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Extrovert Extended

The word extrovert has been used very "loosely" by many people. Surely, there are some people who do not fully understand the definition and/or what it means to be an extrovert. The term extravert became commonly used in 1916, and it was not until 1918 that it was spelled as extrovert. In Germany, extra means outside in most instances. In Latin, verte means to turn. This explains why many other resources have the definition of extrovert as to turn outwards. According to *Dictionary.com*, "An extrovert is an outgoing and gregarious person." Some of the personality traits of an extrovert include the following: sociable, outgoing, friendly, talkative, open, and lively. Some people also have some negative connotations of an extrovert's characteristics, such as them being obnoxious and attention-seekers. Many statistics have shown that extroverts make up fifty to seventy four percent of the population.

  Most of my immediate family members are extroverts, but the two that have the most in common yet the most differences are my mom and dad.  My mom, Rhonda, is one of the most sociable people in my life. She has always been very good with her communication skills. She never fails to get her point across in anything she discusses that she is passionate about. Her introverted personality came from her upbringing and her childhood environment. My dad, Edward, has the "gift of gab." He can generally hold a conversation with anyone about anything, and he is typically the life of the party. Many of the conversations we have are driven by him sharing his knowledge and life experiences. Both of them are very outgoing, loquacious, enthusiastic, and assertive.

Although my parents have many common characteristics, their introverted personalities are so similar that they clash every now and then. With both of them being so strong willed, they refused to back down when one of them desires to make a point. They can often be hypocritical when they are judging each other's actions. At times, my mom can be slightly overbearing with her personality.  She wants everything done very precisely. On the other hand, my dad is more nonchalant. He has more of a "take it or leave it" attitude. Although they have many differences, their similarities play a role in their attraction to each other.

The opposite of an extrovert is an introvert. An introvert is a shy and reticent person. They are not as sociable and open about their thoughts as an extrovert.  My brother, Edward, considers himself an introvert. Unless he is around his very few close friends, he will distance himself from others. He is not necessarily "anti-social," but he prefers to stay to himself and be private. Another least commonly used term to describe somebody is an ambivert. An ambivert has many characteristics of both extroverts and introverts. In *Psychological Types,* Carl Jung states, "There is, finally, a third group, and here it is hard to say whether the motivation comes chiefly from within or without." In other words, ambiverts are an equal balance between the two.

Overall, extroverts are some of the most social people. Extroverts can have conversations with anyone; they act as if they have never met a stranger. In conclusion, extroverts can generally be pointed out by their personality traits and their innate ability to communicate comfortably in any situation.