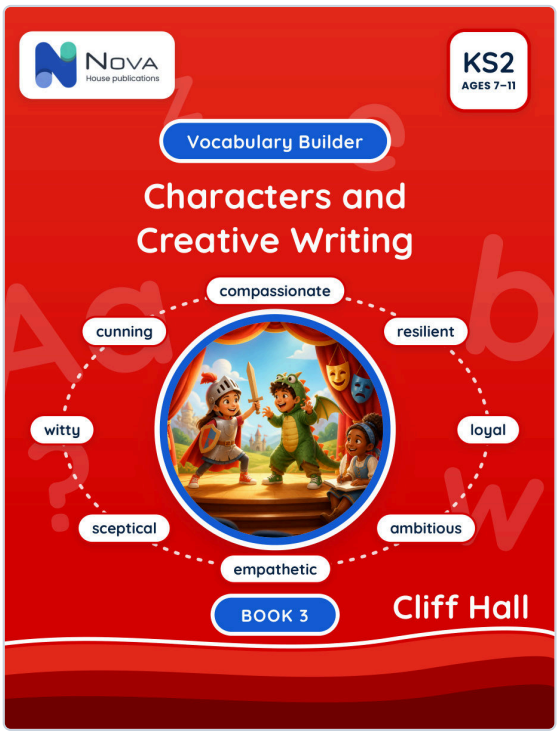
FREE SAMPLE PAGES

Vocabulary Builder

Book 3: Characters and Creative Writing

Section 1: Positive Character Traits



Inside this sample

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1 **Print**
Print on A4 at home. Every page fits the sheet, so choose "Fit to page" if your printer asks.

2 **Have a go**
Let your child work through the activities at their own pace. Allow 30 to 40 minutes.

3 **Check together**
Use the answers on page 7 and talk through any new words.

About the book

Words to describe people and feelings, and to make stories shine. Three sections cover positive, negative and context-dependent character traits, with plenty of creative writing. For ages 7 to 11 (KS2) and beyond.

Find out more about the full book at novaeducation.uk

Section 1

Positive Character Traits



Look at the words in the word cloud above.

- Sort the words into three columns: Easy, Medium and Hard.
- When you have finished this section of the book, look at your columns again and decide if you would like to move any of the words.

Your notes and answers:

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Activity 1: Trait Tally

Make a list of five people you admire and write their names in the table below. These can be people you know or characters from a book, film or TV programme. Write one adjective to describe each person.

	Name	Adjective
Person 1		
Person 2		
Person 3		
Person 4		
Person 5		

Which of the adjectives above do you think are most valuable in a friend? Explain your answer below.

Trait (noun)

Definition:
A special quality, characteristic or feature of a person, animal or thing. Traits can be positive or negative.

Say it like:
TRAYT (rhymes with "great")

Examples:
1. character traits: Honesty and curiosity are good traits for any student.
2. animal traits: A dog's loyalty is a well-known trait.

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Writing Tip

A **protagonist** is the main character in a story, whether it's a novel, a film, a play or even a video game. The protagonist's journey, decisions and problems usually drive the plot forward.

Activity 2: Matching Character Traits

In the table below are six character traits which protagonists in stories often have. Match each trait with the correct scenario on the right.

Trait	Scenario
empathetic	Someone apologises for breaking a promise. Who would give them a second chance?
compassionate	A friend mentions their favourite snack. Who would surprise them with it the next day?
kind	A classmate cries after being teased. Who would understand their feelings without judging?
thoughtful	An elderly neighbour is struggling to carry her shopping. Who would stop to help without being asked?
forgiving	A new student sits alone at lunch. Who would invite them to join their table?
open-minded	Someone presents a new idea that challenges traditional beliefs. Who would consider it without judging it straight away?

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Activity 3: Text Message Dialogue

Write a short text message conversation between two friends. In the messages, one friend should show one of the traits from Activity 2. Look at the example below of a friend being open-minded.

Natalie
I don't get your weird music.

Jenny
Come to my concert tonight: you might like it!

Natalie
Fine, but no promises.

Jenny
That's the spirit!

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Activity 4: Empathetic, Empathy, Empathise

Someone who is empathetic is able to understand and share other people's feelings. This is a trait we often see in protagonists such as Harry Potter. For example: Harry gave an empathetic nod as Hermione shared her worries.

Study the word forms below and complete the sentences with the correct form of the word.

empathetic (adjective) | empathy (noun) | empathise (verb)

1. The counsellor gave an _____ nod as the student shared their worries.
2. Her _____ made her a great friend.
3. I _____ with your frustration; this situation is tough.
4. Emma's natural _____ helps her to connect with people from all backgrounds.
5. His mother has a very _____ smile which always makes him feel safe.

Activity 5: Compassionate, Compassion, Compassionately

Someone who is compassionate shows sympathy and concern for other people's suffering. This is another important trait we often see in good characters. For example: The compassionate nurse held the patient's hand during the operation.

Study the word forms below and complete the sentences with the correct form of the word.

compassionate (adjective) | compassion (noun) | compassionately (adverb)

1. The _____ doctor sat with the frightened child until her parents arrived.
2. She acted out of _____ when she gave money to the animal shelter.
3. The teacher spoke _____ to the upset student.
4. Her deep _____ for stray animals led her to volunteer at the local shelter every weekend.
5. The _____ neighbour brought homemade soup to the elderly widow next door when she was ill.

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Answers and Explanations

Section 1: Positive Character Traits

Activity 1: Trait Tally

Answers will vary.

Activity 2: Matching Character Traits

Accept compassionate or kind for the elderly neighbour and the new student; accept compassionate for the crying classmate.

empathetic: a classmate cries after being teased (they would understand their feelings and comfort them)
compassionate: an elderly neighbour is struggling with her shopping (they would offer help)
kind: a new student sits alone at lunch (they would include them)
thoughtful: a friend mentions their favourite snack (they would remember and act on it)
forgiving: someone apologises for breaking a promise (they would accept the apology and move on)
open-minded: someone presents a new idea (they would listen carefully, think about the idea and stay willing to learn)

Activity 3: Text Message Dialogue

Answers will vary.

Activity 4: Empathetic, Empathy, Empathise

1. empathetic
2. empathy
3. empathise
4. empathy
5. empathetic

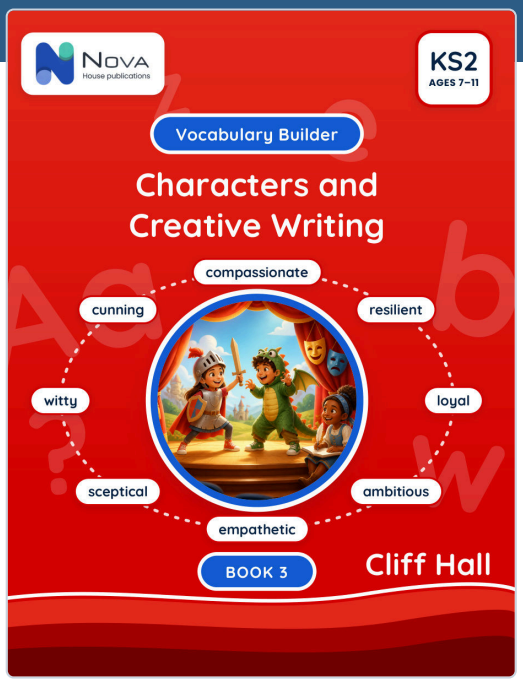
Activity 5: Compassionate, Compassion, Compassionately

1. compassionate
2. compassion
3. compassionately
4. compassion
5. compassionate

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Vocabulary Builder

Book 3: Characters and Creative Writing

- Three sections: positive, negative and context-dependent traits
- Word families such as empathy, empathetic and empathise
- Dialogue, sentence completion and creative writing tasks
- Answers and a full glossary at the back

Find it at novaeducation.uk →

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