

8.2 What makes a hero?

Vocabulary personality and behaviour

- 1 Choose the two adjectives that describe the people who performed these real-life good deeds.




- a Teacher Rajesh Sharma gives free lessons to poor children under a bridge in India. *embarrassed / educated / kind*
- b Fourteen-year-old Marcos Ugarte saved a child from a burning building. *brave / selfish / heroic*
- c Glen James, who was homeless, found a backpack with \$42,000 in it, and gave it to the police. *honest / calm / responsible*
- d Allen and Violet Large won \$10.9 million in the lottery and donated 98% of it to charity. *lucky / generous / ordinary*
- e Seven-year-old Diego Pimentel didn't panic and called the emergency number when his babysitter had a serious epileptic fit. *calm / crazy / responsible*
- f *Star Wars* fans all over the world are raising money to help a baby called 'Princess Leia', who has a mystery illness. *kind / afraid / generous*


- 2 Complete the forum with words from the box.


afraid calm crazy embarrassed ordinary selfish


✕


Topic: Heroes


 **suzy23:** What jobs do you consider heroic?


 **catlover:** I think it depends. Even the most ¹ selfish person is capable of being a hero in some circumstances.

 **jessicasw:** Mums! I used to be ² _____ by mine, but now I'm older I know she's a real hero!

 **tokyo_girl7:** 'Someone can display courage by doing the out-of-the-ordinary, another by doing the ³ _____. ' *Søren Kierkegaard*

 **rstewart:** In my opinion, anyone who feels ⁴ _____ and still acts is a hero.

 **skate4ever:** I really admire people who can stay ⁵ _____ in dangerous situations, like people who do extreme sports.

 **caleb45:** Sorry, skate4ever, but I don't agree with you. I think these people are just ⁶ _____. Real heroes, like fire-fighters or policemen, risk their lives to help other people.

- 3 Choose the best words to complete the article.

Four great heroes of the big screen (and the biggest villain!)

Who doesn't love a hero? Well, not everybody ... Some people are not ¹ embarrassed / *calm* to confess they prefer the bad guy! Here are four heroes and a villain:

James Bond This ² *ordinary* / *heroic* secret agent is always ³ *afraid* / *calm* and charming, even in end-of-world situations.

Severus Snape All the students were ⁴ *afraid* / *brave* of this strict teacher, but in the end he was a hero.

Erin Brockovich Julia Roberts plays an ⁵ *ordinary* / *selfish* woman who fights against a big corporation.

Sanjuro Tsubaki The samurai played by Toshiro Mifune is an example of the ⁶ *lucky* / *brave* warrior who is always ⁷ *honest* / *embarrassed*, no matter the cost.

Hannibal Lecter Forget the dark Darth Vader or the ⁸ *crazy* / *responsible* Joker in *Batman*. The worst villain of all movies, according to the American Film Institute, is this highly ⁹ *heroic* / *educated*, psychopathic psychiatrist from *The Silence of the Lambs*.

Grammar unreal conditionals

4 Choose the correct form of the verbs to complete the test.

How brave are you? Take the test and find out!

- If you ¹saw / would see someone stealing from a shop, ²did / would you tell the shop assistant? **Yes / No**
- If someone you didn't like from work ³got / would get fired because of a mistake you made, ⁴did / would you tell the boss? **Yes / No**
- ⁵Did / Would you do a parachute jump if someone ⁶gave / would give you £1,000 to do it? **Yes / No**
- If an animal ⁷was / would be in danger, ⁸did / would you risk your own life to save it? **Yes / No**

5a Complete Sonya's conversation with Li about the test above with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

S The first one's easy. I ¹'d *definitely tell* (definitely/tell) the shop assistant.

L Me, too. It actually happened to me once. Hmm ... What's next? I think I ²_____ (confess) my mistake to my boss, even if I hated the guy.

S I don't know, that's a hard one. But this one's not: I ³_____ (never/do) a parachute jump, even if they ⁴_____ (give) me £1,000,000!

L Really? Well, I ⁵_____ (jump) today if I ⁶_____ (have) the chance. And for free!

S Not for me, thanks! What about this one, about the animal? What ⁷_____ (you/do)?

L I have to admit I ⁸_____ (not risk) my life, unless it ⁹_____ (be) my own pet.

S I guess, but I think I ¹⁰_____ (try) to save any animal if I ¹¹_____ (not have) to risk my own life.

L Well, I suppose we haven't done too badly, have we?

b 8.5))) Listen and check.

6 Correct the mistakes in the answers people gave to the poll question below.

In which situation would you help a complete stranger?

- 1 If a disabled person ^{needed}needs to cross a street, I would help them.
- 2 I would stop my car, if someone needed help on a highway at night.
- 3 I might give blood unless the local hospital needed it.
- 4 I carried an elderly woman's shopping to her house, even if it wasn't near mine.
- 5 If I would call an ambulance if I saw a cyclist hit by a car.
- 6 I would help strangers if I might, but I'm usually in a hurry.



7 Complete the second sentences in 1–6 so they have a similar meaning to the first sentences. Use the words in brackets.

- 1 I'm too old to be a policeman. (if)
I would be a policeman *if I were younger*.
- 2 I think you should do something about it. (were)
If _____ do something about it.
- 3 I can't help because I don't know first aid. (would)
I _____ first aid.
- 4 We aren't generous because we don't have enough money. (if)
We _____ had more money.
- 5 It's possible that I'd do something if I saw a parent shouting at a child. (might)
I _____ I saw a parent shouting at a child.
- 6 People don't help more because there aren't enough charity campaigns on TV. (more)
People would help more _____ charity campaigns on TV.

I can ...

talk about personality and behaviour.

Very well

Quite well

More practice



talk about unreal situations in the present and future.

