

# **Models and ideals**

## **1. Discuss positive and negative human features.**

There are so many people in the world; just between us, there are about six billion people living on this huge planet. If we think about it, we are similar to each other as human beings, but we are different as individuals, different in races, personal features, and so on.

We were born with some features, and during our lives, the features are more or less developed because we are influenced by family, friends, schoolmates, teachers, and other people around us. I think that as humans, we cannot have only negative or positive features; we have both. We know many people who are humble, tolerant, polite, reliable, grateful, generous, well-behaved, brave, smart, charismatic and hardworking. On the other hand, people can be rude, mean, impatient, dishonest, selfish, mean, stubborn, badly-behaved or aggressive.

I cannot say that I am the perfect person because nobody is perfect. So every day I will try to be better because the world deserves better people.

**What positive and negative features do you possess? Name some...**

## **2. Why do people have an idol?**

I can't decide between two opinions. Is it really good to have an idol? If we have an idol, we want to be like them, admire them, and, in the worst way, imitate them.

I think that people need to be themselves and not act like someone else. These people like an idea, but in reality, they pretend to be someone they cannot be. I don't want to talk just about the bad sides. For example, famous people can inspire others to do good things. Many celebrities support charities, and they are collecting money, for example, from concert tickets and helping people who need their help the most.

Especially teenagers admire sportsmen, actors, singers, television performers who can become role models for them. Teenagers often wish to be like their chosen role models who have achieved great popularity. Idols are well known in the society and receive attention from lots of people. They are usually young, look good and stylish. Many celebrities have a great influence on people of certain age. Young people try to resemble them by copying the way they

look and behave. There are many of them, who are good role models and are worth to be admired, but many of them are only pseudo-idols (especially those from reality shows) who are overrated and admired for no good reason.

### **3. Introduce a personality you admire and give your reasons.**

In a realistic point of view, the ideal personality does not exist. We all have different opinions and characteristics that we prefer. In this big world, we have so many possibilities for choosing who we admire. We can choose from artists or athletes. We can admire popular artists like Brad Pitt, Johnny Depp, singers like Ariana Grande or Selena Gomez, rappers like Eminem, Snoop Dog, or many others. Some of us want to be good, like Cristiano Ronaldo, LeBron James, or Frank Zane. People who like to watch films or TV series are admiring fictional characters like James Bond or Harry Potter.

I have two personalities that I admire the most: my parents. They are not that famous, but they always support and inspire me; they give me advice that I need to hear, and I think that is what a real idol has to do.

### **4. Which characteristic features does an ideal man have?**

We can say that an ideal person doesn't exist because every individual possesses both positive and negative traits. We try to develop positive traits and suppress negative ones. Some people consider money and career as the most important things, but I think that love, health, faith, and family or friendships are the most important values.

In my opinion, the ideal man or woman would be very clever, funny, honest, well-behaved, charming and intelligent. It's very important for me. Someday I need to hear good advice and options, and someday I need to laugh.

**Which traits do you want your friends to possess? Name some...**

### **5. The lifestyle of celebrities: Advantages and disadvantages of being famous.**

I always liked the idea of being famous, and I have always seen just the good things: fame, money, and freedom - that feeling that you can have everything you want - cars, expensive clothes, brand-new shoes, yachts, or planes - just everything. The idea of having a lot of fans and knowing that almost every human knows who you was so good for me.

But now when I'm older, I understand that most famous people have so many problems and issues with alcohol and drugs, and the biggest problem is not having privacy because you are always surrounded by paparazzi and fans. Once you're famous, you just can't live a normal life again.

**Would you like to be famous? Why/why not?**

### **6.Compare real heroes/heroines in everyday life to literary heroes, heroes in movies.**

We all know that a famous company called Marvel is well known in every country in the world. This company represents some fictional characters who always help people and save the world. They have superhuman characteristics and perform extraordinary acts. At the end of the story, people fell in love with their ideas. Some of us want to be like them, and these people act like their favorite characters, but it's always just fiction.

Real heroes are people who have difficult or challenging jobs, such as volunteers, fire-fighters, soldiers and doctors. The qualities we admire are courage, talent, energy, charm, bravery, sense of humour,...

I know some real heroes who help every day, and they are saving our lives and society. Doctors are the biggest heroes for me; no one can replace the work they do; they are saving our lives. The second one is teachers, who are forming our society. They teach us how to act in different situations. Lawyers, these people are saving us when we are in big trouble. Soldiers are protecting our country. Artists make us smile and laugh; drivers, policemen, cashiers, carpenters—they are all building society. Everyone of us does something for others. We are all heroes.

### **7.Illustrate people's behaviour in crisis situations.**

People can react differently when they see or are in an extreme situation. Someone is such a stressful person, so he or she came to panic. Shout, run away, forget to call help, and, in the

worst way, don't know how to help, but somebody is such a courageous person, and this person knows, reacts quickly, and can help or call another help. It must be really uncomfortable to be in such an extreme situation.

Each of us should know how to give first aid and how to save a life in the most common situations. I mean, know how to fix the fracture, stop bleeding, and, most importantly, know how to call for help and calm the injured person. There is a big difference between saving someone strange or saving someone from your family. It must be really hard to depersonalize and help with calm mind.

### **8. Imagine yourself as a hero / heroine.**

I can't imagine myself as a hero, like we all know from the films and stories from the books. Being or acting like a hero for me is being the best version of yourself, being someone who cares about how people feel and never judges others without knowing their stories. I don't judge people because of how they look like, what they wear,... Whether they have a big mansion or expensive car, brand-new shoes, or because of their nationality, religion, or orientation, or if they live in a small house or go to school by bus,... I am a person who does not talk that much just listens because people forget to listen to each other, they ignore and don't listen to themselves, and not even others. A hero is someone who is always honest in every situation, like a friend who doesn't talk behind your back, someone who is polite, and someone who always gives you a helping hand. I'm trying to be that kind of person every day. People don't need to understand; they need to respect each other. Are you always trying to be that person with a reasonable mind and a good heart ?

### **Vocabulary list**

to overrate – preceňit

to remind of - pripomenúť, pripomínať

to resemble - podobať sa na

simply - jednoducho

still - aj tak, napriek

trait - crta, vlastnost

unique [ju'ni:k] - jedineny, originálny

to value - cenit si

viewer – divák

violence- násilie

achieve great popularity - dosiahnut obrovskú popularitu

as a result of - v dôsledku

based on reality - na základe skutočnosti

to commit a crime - spáchať zločin

to overcome obstacles - prekonať prekážky

to perform extraordinary acts - robiť mimoriadne skutky

to receive attention - dostávať pozornosť,

adolescence – adolescencia

apart from – okrem

to appear - zjaviť sa

because of – kvôli

to behave - správať sa

brave – odvážny

campaign – kampan

contest - súťaž

to enable – umožniť

fictional – vymyslený

hero - hrdina heroine – hrdinka

hierarchy of values - hierarchia hodnôt

impact - dopad

ordinary - bežný, obyčajný

## **Simulation**

I admire a lot of people in my life. One of the people I admire is Alexandra Hovancova. This gorgeous woman takes care of seriously ill children with their dangerous diseases. These children are orphans because their parents don't want them or they don't have enough money to take care of them. Alexandra is a very humble, selfless person with a really big heart. I admire her because she does the things that everyone of us should do. She is helping people, and she does it without any profit. She just wants to give 40 children the warmth of home. Orphanage called „Deti môjho srdca“ is located in Spišská Nová Ves. They need help because it is really hard for her to do it alone, so at the end if you can and you want to help, please help them and help her. She deserves it, and these kids deserve it too.