not have oneself (jealous, envious)

Be careful: some characteristics can be either positive or negative depending on your point of view!

Determined (obstinate, stubborn, pig-headed)

Thrifty/economical (miserly, mean, tight-fisted)

Self-assured (self-important, arrogant)

Assertive (aggressive, bossy)

Original (peculiar, weird, eccentric, odd)

Frank/open/direct (blunt, abrupt, brusque, curt)

Broad-minded (unprincipled, permissive)

Inquiring (inquisitive, nosy)

Generous (extravagant)

Innocent (naïve)

Ambitious (pushy)

(see Vocabulary in Use Upper-Intermediate, CUP)