LBS/Baden-Württemberg Englisch – nach Elke Tetens

**Describing People**

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| **Outer appearance** |  |
| **Height**  to be … tall, tallish *(ziemlich groß)*, short, short(-ish), of medium height | **Build**  to be... strong, vigorous *(kräftig)* / stout *(stämmig)* / athletic *(sportlich)* / muscular, wiry *(drahtig)*, delicate *(zart)* / feeble *(kraftlos)* / frail *(gebrechlich)* / weak / plump *(mollig, rundlich)* / overweight / obese [-‘-] / generously proportioned / slender *(schlank)* / slim *(dünn)* / gaunt / *(hager)*, skinny / emaciated *(abgemagert)*  to have... energy, stamina [‘---] *(Durchhaltevermögen)*, drive *(Unternehmungsgeist)*  to be in (a/n) excellent / good / bad physical condition |
| **Age**  to be... young, elderly, middle-aged, a teenager, in one’s 20s etc. | **Clothes**  casual *(leger)*, scruffy *(dreckig, vergammelt)*, shabby *(abgetragen)*, tattered *(zerlumpt)* / his or her clothes were in tatters  to wear... formal *(z. B. Abendkleid, Frack)* / smart *(schick, elegant)*, fashionable  to be... well-dressed *(gut gekleidet)*, dressed up *(aufgeputzt)* |
| **Nose**  to have... a big, short, long, flat, straight, hooked, turned-up, snub *(Stups-)*, aquiline *(Adler-)* nose  to be... snub-nosed *(stupsnasig)*, hook-nosed, to turn up one’s nose at sth. *(die Nase rümpfen)* | **Eyes**  to have… big, round, large, small, bright, narrow, dreamy  to be... big-eyed, blind, near-sighted, far-sighted,  to have... a kind, an angry, a hostile *(feindlich)*, a threatening *(drohend)*, a keen *(aufmerksam)*, a piercing *(durchdringend)*, a dull *(ausdrucklos),* bored, a curious, an inquisitive *(neugierig)* look  to look up, down, to the side, away, at someone / to look someone straight in the eye / to establish / keep eye-contact with s.o. / see eye to eye *(sich [gut] verstehen)* |
| **Chin and Ears**  to have a … a small, big, fleshy, double, protruding *(hervorstehend)*, pointed *(spitz)*, a double chin / a square chin /  to have / grow / sport a  goatee *(Spitzbart)*, moustache *(Schnurrbart)*, beard *(Vollbart)*  to have... small, big, fleshy ears, cauliflower ears (deformed through injuries) / pierced ears | **Face and Head**  to have... a fleshy, chubby *(pausbäckig)*, clean, unwashed, unshaven, bearded, wrinkled *(faltig)*, lined *(zerfurcht)*, hollow-cheeked, youthful, pale, tanned, rosy, red, freckled *(sommersprossig)* face  to look… blank *(ausdruckslos)*, merry / weary (müde, matt), sad / *(traurig, deprimiert)* / frustrated / stern *(streng)*...  there is an expression of... fear, anger, hate, joy, malicious joy, *(Schadenfreude)*, irony, pain in his face  to display… a sad, sorrowful, hesitant *(zögernd)* countenance *(Miene, Haltung)*  to... pull one’s face into a grimace, to put on a mask  to... lift up, raise, drop, bend, tilt *(neigen)*, bow [rhymes with ‘how‘], turn aside, nod, shake one’s head, to frown, to knit one’s brow [rhymes with ’how‘] *(Stirn runzeln)* |
| **Head & Hair**  to have a… small / big massive / round / oval / square **head** / **skull**  to have …fair, blond(e), red, brown, dark, grey, white, dyed *(gefärbt)* **hair**  his/her hair is… curly, wavy, straight, tousled *(struppig)*  s/he... bald *(hat eine Glatze)* is balding | **Mouth**  to have... a thin-lipped, a thick-lipped, a tight *(fest verschlossen)* mouth, pinched *(verkniffen)* / to pout *(Schmollmund machen)*  to be tight-lipped *(wortkarg)*  *(someone’s mouth was)* distorted with pain *(schmerzverzerrt)*  there is a... mocking, ironic, sarcastic smile on his lips  to... smile, laugh (at), to chuckle *(in sich hineinlachen)* / to lick / bite one’s lips |
| **Posture / Gestures**  to be… round-shouldered, straight-backed  to stand…  straight / upright / to bend forward / backward / to squat *(kauern)* / to slouch about *(herumhängen)* / to sprawl *(sich räkeln)*  to have… the bearing of a lady, a soldier, a ballet [‘--] dancer…  to make a gesture of... acceptance, frustration, refusal, astonishment, embarrassment…  to... cross one’s arms/legs / point one’s finger at someone / clench one’s fist / shake one’s fist at someone / turn one’s back on someone  reach out with one’s arm / welcome someone with open arms / wag one’s finger at someone | **Character Traits**  a person seems / appears to be / comes across as / is probably... careful / hard-working / *(fleißig)* / self-confident / cheerful / merry / glad / happy / active / curious / broad-minded / practical / sensible *(vernünftig)* /  imaginative / generous / loyal / genuine / just / fair / honest / sincere / gentle / strong-minded / energetic / self-controlled / composed / cool *(gelassen)* / independent / ambitious / modest / tolerant /  intelligent / bright / smart / relaxed / dominant / outgoing / lively / sociable *(gesellig)* /  self-centered, selfish, / aggressive / careless / optimistic / creative / inventive / cunning / crafty *(listig, schlau)* / wise (erfahren) / matter-of-fact *(sachlich)* / conscientious *(gewissenhaft)* / brave / courageous /  boring / moody / ill-tempered shy / timid *(schüchtern, furchtsam)* / stubborn / obstinate *(stur, halsstarrig)* / naïve / intolerant / clumsy / self-conscious / insecure / moody / stupid / silly / dull / daft *(dumm, doof)*  tense / nervous / introvert / dishonest / insincere / diffident / timid *(schüchtern)* / frustrated  conceited / arrogant *(eingebildet)* / snooty / boastful / snobbish *(großkotzig)* / embarrassed / afraid of... / disappointed / sorrowful / sad / brokenhearted / pessimistic / superficial / lazy / idle *(faul)* / slack *(lasch, nachlässig)* / pedantic *(übertrieben genau)* / hypocritical, two-faced *(scheinheilig)* / irritable *(reizbar*) / impulsive *(unbeherrscht)* / narrow-minded /  fearless / decent *(anständig)* / consistent *(beständig)* / withdrawn / self-righteous *(selbstgerecht)* / vain *(eitel)* / impudent *(unverschämt)* / hesitant *(zögerlich)* / tight-fisted / mean *(knauserig)* / unsociable / reserved / bossy / submissive (unterwürfig) / ruthless *(rücksichtslos)* / ambivalent *(zwie­spältig*) / eccentric *(verschroben, absonderlich)* / depressed *(deprimiert)* |

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