

characteristic1. [ˌkærɪktəˈrɪstɪk] *n*

1. характерная черта; особенность, свойство
general characteristics - общие свойства

2. *спец.* признак

characteristic of classification /of division/ - признак классификации, признак, по которому классифицируются предметы

3. 1) *мат.* характеристика (*логарифма и т. п.*)

2) *спец.* характеристика (*процесса, прибора и т. п.*); параметр

decay characteristic - характеристика распада

operating characteristic - рабочая /эксплуатационная/ характеристика

resonance characteristic - резонансная характеристика *или* кривая

4. *пл воен.* боевые свойства, тактико-технические данные; лётно-тактические данные

2. [ˌkærɪktəˈrɪstɪk] *a*

1) характерный; типичный

characteristic smell - специфический запах

the characteristic enthusiasm of youth - энтузиазм, типичный для молодёжи

it's characteristic of him - это характерно для него

he answered with characteristic courtesy - он ответил со свойственной /присущей/ ему учтивостью

2) *спец.* характеристический

characteristic spectra - характеристические спектры (*рентгеновых лучей и т. п.*)

characteristic curve - характеристическая кривая, характеристика

characteristic

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

char·ac·ter·is·tic [characteristic characteristics] **adjective, noun** *BrE*

[ˌkærəkətəˈrɪstɪk] ^ˈ *NAmE* [ˌkærəkətəˈrɪstɪk] ^ˈ

adjective ~ (of sth/sb)

very typical of sth or of sb's character

• She spoke with characteristic enthusiasm.

Opp: †uncharacteristic

Word Origin:

mid 17th cent.: from French *caractéristique* or medieval Latin *characteristicus*, from Greek *kharaktēristikos*, from *kharaktēr* 'a stamping tool'.

Thesaurus:

characteristic *adj.*

• with her characteristic modesty

typical • • **representative** • • **classic** • • **usual** • • **habitual** • • **normal** •

Opp: uncharacteristic

characteristic/typical/representative of sb/sth

a characteristic/typical/representative/classic **example** of sth

characteristic/typical/usual/habitual/normal **behaviour**

Characteristic or typical? When it is used to mean that sb behaves as you would expect, **typical** often shows disapproval but **characteristic** usually shows approval

• It was typical of her to forget

• Such kindness was characteristic of Mike.

Example Bank:

• a problem that was fairly characteristic of late eighteenth century society

• his highly characteristic features

• They suffer from many of the environmental problems that are characteristic of inner-city areas.

• With characteristic modesty she insisted on sharing the credit with the whole team.

Derived Word †characteristically

noun ~ (of sth/sb)

a typical feature or quality that sth/sb has

• The need to communicate is a key characteristic of human society.

• The two groups of children have quite different characteristics.

• Personal characteristics, such as age and sex are taken into account.

• genetic characteristics

Word Origin:

mid 17th cent.: from French *caractéristique* or medieval Latin *characteristicus*, from Greek *kharaktēristikos*, from *kharaktēr* 'a stamping tool'.

Thesaurus:

characteristic *noun* **C**

• The species have several characteristics in common.

feature • • **quality** • • **trait** • • **point** • • **attribute** • |**technical property** •

a/an **essential/desirable/individual** characteristic/feature/quality/trait/attribute/property
a/an **important/natural/special/useful** characteristic/feature/quality/attribute/property
possess/display/share (a) characteristic/feature/quality/trait/... points/attribute/property

Example Bank:

- Mobility is the defining characteristic of modern life.
- The two species have several characteristics in common.
- Voters are primarily attracted by the charisma or personal characteristics of a candidate.
- His melodies have distinguishing characteristics which make them instantly identifiable.
- Personal characteristics, such as age, sex and marital status are taken into account.

characteristic

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **char** **ac** **ter** **is** **tic**¹ **S3 W2** /,kærəkətə'ristɪk/, ,kærɪktə'ristɪk </ BrE^u AmE^u **noun**

[countable usually plural]

[Word Family: **noun**: ↑character, ↑characteristic, ↑characterization; **adjective**: ↑characteristic ≠ ↑uncharacteristic, ↑characterless; **verb**: ↑characterize; **adverb**: ↑characteristically ≠ ↑uncharacteristically]

a quality or feature of something or someone that is typical of them and easy to recognize

characteristic of

^u a baby discovering the physical characteristics of objects

defining/distinguishing characteristic (=one that separates someone or something from others of the same type)

^u Violent images are a defining characteristic of his work.

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COLLOCATIONS

■ adjectives

- **a physical characteristic** physical characteristics such as your height and weight
- **a personal characteristic** (=relating to someone's character) What are the personal characteristics that a leader requires?
- **a human characteristic** The power of speech is an entirely human characteristic.
- **a national characteristic** (=typical of the people of a country) Organization is often seen as a German national characteristic.
- **the main characteristic of something** A new interest in art was one of the main characteristics of this period.
- **a common characteristic** (=that people or things share) Successful firms tend to have common characteristics.
- **a distinguishing/distinctive characteristic** (=separating someone or something from others of the same type) The blue feathers are the distinguishing characteristic of the male bird.
- **a defining characteristic** (=one that is necessary in order to be a particular type of person or thing) Originality is one of the defining characteristics of a great band.
- **an important/essential characteristic** An essential characteristic of good teaching is that it must create interest in the learner.
- **an inherited characteristic** Intelligence is an inherited characteristic.
- **a striking characteristic** Its canals are one of Amsterdam's most striking characteristics.

■ verbs

- **have a characteristic** (also **possess a characteristic formal**) He has all the characteristics of a great husband.
- **show a characteristic** (also **exhibit a characteristic formal**) A material may exhibit the characteristics of both a liquid and a solid.
- **share a characteristic** The group shared one characteristic - they were all under 25.
- **inherit a characteristic** (=get a characteristic from your parent) We all inherit physical characteristics from our parents.

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THESAURUS

- **characteristic** something that is typical of someone or something and makes them easy to recognize: He had several characteristics which made him different to the rest of his family. | the physical characteristics of the brain | He studied the special characteristics of adult speech addressed to children.
- **quality** a characteristic of a person, especially a good one such as kindness or intelligence: Tina has a lot of good qualities. | I'm not sure about his leadership qualities. | Obedience is a quality that my father admires.
- **feature** an important or interesting characteristic of something: it seems to be a feature of modern society that we tend to judge ourselves by our work above everything else. | A curious feature of the novel is the absence of women. | The building still has many of its original features.
- **property** [usually plural] **technical** a characteristic of a substance or object, for example hardness or elasticity, or how it behaves - used especially in scientific contexts: We examined the physical properties of various metals. | changes in the electrical properties of cells | Some plants have healing properties.
- **attribute formal** a good or useful characteristic: I suspected I probably did not quite possess all the attributes required to succeed at the highest level. | All living things are able to reproduce their kind, an attribute which no machine possesses..
- **good/bad points** good or bad characteristics - used when someone or something has both good and bad characteristics: The seller will obviously emphasize the car's good points. | Draw up a list of your partner's good and bad points.

II. **char** **acteristic**² BrE^u AmE^u **adjective**

[Word Family: **noun**: ↑character, ↑characteristic, ↑characterization; **adjective**: ↑characteristic ≠ ↑uncharacteristic, ↑characterless; **verb**: ↑characterize; **adverb**: ↑characteristically ≠ ↑uncharacteristically]

very typical of a particular thing or of someone's character:

^u the highly characteristic (=very typical) flint walls of the local houses

characteristic of

^u the qualities that were characteristic of the Nixon administration

—**characteristically** /-kli/ **adverb**

• • •
REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually say **typical** rather than **characteristic**:

- The building is typical of those in the area.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **typical** a typical person or thing is a good example of that type of person or thing: With his camera around his neck, he looked like a typical tourist. | The windows are typical of houses built during this period.
- **classic** used to describe a very typical and very good example of something: It was a classic case of the cure being worse than the disease. | a classic mistake | The book is a classic example of great teamwork.
- **archetypal** the archetypal person or thing is the most typical example of that kind of person or thing, and has all their most important qualities: the archetypal English village | Indiana Jones is the archetypal adventure hero.
- **quintessential** used when you want to emphasize that someone or something is the very best example of something – used especially when you admire them very much: the quintessential guide to New York | Robert Plant is the quintessential rock ‘n’ roll singer.
- **stereotypical** having the characteristics that many people believe a particular type of person or thing has – used when you think these beliefs are not true: Hollywood films are full of stereotypical images of women as wives and mothers. | He challenges stereotypical ideas about people with disabilities.
- **representative** containing the most common types of people or things that are found in something, and showing what it is usually like: a representative sample of college students
- **characteristic** very typical of a particular type of thing, or of someone’s character or usual behaviour: Each species of bird has its own characteristic song. | What gives Paris its characteristic charm? | He played with his characteristic skill. | the characteristic symptoms of the disease
- **be the epitome of something** to be the best possible example of a particular type of person or thing or of a particular quality: His house was thought to be the epitome of good taste.

characteristic

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1744**^{MCW}

15000 **525**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** CHARACTER ⁹²²²⁸

character ³⁴⁷⁹¹

characteristic ⁶⁴¹¹

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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2742 **9263**³⁴³³ *nn1*

2446 **10246**²⁹⁷³ *jj*

5 **386915**⁵ *nnu*