

2. Personal characteristics

Australian blueprint for career development

Career management competency											
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Learning intention

Students will understand what personal characteristics are and make links between their behaviour, personal characteristics, and those valued by employers.

Success criteria

Students can:

- identify 5 positive personal characteristics
- write or verbalise how personal characteristics affect behaviour
- describe the type of characteristics an employer would be interested in.

Resources

Paper or computer to record activities

Classroom organisation

- Whole class
- Pairs

Preparation

Identify how students will record responses throughout the lesson.

Activity 1

While **personality** shows what you are outside or what you are to the world, **character** reveals what you are inside. As these are directly related to a person's attitude and behaviour, most people get easily confused between them.

<https://keydifferences.com/difference-between-personality-and-character.html>

- Provide students with a simple definition of character. Your character represents who you are on the inside and determines how you act or respond to a situation.
- Discuss how this is different to personality. Personal characteristics affect how we behave, our emotions, and how we think about things.
- Discuss the difference between personality and character:
 - Which one is easier for others to see?
 - Which one reveals the most about you?
- Work as a whole class to create a list of [characteristics](#). Ensure any unfamiliar words are explained.
- Divide the class into small groups. Assign each group one of the following characters/individuals. Students individually choose 5 characteristics that describe their character/individual. As a group, students come to a consensus on the 5 selected characteristics.

A story's heroic character	Your favourite sports star	The lead in a romantic comedy
A story's villainous character	A great leader	A mean person

- One person from each group shares the characteristics that suit the individual they considered.

Activity 2

- Students identify at least five of their own positive personal characteristics.
- Students construct a table like the following, choose their 2 favourite characteristics and record their responses in the table.
- Teacher models a possible response.

Characteristic	A situation/achievement where I displayed that characteristic
1.	
2.	

- Link characteristics to the workplace. What type of characteristics do you think employers would be interested in? Why?

Reflection

Students reflect on and write or discuss how they think positive and negative characteristics affect behaviours.