



Three celebrities and their personalities

Reading & Writing – Upper-Intermediate

READING

1. What do you know about the people on the photos? Who are they? What made them famous? Do you like them or not and why?



2. What kind of personalities do you think they are?

Useful vocabulary MAKING GUESSES:

- **I'd say he's quite confident person.**
- **She might/could be very sensible.**
- **She looks like a very nice woman.**
- **Perhaps/Maybe he is really down to earth.**
- **He can't/mustn't be very shy.**
- **It's difficult to say, but I'd guess that he's a very loyal friend.**
- **I'm not really sure, but I think she likes going out late at night.**

3. Read the article about the celebrities above and find out if you were right.



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Benedict Cumberbatch

Benedict Cumberbatch loves parties and never really spends his London evenings at home. He's said to be very **physical**, and needs to be fed by his external environment on a regular basis. Cumberbatch is energized by being on stage, loves to put on a show, mimic people and **get a laugh** out of everyone. He doesn't enjoy strategizing or planning for the life of him. Though he says he's not always comfortable in social situations, Benedict Cumberbatch is very **outgoing** and enjoys connecting with people on an interpersonal and international basis. Benedict Cumberbatch chooses words carefully, but never ever gives short answers in interviews. He pushed himself really hard in school and was said to be a "model pupil." It shows today in the fact that he's so **well versed** in a variety of topics. Benedict Cumberbatch says he tends to be a bit hyperactive. He is easily distracted and will drift off topic in interviews because he wants to explore other ideas.

Madonna

Madonna had what people could learn from, the ability to **believe in herself**. When the young and ambitious singer was asked what she wanted to do she replied "to rule the world". She was, as many know, a very **rebellious** person, she did whatever she wanted. Madonna had a drive for perfectionism and high-achievement.

Many argue that much of Madonna's drive to succeed has been due to the death of her mother. Even when her father remarried she would not listen to her step mother, and instead learned on her own through **trial and error**.

She was a straight-A student, a cheerleader, and became a disciplined dancer who graduated from high school a semester earlier than her age. Madonna had continuously grown as an artist, and became an amazing self-marketer who took massive risks for herself and music in general.

Mark Zuckerberg

The very first personality trait of Mark Zuckerberg is that he remains motivated. He has a **strong passion** to change the world on one hand, and become as important respected as possible on the other hand. Along with intelligence, Mark Zuckerberg showed a great amount of competence in his ability to take Facebook from a **dorm room** to where it is today. Like every successful entrepreneur, **generosity** is the Mark Zuckerberg's personality trait. Zuckerberg believes in equality, world peace and happiness. He is an important part of an initiative, started by Bill Gates that also involves billionaire Warren Buffet, to **donate** half of his wealth to people who need it more than he does. There is no doubt to say that sudden wealth puts people **out of touch** with what really matters. But it is not the same with the successful entrepreneur like Mark Zuckerberg. He tends to stay down to earth even when his bank accounts go sky-high.



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4. Match the highlighted words from the text with their definitions:

1) make people laugh	
2) your own (sometimes bad) experience	
3) a large sleeping room containing several beds	
4) knows a lot about particular subject	
5) willing to give money or valuable things to others	
6) person that refuses to obey rules	
7) focused more on the body, than the mind or the spirit	
8) not communicate with each other	
9) friendly person who likes being with people	
10) very big desire	
11) not having doubt about person's own success	
12) to give money (food, clothes. Medicine) to help people in need	

5. Think about a person that you know well. It can be your friend, relative or celebrity. Prepare to talk about this person for two minutes. Try to use as much new vocabulary from this lesson as possible.

- who is this person?
- what are his/her strong and weak sides?
- what are his or her special personality features?
- why do you like this person?



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WRITING

Choose one of the questions and write your answer for about 150-200 words.

1. *What personality traits does a leader need?*
2. *How does one person's character affect the personalities of surrounding people? Are you influenced by people you know? Give an example.*
3. *How are male and female personalities different?*
4. *Do all people have a combination of good and bad characteristics? Or are some people all good or all bad? How about Mother Teresa? How about Adolf Hitler?*
5. *How does birth order affect personality? What qualities does a first-born child have? What about the last-born child in a big family? How about an only child?*
6. *Do countries have personalities? What is the dominant personality of some countries you know? How about Canada? How about Italy?*
7. *What is charisma? Do you know any charismatic people?*
8. *Can people change their personality if they want to? Do you know anybody who has changed theirs?*