

# CHARACTER

# DECODER™

Personality & Archetype Inference Guide (Years 4–6)



Professional Educational Guide

# CHARACTER DECODER™

## Personality & Archetype Inference Guide

*Understanding characters through behavior, speech, and emotion*

---

Years 4–6 Educational Resource

# Table of Contents

<b>Chapter 1:</b> HEXACO Traits – Kid-Friendly Version	5
<hr/>	
<b>Chapter 2:</b> Behaviour → Trait Clues (Quick Table)	8
<hr/>	
<b>Chapter 3:</b> Common Archetypes for Exam Passages	10
<hr/>	
<b>Chapter 4:</b> Mini "Character Inference Formula"	14
<hr/>	
<b>Chapter 5:</b> Quick Checklist for Personality Inference Questions	16
<hr/>	
<b>Conclusion</b>	18
<hr/>	



# Chapter 1: HEXACO Traits - Kid-Friendly Version

---

The HEXACO personality model provides a comprehensive framework for understanding human personality through six key dimensions. This system helps us decode character traits by observing patterns in behavior, speech, and emotional responses. When analyzing characters in texts, these traits serve as reliable indicators of personality type.

## 1. Honesty–Humility → FAIR or SELFISH?

- **High:** Fair, doesn't cheat, shares credit, admits mistakes
- **Low:** Bragging, cheating, using others, only nice when getting something

## 2. Emotionality → WORRIED or CALM?

- **High:** Sensitive, anxious, scared, easily hurt
- **Low:** Calm, not easily upset, sometimes "cold"

## 3. Extraversion → OUTGOING or QUIET?

- **High:** Talkative, energetic, likes being centre of attention
- **Low:** Quiet, prefers small groups, keeps thoughts to self

#### 4. Agreeableness → KIND or STUBBORN?

- **High:** Forgiving, patient, avoids fights, tries to see others' side
- **Low:** Holds grudges, snaps easily, wants to win every argument

#### 5. Conscientiousness → ORGANISED or CARELESS?

- **High:** Organised, plans ahead, hardworking, perfectionist
- **Low:** Forgetful, messy, leaves things to last minute

#### 6. Openness → CURIOUS or CLOSED?

- **High:** Loves new ideas, imagination, creative, asks "why"
- **Low:** Prefers routine, dislikes change, sticks to familiar things

# Chapter 2: Behaviour → Trait Clues

## (Quick Table)

---

This reference table provides immediate connections between observable behaviors in text and their corresponding personality traits. Use this as a quick diagnostic tool when analyzing characters.

Behaviour in Text	Likely Trait(s)
Shares food, stands up for others, admits mistakes	Honesty–Humility high, Agreeable
Lies to avoid trouble, takes credit, cheats	Honesty–Humility low, Selfish
Double-checks work, colour-codes notes, practises extra	Conscientious / Perfectionist
Forgets homework, leaves project until last minute	Low Conscientiousness
Talks loudly, always volunteers, loves attention	Extraverted
Hides in back row, avoids eye contact, few close friends	Introverted / Shy
Imagines different futures, questions rules, loves weird ideas	High Openness (curious)
Refuses to try new food, hates new school, wants things "the same"	Low Openness (resistant to change)
Quickly forgives, calms others, says "It's ok, I understand"	Agreeable / Peacemaker

## Behaviour in Text

## Likely Trait(s)

Holds grudges, plans revenge, won't apologise

Low Agreeableness / Grudge-holder

Cries easily, worries before tests, stomach aches from stress

High Emotionality / Worrier

Stays cool under pressure, doesn't show emotion much

Low Emotionality / Stoic

*Page 8*

CHARACTER DECODER™ - PERSONALITY & ARCHETYPE INFERENCE GUIDE

# Chapter 3: Common Archetypes for Exam Passages

---

Exam passages often feature characters that embody specific personality archetypes. Understanding these common patterns will help you quickly identify character types and predict their likely responses to situations.

## **The Perfectionist (High Conscientiousness)**

**Clues:** Re-writes work, hates mistakes, stays up late to fix things, stressed when things are messy.

## **The Rule-Breaker / Rebel (Low Honesty–Humility, Low Conscientiousness)**

**Clues:** Ignores instructions, sneaks out, blames others, mocks rules as "stupid".

## **The Loyal Friend (High Agreeableness, High Honesty–Humility)**

**Clues:** Stands up for others, keeps promises, defends someone who isn't there.

## **The Show-off / Attention-Seeker (High Extraversion, low Humility)**

**Clues:** Brags, performs for laughs, gets louder when adults look away, hates being ignored.

### **The Worried Planner (High Emotionality, High Conscientiousness)**

**Clues:** Makes timetables, packs bag the night before, re-checks everything, gets anxious if plan changes.

### **The Quiet Observer (Introvert, High Openness)**

**Clues:** Notices small details, thinks deeply, doesn't talk much, often understands people more than they realise.

### **The Cold Competitor (Low Agreeableness, High Conscientiousness)**

**Clues:** Wants to win even if others get hurt, sees classmates as rivals, dislikes group work unless they're in charge.

# Chapter 4: Mini "Character Inference Formula"

---

## Three-Step Framework:

**1. What do they DO?** (actions)

**2. What do they SAY?** (words / tone)

**3. What do they FEEL or THINK?** (body language / inner thoughts)

**Then answer:** "So what kind of person would do/say/feel that?"

## Example Analysis:

**Text:** "It's fine," said Lily. "I don't mind sitting on the floor." She moved aside to let her friends take the last two chairs, even though her legs were still sore from sport.

## Inference:

- **Behaviour:** Offers chairs to others, downplays her own discomfort → selfless / considerate
- **Trait:** High Agreeableness + High Honesty–Humility → loyal / kind friend archetype

## Typical Exam Question:

"Which sentence best describes Lily?"

- A) She only cares about being comfortable.
- B) She is kind and puts others before herself. ✓
- C) She secretly hates her friends.
- D) She never listens to her teacher.

**Justification:** "B, because she gives up her seat when her legs are sore – that shows she puts others first."

*Page 14*

CHARACTER DECODER™ - PERSONALITY & ARCHETYPE INFERENCE GUIDE

# Chapter 5: Quick Checklist for Personality Inference Questions

---

## Professional Checklist:

- What pattern of behaviour do I see (not just one action)?
- Is this person generally fair vs selfish, kind vs harsh, organised vs messy, brave vs anxious?
- Which archetype does that sound like?
- Which answer option matches that pattern without exaggerating?

## Parent Coaching Script (30 seconds)

When a child picks an answer for a character question, ask:

*"Which clues made you choose that? Does this character act more like a perfectionist, a rebel, a loyal friend, a worried planner, or something else?"*

### You're training them to:

- Label the trait
- Spot the archetype
- Back it with evidence from the text

This is exactly what selective and scholarship inference questions are testing.

*Page 16*

CHARACTER DECODER™ - PERSONALITY & ARCHETYPE INFERENCE GUIDE

# Conclusion

---

The Character Decoder™ system transforms the abstract skill of "reading between the lines" into a concrete, systematic approach that students can apply consistently in exam situations. By understanding the HEXACO personality framework and common character archetypes, students develop the analytical tools necessary to excel in character inference questions.

This personality-based approach provides several key advantages:

- **Evidence-based analysis:** Students learn to support their answers with specific textual evidence rather than relying on intuition
- **Pattern recognition:** The archetype system helps students quickly identify character types and predict behavior
- **Systematic approach:** The three-step formula provides a reproducible method for tackling any character question
- **Confidence building:** Understanding personality frameworks gives students confidence in their analytical abilities

Regular practice with this system will develop students' inferential reasoning skills, preparing them for success in selective and scholarship examinations. The key is consistent application of the framework across various text types and character situations.

---

*Remember: Every character behavior is a clue to their personality. Use the Character Decoder™ system to unlock these clues systematically and confidently.*