

11 Describe Your Personal Characteristics

TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will write a short description of themselves in the form of a personal ad, which includes characteristics related to appearance, personality, abilities and interests.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

In order for personal growth to continue throughout our lives, we need to have the ability to see ourselves, understand how others view us and use this information to improve.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

☐ STEP 1: Update Journal

One way I am unique is . . .

☐ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"One thing I would like my family or a friend to say about me is _____."

☐ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will write a personal ad after comparing your completed **Identity Checksheet** with one completed by a family member or friend."

☐ STEP 4: Activity - 15 Minutes

If needed, help students find a person to complete a second **Identity Checksheet** as described in the Connecting Activity for Lesson 10. Using both checksheets, students compare checked items and circle three selections in each section. Next, have students underline three words marked by the other person that they did not mark on their own **Identity Checksheet**.

Read the following questions to the class. Grouped in pairs, give students one minute each to answer the questions.

1. Did the other person mark the same words you marked? Which ones?
2. Which words did the other person mark that you did not mark?
3. Which differences surprised you between the two checksheets? Why?

4. Do you agree with the characteristics the other person checked? Explain.



PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 1 LESSON 11

PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Interesting, athletic and casual female who is friendly, funny, caring and dependable, likes to swim, dance and talk on the phone. Can sew, baby-sit and drive. Is interested in meeting a tall, athletic and happy male, who is funny and respectful, likes to dance, talk on the phone, watch movies, listen and can drive.

Athletic, friendly, funny, caring and dependable male who likes to swim, dance and talk/text on the phone. Can drive and has a job, is interested in meeting happy, athletic female who is funny and caring, likes to dance, talk on the phone, watch movies and listen to music.

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☐ STEP 5: Activity - 20 Minutes

Go over the handout **Personal Advertisements**, with the class (or use a newspaper ad or approved online ad). Using this format, have students assist in writing, on the board, a personal ad about the teacher, using five to ten words from the teacher **Identity Checksheet**. Have students write a personal advertisement using five to ten of the words marked on their **Identity Checksheet**. Provide assistance in writing, spelling and use of appropriate language.

□ STEP 6: Activity: 10 Minutes

Ask if anyone has written a profile or description of themselves on a social network (Myspace, Facebook, Twitter, Blog, etc.). Ask students to think about the information from their social network profile and compare it to the "Personal Advertisement" they wrote. Then have them share things from each that are similar and different. Remind them that the things we write or post on the Internet never really go away and are forever out there somewhere. Tell them it is important to take care that what they post is age appropriate. They also need to be aware that potential future employers may look

at information they post on the Internet. It is common for employers to look at this information for people who apply for a job. This is one way employers may decide who to interview.

□ STEP 7: Evaluate Outcomes

One word other people use to describe me is "_____."

□ STEP 8: Connecting Activity

Have students bring in three appropriate newspaper classified ads or age appropriate/approved online personal ad from the personal section to share with the class. Critique the ad for clarity and honesty.

KEY WORDS

characteristics**talent****attributes
social network****unique****personal****MATERIALS AND PREPARATION**

- Student Handouts: **Identity Checksheet**, pages 33-34; **Personal Advertisements**, page 35.
- Have students complete the **Connecting Activity** from Lesson 10.
- Prepare ideas for your own personal ad. Have newspaper personal ads available for examples.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking
- Thinking Skills: Creative Thinking, Decision-Making
- Personal Qualities: Self-Esteem, Self-Management Integrity/Honesty