

Heroes and anti-heroes

1 Choose the best answer (A, B or C).

The Many Traits of Beyoncé

Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter, known as just 'Beyoncé', is many things to many people. For some young singers just starting out on the same record label, she may be a (1), encouraging them to persevere in the music industry. For others, she may be their (2), a rival who fills stadiums as easily as she starts fashion trends. For her (3), the members of her production team, she has become a leader as she has gained experience and confidence in presenting her image to the world. Like many pop stars, Beyoncé has had many (4) – characters in her videos designed to test the audience's expectations and cause controversy. She is also one of many (5) in the music world whose lyrics include powerful social commentaries which question the norms we live by. Perhaps she is less well known as a (6) who quietly and generously raises and donates millions for countless social causes, in particular supporting (7) charities – a (8) for all of us. For most people, Beyoncé is music royalty – one of the main (9) in modern music history. Her next role, however, may be completely different as she has been cast as a/an (10) in a new film!

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|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 A nemesis | B mentor | C protagonist |
| 2 A iconoclast | B hero | C nemesis |
| 3 A sidekicks | B alter egos | C protagonists |
| 4 A humanitarian | B alter egos | C iconoclasts |
| 5 A protagonists | B iconoclasts | C philanthropists |
| 6 A philanthropist | B nemesis | C mentor |
| 7 A humanitarian | B mentor | C alter ego |
| 8 A villain | B protagonist | C role model |
| 9 A humanitarians | B protagonists | C mentors |
| 10 A alter ego | B mentor | C villain |

2 Read the descriptions. Choose two of these words to describe each person.

alter ego • humanitarian • iconoclast • mentor
nemesis • philanthropist • protagonist
role model • sidekick • villain

- He not only gave me support and advice when times got rough, but he was also incredibly generous with his time.
He was my and a/an
- She had two sides to her character – the quiet, studious librarian and the rebellious, controversial street artist.
Besides being a librarian, she had a/an and was a/an

- He was about to eat the chocolate cake when he heard two familiar voices: 'I'm gonna tell Mama!' And his sister, Matilda, and her best friend ran laughing to his mother's bedroom.
Matilda was his and Matilda's friend was her
- Robinson's character dominates the story. A successful businesswoman who gives every dollar she earns to environmental charities, she is a fascinatingly complex character.
She is the of the book and a/an
- At the start of the film Jack Star was a really mean character. However, during the film he changed completely and became very generous and kind-hearted and lots of people looked up to him.
Jack was the of the film, but he changed and became a/an to others.

/ 20 points

Prepositional phrases

3 Make collocations with the words in Group A and the prepositions in Group B to give synonyms of the words below. You can use the words in Group B more than once and there may be more than one possible answer.

Group A

abstain • anxious • attitude • comparison
concentrate • intention • object
praise somebody • satisfied • sensitive
suspicious • theory

Group B

about • between • for • from • in • of • on
to(wards) • with

- in principle
- desire to
- doubtful about
- focus on
- content to/with
- worried about
- compliment somebody on
- hold back from
- express disapproval of
- diplomatic to(wards)
- perspective on
- contrast between

/ 12 points

Unit review

- 4 Replace the words in bold with vocabulary from 1–3 on the previous page.

Random Acts of Kindness

You may have heard of the book, movie and movement named *Pay It Forward*. The expression challenges people to be their own hero and instead of paying back a person for giving you help, you pay it forward by helping others. Many people have (1) **said nice things about** this form of 'spreading the love' for creating communities of (2) **people who help people**.

The concept was actually first used in an ancient Greek play, and later became a personal (3) **charitable** policy of the American President, Benjamin Franklin. He said: 'This is a trick of mine for doing a deal of good with a little money.' Author Robert A. Heinlein developed the concept by publishing a book and founding a society to promote the idea. Heinlein acted as a (4) **person who helps guide other people** to another author, Ray Bradbury. Bradbury wrote a book, *Pay it Forward*, with a (5) **main character** who had the (6) **aim** of paying help forward to others. The concept became a popular movement after the book was adapted to become a successful movie. The positive (7) **view of** the movement grew, and now 70 countries have a Pay it Forward day each year when people (8) **think carefully about** performing random acts of kindness.

/ 8 points

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

Total: / 40 points