

Creating characters

When describing people in our writing it is easy to use the same adjectives over and over again. This can mean the writing becomes repetitive and descriptions lose their impact. It is important to think carefully about which adjectives to choose.



GETTING STARTED

Check the meaning of the bold adjectives in the sentences below. Then choose a better word from the alternatives given.

ruddy

ungainly

cadaverous

corpulent

diminutive

dishevelled

beetling

emaciated

rotund

lustre

1. The **heavy** man weighed 150 kilogrammes. _____
2. After the food, his buttons strained to close over his **round** stomach. _____
3. She was very **thin** after her recent illness. _____
4. His **overhanging** eyebrows made him look terrifying. _____
5. I always look **scruffy** in my school uniform however hard I try to look smart. _____
6. The vampire sat up in the coffin, looking **pale and gaunt**. _____
7. Her hair has a real **shine** after she has washed it. _____
8. Next to the tallest girl in school, Fiona could be described as **small**. _____
9. He had a **red and healthy-looking** complexion. _____
10. My older brother is so tall that he looks **clumsy** when he walks. _____



MOVING ON

Accurately use the following words in a sentence of your own.

pudgy

svelte

pockmark

aquiline

mottled

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

? How many did you get right?

2 = NOVICE

5 = EXPERT

10 = MAESTRO

43 You can use your Oxford School Dictionary and your Oxford Student's Dictionary for these activities