

Person Description Essay Template

(Detailed Fill-In Outline with Sensory Prompts)

I. Introduction Paragraph

Hook (1–2 sentences)

Begin with a vivid or intriguing detail that immediately captures the person's essence.

Think:

- A signature action or habit
- A striking physical detail
- A brief moment that represents who they are
- Something unexpected or memorable

Write here:

Context (2–3 sentences)

Introduce who this person is and explain your connection to them.

Include:

- Who the person is
- How you know them
- Where or when you typically see them
- Why they stand out in your life

Write here:

Thesis Statement (1 sentence – Dominant Impression)

State the overall impression this person leaves on you.

Thesis should communicate **who they are at their core**, not just what they look like.

Example structures:

- “[Name] embodies...”
- “[Name] reveals...”
- “[Name] is defined by...”

Write here:

II. Body Paragraph 1 — Physical Appearance

Topic Sentence (1 sentence)

Introduce the person’s overall physical presence and how it connects to your dominant impression.

Write here:

Supporting Details (4–6 sentences)

Describe physical traits using **specific, observable details only**.

Include some of the following:

- Height and build
- Facial features (eyes, expression, smile, wrinkles, scars)
- Hair (color, texture, style, condition)
- Clothing style (what they typically wear and why)
- Body language (posture, gestures, movement)

Avoid vague words like *good-looking*, *normal*, *average*.

Write notes/details here:

Sensory Reminders

- What do their movements look like? Smooth? Sharp? Careful?
 - Are there consistent gestures or habits?
 - How does their appearance suggest something deeper?
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Connection to Thesis (1 sentence)

Explain how their physical appearance reflects, contrasts, or hints at their personality.

Write here:

III. Body Paragraph 2 — Characteristic Behaviors & Personality Traits

Topic Sentence (1 sentence)

Introduce the person's typical behaviors or habits that reveal who they are.

Write here:

Supporting Details (4–6 sentences)

Describe how the person **acts**, not just what they are “like.”

Focus on:

- How they speak (tone, pace, volume, word choice)
- How they react to stress, humor, or conflict
- Repeated habits or routines
- How they treat others
- What they pay attention to or ignore

Show personality through actions, not labels.

Write notes/details here:

Sensory Reminders

- What does their voice sound like?
- How do they enter or leave a room?
- What emotions do their actions spark?

Connection to Thesis (1 sentence)

Explain what these behaviors reveal about the person's character.

Write here:

IV. Body Paragraph 3 — Impact on Others**Topic Sentence (1 sentence)**

Introduce how this person affects people or space around them.

Write here:

Supporting Details (4–6 sentences)

Describe the **effect** this person has rather than focusing on the person alone.

Possible angles:

- How people respond to them
- How the atmosphere changes when they arrive or leave
- Things people say about them
- How you feel when you are around them

- What feels different in their absence

Write notes/details here:

Sensory & Emotional Reminders

- Does the mood shift? How?
- Do people behave differently around them?
- How do *you* feel in their presence?

Connection to Thesis (1 sentence)

Explain why their impact proves your dominant impression is accurate.

Write here:

V. Conclusion Paragraph

Restated Thesis (1 sentence)

Rephrase your original thesis using fresh language.

Write here:

Synthesis of Key Details (2–3 sentences)

Briefly bring back the **most memorable physical, behavioral, and emotional details**.

Combine images rather than listing them.

Write here:

Final Reflection (1 sentence)

End with a thought about the person's lasting significance.

Examples:

- What they've taught you
- Why they'll stay in your memory
- What makes them irreplaceable

Write here:

Final Checklist Before Writing

- Every paragraph supports the thesis
- Actions show personality (not just labels)
- Sensory details are specific and balanced
- No paragraph repeats another's purpose