

TALKING ABOUT ABILITIES



ABILITY

- the fact of being able to do something;
- Level of skill that someone has in a particular job or activity;
- Power or knowledge that makes you able to do smth;

Mind the trap!

In Russian you say *способности к языкам, математические способности* in the plural.

In English you say *linguistic ability, mathematical ability* in the singular.



VOCABULARY

Способности

ability

Музыкальные способности

Musical ability

Слух

Hearing ability

Лингвистические способности

Linguistic ability

Способности к спорту

Athletic ability

Математические способности

Mathematical ability

Лидерские способности

Abilities as a leader

Актёрские способности

Acting ability

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- **Andy is good at maths.**
 - **Maria can play the piano well.**
 - **I can run fast.**
 - **Blind people can hear perfectly.**
 - **Ann is good at English.**
 - **They are good at acting.**
- **Andy has mathematical ability.**



ANSWERS

- **Andy is good at maths.**
- **Maria can play the piano well.**
- **I can run fast.**
- **Blind people can hear perfectly.**
- **Ann is good at English.**
- **They are good at acting.**
- **Andy has mathematical ability.**
- **Maria has musical ability.**
- **I have athletic ability.**
- **Blind people have good hearing ability.**
- **Ann has linguistic ability.**
- **They have acting ability.**



Vocabulary

1 Read the English sentences and match them with the Russian equivalents. Read 'Mind the trap!' and underline the words *ability/abilities* and *способность/способности* in the sentences.

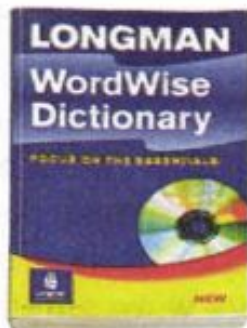
- 1 Trevor has athletic ability.
- 2 He is a young man of great ability.
- 3 Ann is a student of high ability.
- 4 These kids have acting ability.
- 5 Kate has musical ability.
- 6 He showed his abilities as a leader.
- 7 Blind people have good hearing ability.

- A Он проявил свои лидерские качества.
- B Энн — очень способная ученица.
- C У этих детей есть актёрские способности.
- D Это молодой человек с большими способностями.
- E У слепых людей хорошо развит слух.
- F У Тренора есть способности к спорту.
- G У Кейт есть способности к музыке.



READ THE TEXT

Study the dictionary definition. What is the Russian for 'disabled people'?



When you speak about people with disabilities in English, be careful with the choice of words. Wrong words may hurt. The right words do not offend or humiliate. Here are some recommendations:

- **Disabled person/people** (not 'the disabled').
- **Blind person/people** (only when a person cannot see anything), visually impaired (not 'the blind').
- **Deaf person/people** (only when a person cannot hear anything), hard of hearing (not 'the deaf').

disability /,dɪsə'bɪlɪti/ *n* a physical or mental condition that makes it difficult for someone to do things that most people do easily, such as walk or see.

disabled /dɪs'eɪbld/ *adj* someone is disabled cannot use a part of their body in the way most people are able to. *There's a lift for disabled people.*

Useful words:

- Disabled person – человек с ограниченными способностями;
- Blind person – слепой человек
- Deaf person – глухой
- Disability – неспособность, бессилие
- Respect – уважать
- Offend – оскорблять
- Humiliate – унижать
- Hurt – обижать, причинять боль



5 What can they do? Look at the pictures and write about the abilities of these kids.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

1 Tom can play the piano. He has musical ability.

2 David _____

3 Robert _____

4 William _____

5 John _____

6 James _____

7 Nick _____

8 Mike _____

9 (Your friend) _____

