

# Personality



## PART 1

### Word tips

**Angela** 安杰拉 (人名)  
**South Korea** 韩国  
**immigrate** (从外国) 移入定居  
**Sun-Kyung** 仙景 (人名)  
**bow** 鞠躬

## Listening, Understanding and Speaking

### Listening I

1 Listen to an interview about culture's influence on personality and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Angela immigrated from Canada to South Korea.
- 2 Angela is about 20 years old now.
- 3 Angela agrees that culture affects personality.
- 4 Angela had two different personalities, one at school and the other at home.
- 5 Sun-Kyung is Angela's friend at school.
- 6 Being exposed to two different cultures is sometimes confusing.

2 Listen to the interview again and complete the following table with the information you get.

	In the Canadian Culture	In the Korean Culture
Personal Identity	I was known as Angela to the 1) _____.	I was known as Sun-Kyung 2) _____.
Greeting	I would 3) _____ to my teachers.	I would 4) _____ to my parents' Korean friends when they visited our home.

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	In the Canadian Culture	In the Korean Culture
Expected Manners	I was expected to 5) _____ of my teachers and to talk 6) _____ with them.	I was expected to 7) _____ and to be 8) _____.

**3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.**

- 1 To what extent do you think culture affects personality? Give some examples to support your view.
- 2 What personality traits do you think are associated with Chinese culture?

## Listening II

**1 Listen to a passage about a man's self-introduction and complete the following sentences with the information you get.**

- 1 The man is a very \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ person.
- 2 He also thinks he would be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 He enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, which makes him feel good.
- 4 He enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of everything and everyone around him.

**2 Listen to the passage again and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.**

- 1 **A** To go through a lot of things.  
**B** To be a bit sensitive.  
**C** To cry for people you don't know.  
**D** To be a bit selfish.
- 2 **A** Because he is not satisfied with what others do.  
**B** Because he knows he is not an appreciative person.  
**C** Because he doesn't want to owe others anything.  
**D** Because he doesn't enjoy help from strangers.
- 3 **A** Because he can keep his friends' secrets.  
**B** Because he trusts all his friends.  
**C** Because he will tell his friends anything he knows.  
**D** Because he will help his friends even when he's not asked to.
- 4 **A** To be around other people.  
**B** To hear different opinions.  
**C** To talk to people.  
**D** To do housework.
- 5 **A** Cold. **B** Sociable.  
**C** Hard-working. **D** Creative.

### Word tips

go through 经历  
caring 关心照顾人的  
understanding 善解人意的

- 3 Work in pairs to discuss whether you would like to make friends with such a person and explain why.

## Listening III

- 1 Listen to a conversation between Tom and Bill and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Bill and Cindy are going \_\_\_\_\_ on Saturday.
- 2 Tom thought that Bill might want to come over and study for next week's \_\_\_\_\_ test.
- 3 Bill thinks Cindy's sister, Kristi, is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 According to Tom, the first girl Bill introduced to him was moody and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Kristi has long wavy \_\_\_\_\_ hair and blue eyes. She's of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Kristi was the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Miss California Beauty Contest.

- 2 Listen to the conversation again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 It can be inferred that Tom works harder than Bill.
- 2 Tom didn't like the first girl introduced by Bill because that girl was not pretty.
- 3 Even though Tom agrees that looks are not important, he is still interested in knowing what Kristi looks like.
- 4 Kristi has a tattoo of an eagle on her arm.
- 5 Tom is not interested in dating Kristi after listening to Bill's introduction of her.

- 3 Work in pairs to role-play the conversation. You may also add your own ideas or create your own story of "matchmaking". You may start with "Hey, I have got a date for you".

## Listening IV

- 1 Listen to a conversation about an introduction to some students and answer the following questions.

- 1 How many students are mentioned in the conversation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 What is the two speakers' occupation?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Word tips

Cindy 辛迪 (人名)  
 fix sb. up with 为 (某人) 找个约会伴侣  
 Kristi 克里斯蒂 (人名)  
 double-date 两对男女一起约会  
 moody 喜怒无常的  
 self-centered 自我中心的  
 matchmaker 媒人  
 wavy 波 (浪) 形的  
 blond 金发的  
 complexion 面色; 肤色  
 tattoo 文身  
 runner-up 亚军

### Word tips

Barbara 芭芭拉 (人名)  
 lad 小伙子; 少年  
 fair (头发) 金色的  
 plump 丰满的  
 sulk 生闷气  
 sensible 明理的  
 spectacles 眼镜  
 nasty 烦人的

4 Who's smarter, Maria or Susan?

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5 What is Barbara going to do?

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2 Listen to the conversation again and match the people with the correct descriptions.

- 1 Paul
- 2 Susan
- 3 Maria
- 4 Peter

- A has moustache and wears glasses
- B has dark hair and dark eyes
- C feels inferior to Susan
- D speaks first and thinks later
- E has a friendly face and a lovely smile
- F does not always speak in English
- G is determined to learn, and takes notes all the time
- H has longer hair, and is plumper than Susan
- I asks quite difficult questions, but doesn't mean to be nasty
- J has lots of interesting ideas

3 Work in groups to describe an interesting teacher (including appearance and personality) you have had.

Words and expressions you may use

plump    skinny    accent    near-sighted    contact lens  
stylish    slim    talkative    stern (严厉的, 严格的)  
have one's hair dyed    wear heavy make-up    bad-tempered



### Topic

Can Star Signs Tell Our Personality Traits?

### Characters

Mike (boy)      Ted (boy)  
Sam (boy)      Simon (boy)  
Lilly (girl)

### Setting

In a dorm



(Mike is browsing on the Internet, and happens to find some star signs. Then the students start talking about their own signs, their own personality and whether it is possible to improve one's personality.)

### Word tips

(star) sign 星座

**Scorpio** 天蝎(星)座; 生于天蝎(星)座时段的人

**Virgo** 处女(星)座; 生于处女(星)座时段的人

**Libra** 天秤(星)座; 生于天秤(星)座时段的人

**confrontation** 冲突, 对抗  
**superficial** 肤浅的, 缺乏深度的

**Taurus** 金牛(星)座; 生于金牛(星)座时段的人

**Cancer** 巨蟹(星)座; 生于巨蟹(星)座时段的人

**affectionate** 有爱心的  
**trustworthiness** 值得信任

**possessiveness** 占有欲  
**self-indulgence** 自我放纵

**quick-tempered** 易怒的, 性情急躁的

**zodiac** 黄道带(指太阳、月亮及行星所构成的假想带)

**revengeful** 报复的; 充满仇恨的

**touchy** 易怒的; 过于敏感的

**intuition** 直觉

**perfectionist** 完美主义者  
**undesirable** 不受欢迎的; 讨厌的

### 1 Watch a video in which a group of students are talking about star signs and their personality traits and match them with their signs.

- 1 Mike
- 2 Sam
- 3 Ted
- 4 Simon
- 5 Lilly

- A Libra (天秤座)
- B Cancer (巨蟹座)
- C Taurus (金牛座)
- D Virgo (处女座)
- E Scorpio (天蝎座)

### 2 Watch the video again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Star Signs	Personality Traits
Libra	You're a sociable, charming person. You go out of your way to 1) _____ and do everything in your power to make your life an easy one. Although you're 2) _____, you can be changeable, superficial and critical. But you manage to 3) _____ most of the time.
Taurus	You're a patient, practical type. Good points include your 4) _____, _____, your trustworthiness and strength of character. Bad points include your possessiveness, self-indulgence and 5) _____.

(to be continued)



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Star Signs	Personality Traits
Scorpio	You are secretive, and sexy. You have the 6) _____ in the zodiac. Scorpio has a dark side, which includes 7) _____ traits. Yet despite this, you can be the wittiest, kindest and most 8) _____ of all the signs.
Cancer	To some people, you appear 9) _____, but that's just a "front" you put up to protect the real you, which is rather more sensitive and softer. You can be moody, touchy and irritable, but you make up for those negative traits with your kindness, great 10) _____.
Virgo	Virgo people like order in all things and are neat, clean and precise in their habits. Virgo people are 11) _____ and they sometimes can be critical. They do not like to 12) _____ to themselves. Virgo people are modest, and careful about what they eat or drink.

**3 Repeat a few important lines and try to imitate the speakers' pronunciation and intonation.**

- 1 I've found an interesting web site on star signs.
- 2 I am kind of quick-tempered, and ambitious.
- 3 But what counts is not what it says, but how you really are, what you are actually like.

- 4 Virgo people are modest, and careful about what they eat or drink.
- 5 My parents loved her very much, but they spoiled her by giving her too much.
- 6 Her personality didn't change any until she entered primary school.
- 7 Now she's in middle school and has turned into a popular girl.
- 8 In my opinion, our personalities are partly inherited and partly shaped by our home environment.
- 9 Most children have some of their parents' personality traits.
- 10 I've noticed that many children raised in poor families are hard-working, caring, sympathetic, and helpful.

- 4 You have been given some personality traits of the speakers in the video. Work in groups to take turns to describe YOUR OWN personality traits, and tell whether you are more influenced by your father or mother. Be sure to give examples.

## PART 3

### Video Appreciation and Singing for Fun

#### Video Appreciation



- About the video clip:

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The Chinese Zodiac (生肖) consists of a 12-year cycle; each year of the cycle is named after a different animal that gives different and distinct characteristics

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to it. The 12 animals are: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig (boar). For example, Rat people encompass anyone born in the following years: 1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008. According to the popular Chinese belief, the year of a person's birth is the primary factor in determining that person's personality traits, physical and mental attributes, abilities and degree of success and happiness throughout their lifetime. The video clip introduces the personality traits of six animals: rat, dragon, monkey, ox, snake and rooster.

### Word tips

- solar calendar** 阳历
- lunar calendar** 阴历
- pertain** 有关, 涉及
- trine** (占星术用语) 三分一对座
- utmost** 最大的
- compatible** 合得来的; 适合的
- mischievous** 顽皮的, 捣蛋的
- rooster** 公鸡
- endurance** 忍耐力
- seductive** 富有魅力的
- vanity** 自负, 虚荣
- eccentric** 古怪的
- loner** 喜欢独处的人

### 1 Watch a video clip about the Chinese Zodiac and answer the following questions.

- 1 What kind of calendar does the Chinese Zodiac follow?
- 2 How many trines of the Chinese Zodiac are mentioned?
- 3 How many trines should there be in order to include all the Chinese Zodiac?

### 2 Watch the video clip again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Animals	Personalities
Rat	You are very charming, and you're also a perfectionist. However, this is known to bring you a lot of success. You're also someone 1) _____, but when it comes to family, you are very generous. And you're also someone 2) _____.
Dragon	You're one of the most powerful signs. You 3) _____. On the outside, you could be quite hot-tempered and confident, but on the inside, you could be very warm-hearted. You're the sign that has the 4) _____.
Monkey	You're mischievous and adventurous. You're also someone 5) _____ and you know how to influence others, which is exactly what brings you success. You are sometimes hot-tempered, but you have 6) _____.
Ox	You are someone who is patient and 7) _____. Your endurance will also bring you great success. Also you're someone who is easily angered.
Snake	You are very 8) _____, and you also possess a wonderful wisdom. You're also someone who is very calm on the outside, but intense on the inside. As well, you should beware of your good looks, 'cause it could sometimes create vanity.
Rooster	You're 9) _____. You're also someone who is quite eccentric, but at the same time, 10) _____. You're also someone who doesn't have too many friends. You may be a bit of a loner, but you care very deeply for the friends you do have.



### 3 Work in groups to do the following activities.

#### Step ONE

Read the following descriptions of personality traits of the other six animals.

**The tiger** is courageous and aggressive, but is also sensitive when it comes to loved ones. They are known for their playful personality, and they are most compatible with the horse and the dog.

**As a horse**, you are cheerful, popular, and you love the party. You come across as a warm individual, but sometimes you could be impatient. You are independent and you are also very skilled with money.

**As a dog**, you are charismatic (有魅力的) and a natural-born leader. However, you could sometimes be a bit stubborn. You are very honest and you know how to keep a secret. When it comes to money, it doesn't play much importance in your life.

**The rabbit** is articulate (善于表达的) and talented, and is known for their wonderful manners and is admired by many. The rabbit is also very trustworthy which will lead you to success in business.

**As a sheep**, you strive for tranquility (安静) and harmony. And you are also very kind-spirited. When it comes to leadership, you could be quite timid. However, you always lead a very comfortable life.

**As a pig**, you are very studious (勤学的), and have tremendous inner-strength. You always go after your goals. You are quiet, however always well-informed. When it comes to your friends, you choose few. However, you are very trustworthy with the ones you do have.

#### Step TWO

Based on all these descriptions, discuss whether you think they tell a person's real personality, or just have entertainment value. State your own viewpoints by talking about either yourself or someone you know. Be sure to include details and examples.

### Singing for Fun

#### ■ About the song:



“When You Believe” is an Academy Award-winning song by Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston. The song was written and composed by Stephen Schwartz for the 1998 DreamWorks (梦工厂) animated feature *The Prince of Egypt*. It was described as a big ballad, with meaningful and inspirational lyrics, describing the ability each person has to achieve miracles when they reach out to God and believe.

Listen to the song “When You Believe” and learn to sing it.

**Further Speaking**

Work in groups to do the following activities.

Employers often use tests and other selection methods to screen job applicants. Personality tests (PTs) are one of these methods used by some companies to determine your type of personality, your values, interests and your skills. Read the following sample questions of a PT and choose the option that you feel best describes yourself.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1 I have never told a lie.					
2 I'm the type of employee who always arrives on time.					
3 Work is the most important thing in my life.					
4 I would be interested in learning how people handle stress at work.					
5 I often argue with my friends.					
6 I enjoy playing competitive sports.					

Step  
ONE

**Divide the group into two subgroups A and B and debate "Should employers use a personality test to screen job candidates?"**

Suppose those belonging to Subgroup A are employers, and those belonging to Subgroup B job candidates. Subgroup A should argue for the use of a personality test while Subgroup B against its use. They may have two minutes to prepare before they start the debate. The following are ideas about PT for your reference.

Step  
TWO

*(to be continued)*

(continued)

## Step TWO

For	Against
can reveal what a person is like;	unreliable, too arbitrary;
corporate use of pre-employment screening PTs has increased 300 percent in the last five years;	success can be achieved with different personality types, but personality requirements are different for different jobs;
an efficient way of determining which applicants are most qualified for a particular job;	not ethical to use PTs;
there is nothing else out there to evaluate job applicants;	diligence, intelligence, responsibility, dedication, etc. can be more important;
bad hiring decisions can cost employers a lot of resources (time and money);	violate employees' privacy;
can help employers make better judgments about an applicant's qualities;	screening out some employees is sometimes a kind of prejudice;
...	...

## Step THREE

After the debate within small groups, the teacher chooses three students from Subgroup A and other three from Subgroup B. Ask them to debate with the whole class as audience. The audience should take notes on content and language. Then vote for the side they support.

## Further Listening

### Listening I

- 1 Listen to a joke between a wife and a husband and complete the following passage with the information you get.

One day, when Mr. Smith came home from work he found his wife very 1) \_\_\_\_\_ about something. Mr. Smith always thought that he was more 2) \_\_\_\_\_ than his wife, so he started to give her a 3) \_\_\_\_\_ on the importance of always remaining 4) \_\_\_\_\_.

Finally he said, "It's a waste of your 5) \_\_\_\_\_ to get excited about small

things. Train yourself to be patient, like me. Now, look at the fly that has just 6) \_\_\_\_\_ on my nose. Am I getting excited or annoyed? Am I 7) \_\_\_\_\_ or waving my arms around? No. I'm not. I'm 8) \_\_\_\_\_ calm."

Just as he had said this Mr. Smith started shouting. He jumped up and began to wave his arms around 9) \_\_\_\_\_ and swear terribly. He couldn't speak for some time, but at last he was able to tell his wife: The thing on his nose was not a fly, but a 10) \_\_\_\_\_.

## Listening II

1 Listen to a conversation talking about a history teacher and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 A Classmates.  
B Mother and son.  
C Brother and sister.  
D Teacher and student.
- 2 A He knows everything.  
B He thinks the boy should work harder.  
C He doesn't allow the students to fall asleep in class.  
D He spends a lot of time admiring himself in the window.
- 3 A He is vain.  
B He is unfair.  
C He is admirable.  
D He is very strict.
- 4 A She is doubtful.  
B She believes what he says.  
C She is glad to hear what he says.  
D She pretends not to understand what he says.
- 5 A He is old-fashioned.  
B He seems vain and conceited.  
C He seems a nice and kind man.  
D He is boring and quick-tempered.
- 6 A She understands the history teacher better.  
B She understands the reason why the boy is poor at history.  
C She understands the reason why the boy dislikes Mr. Taylor.  
D She understands what the boy says at last.
- 7 A He gets very good scores.  
B He does better than average students.  
C He works very hard but receives low scores.  
D He is not good at it because he doesn't work hard enough.

### Word tips

reflection 影像  
conceited 自负的  
exaggerate 夸张; 夸大其词

- 8 **A** Male students usually like female teachers better.
- B** Students tend to spend more time on subjects such as Math and English.
- C** Whether students like a certain teacher relates to their performance in that subject.
- D** History teachers are usually not respected by students because they are boring.

**Word tips**

**jog** 慢跑（尤指作为健身锻炼）

**stiff**（肌肉）疼痛的，僵硬的

**hoop** 篮圈

**Listening III**

1 Listen to five short talks that describe people's personality traits. Match each person with the right adjective. One adjective is redundant.

- 1 Pedro
- 2 Mr. Miller
- 3 Mr. Smith
- 4 Jake
- 5 Mrs. Duke

- A** stubborn
- B** interesting
- C** energetic
- D** patient
- E** honest
- F** creative

2 Listen to the talks again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Pedro is seldom tired and his \_\_\_\_\_ is to jog two or three miles.
- 2 Mr. Miller used many different ideas and words until almost the whole class understood and knew \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Mr. Smith never tries to sell any \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ fruit.
- 4 When Jake and Charles stood up they were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Mrs. Duke managed to solve the problem by \_\_\_\_\_ over the wastebasket.

**Word tips**

**the British Isles** 不列颠群岛

**flattering** 奉承的，讨好的

**distinction** 差别，不同

**confess** 承认

**reserved** 拘谨缄默的

**hospitable** 好客的；热情友好的

**Continental** 欧洲大陆人

**courtesy** 谦恭有礼

**Listening IV**

1 Listen to a passage about visitors' impressions of British people and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 It is easy to tell the English from the British.
- 2 Speaking the same language helped one Australian visitor a lot.
- 3 By "much nicer" one of the visitors meant that the British people are more friendly than people of other countries.
- 4 The majority of Continentals think highly of English manners.
- 5 To the young student from South Africa, Britain seemed to have a lot of foreign visitors.

2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Visitors	Opinions
A Dutch visitor	It was hard to 1) _____ _____.
One Australian visitor	The English were 2) _____ in the world and most hospitable.
Some Asian businessmen	People in the North were 3) _____ _____ people in the South.
A few Continentals	They praised 4) _____.
A young student from South Africa	He had 5) _____ _____.