

# The Personality Dimensions of Foreign Language Libyan Speakers Studying in United Kingdom and United State of America

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## Abstract

The study investigates a comparison between the personality traits and willingness to contact in English as a foreign language to show how these affections influence the personality. This paper also discussed the differences between personality traits and the desire to speak in English in some countries; where English was used as a native language such as the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The samples were from various education stages: BA, MA, and Ph.D. This paper was conducted to show apparent differences between personality traits and the desire to contact, and whether there is any influence on the speaking process.

The result presents a large number the participants in various situations related closely to their feelings and they feel themselves with confident, further than that they do according to their personality, and the result shows a big difference in the ability of all students. But there is a huge contrast in the position of relaxed feeling, when they were in crowded places, the participants did not feel frightened during talking. It indicates most of them do not make their decisions until they deeply think of the result before choosing.

**Keywords:** Libyan, speaking, weakness, fluently, forgen language, secund language.

## 1. Introduction

The current study investigates the relationship between personality traits and willingness to contact in English as a second or a foreign language. Also, the current study's goal is to checkout the effects of personality while the contact process in English as a foreign language.

### A. The purpose of the current study

The current study goes to searching out if there are any differences between the Libyan students' personality among eight areas of countries so the participating people in this study. They have received the questionnaire, to check out if there are any differences among the participants.

### B. Problem statement

So many Libya students have problems in their interacting in speaking process of English, and contact with others. It related to the weak background, and the differences among the Libyan student's personality in two areas of studying.

### C. The goal of the study

This study was designed for measuring participants` personality in speaking of English as a foreign language and find out what areaffections which influence and effect on their personality.

### D. Scope of the study

This study centered upon some student from Libya originally, they study at the United Kingdom and United state of America.

## 2. Review of the Literature

This part of the study will focus upon the literature review, related to the personality and previous studies about it, and the commentaries of some linguists and psychologists about it, and the theory correlation with.

### A. Previous studies

There is a question always surrounding about like this direction which is "Can languages which people speaking, shape their way of thinking?"

Manyresearchers think that personality influences and affects importantly upon the successful in the language learning and speaking. For more than twenty-five years ago many studies discovered a relationship between the personality and performance of the academics. Such as McAdams in 1992 who supported the same previous idea which says the personality is making a variation of show.

Boeree, in 2006 says that the personality indicates to the differential of the person from others which locates on all life aspects.In the year 1991 for the linguists Larsen-Freeman & Long, and in 1989 Skehan their view about the personality, it is influenced by the language of learning outcome. ButChomsky in 1965 said that the Universalist language theory supposed that the sameness of the characteristics shared by all languages.

Whereas Marttinen 2008 supposes that most learners support their personality from their teachers. Its same comment from the linguist, Horwitz in 1988 he suggests that the teachers must searching for the student's beliefs. And sameness happened with the linguists Oxford & Cohen in 1992 who think that the teacher must investigate the personality of his/her students.

The linguist Cook in 2008 supports idea that says the teacher must show how important of strategy use to his/her students. Near to this thought the linguists, cattel& Butcher in 1967 supported that there is a relationship between the personality and performance of academic.

### B. English Language Speaking Difficulties for Libyan Students

Libyan students of English language consider and encounter some problems in speaking. This is a fact which was clearly mentioned by many researchers, e.g., Abdul Haq (1982). Students in Libya learn English by using the Arabic language; for explaining the information teachers want to give.

The teachers use the mother tongue inside the classroom. And this is the only way to learn English. By that there are few opportunities to learn English during a natural interaction by using the target language. Ghaleb Raba`bah (2003) added "Another important area of difficulty that Arab learners of English have is communication.Also, commented that the Arab learners occurred it difficult to communicate freely. This may be due to the methods of language teaching and the learning environment, which may be said to be inadequate for learning a foreign language. This fact is very noticeable in Libya as the formal language of communication is Arabic".

Many studies have been performed to investigated and examined lexical, syntactical and phonological errors committed by Libyan learners of English [1, 9]. Abdul Haq (1982) announced that "One of the

linguistic areas in which students in the secondary cycle commit errors is in the speaking skill”. He added “There are general outcries about the continual deterioration of standards proficiency for students”. In support of Abdul Haq’s view, Zughoul (1984) found that “Libyan English Foreign Language students commit serious lexical errors while communicating in English”.

### 3. Methodology

This Part studies the methods used to collect the data, the researcher collected the data by using the Google website, and he sent the questionnaire to the participants by Facebook messengers, the participants were about forty, and the data was in English language it was not translated into Arabic Language which is their mother tongue. The researcher collected my data throughout (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/0/>). The participants studied in two countries where English was used as their native USA, and UK. Their education levels were BA, Master, and Ph.D. students. The questionnaire was in English Language not in the mother tongue. This part is going to analyze the collected data which contains forty-eight questions.

**Table 1: statistical descriptive of the participants**

Countries	Total Number	Ratio
UK	20	50%
USA	20	50%

### 4. Instruments

A questionnaire has been used for data collection; it consisted of forty-eight items. And it was sent to twenty-four participants studying at United State of America and United Kingdom. The items were designed for measuring participants` personality in speaking English and what are affections influencing. The researcher collected data by using the following Google website (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/0/> )

#### ❖ Data analysis

It is clarified as the following schedule shows: -

**Table 2: Descriptive statistics**

Question Number	Yes	No	Note
First question	23	17	57.5 % of them have anxiety.
Second question	38	2	95% most of the participants have confidential self.
Third question	25	15	62% most of them like cooperative and helpful personality.
Fourth question	27	13	67.5% likekeeping physical and emotional distance.
Fifth question	19	21	47.5% is appearing their personality appearance in the crowded.
Sixth question	29	11	72.5% like to be appearance of personality
Seventh question	34	6	85%like to show their personality during speaking.
Eighth question	25	15	62% feel relax with the sociology part.
Ninth question	30	10	75% care of the others' feeling
Tenth question	37	3	92.5% feel relax while analysis use better than reading theories
Eleventh question	23	17	57.5 % find difficulty to speak with others

<b>Twelfth question</b>	32	8	<b>80%</b> decision taking with hard planning
<b>Thirteenth question</b>	18	22	<b>45%</b> taking care of their time
<b>Fourteenth question</b>	4	36	<b>10%</b> relying intuition than relying reasons.
<b>Fifteenth question</b>	27	13	<b>67.5%</b> organizing their workstep by step
<b>Sixteenth question</b>	32	8	<b>80%</b> feels uncomfortable in a crowd
<b>Seventeenth question</b>	17	23	<b>42.5%</b> organizing their schedules
<b>Eighteenth question</b>	27	13	<b>67.5%</b> relying analyzing details and consistency all things she/he has.
<b>Nineteenth question</b>	25	15	<b>62%</b> do not think in abstract terms.
<b>Twentieth question</b>	31	9	<b>77.5%</b> do notspontaneous decisions and planning for actions in advance
<b>Twenty first question</b>	30	10	<b>75%</b> loving talking to other people with feeling in their own elements when they can perform in front of a group of people.
<b>Twenty second question</b>	36	4	<b>90%</b> likes looking ahead because They think about new opportunities
<b>Twenty third question</b>	31	9	<b>77.5%</b> they care more about their future plans than thinking of their current actions.
<b>Twenty fourth question</b>	21	19	<b>52.5%</b> they mostly get carried away by their emotions.
<b>Twenty fifth question</b>	26	14	<b>65%</b> They like relying problem solving not on theories than on their experiences.
<b>Twenty sixth question</b>	8	32	<b>20%</b> like guidance from higher level of education than working alone.
<b>Twenty seventh question</b>	31	9	<b>77.5%</b> Like room cleaning alone and there are many things scattered
<b>Twenty eighth question</b>	28	12	<b>70%</b> Like performing a task they focus more on details than on general meaning
<b>Twenty ninth question</b>	26	14	<b>65%</b> Like keeping their feelings for themselves; they rarely show them
<b>Thirtieth question</b>	33	7	<b>82.5%</b> Think that the truth is the most important even it was hurt other people's feelings.
<b>Thirty first question</b>	31	9	<b>77.5%</b> Like to hear others when the others need to discuss their troubles.
<b>Thirty second question</b>	33	7	<b>82.5%</b> like to hide the truth from others if they think it may hurt someone's feelings
<b>Thirty third question</b>	28	12	<b>70%</b> have good control over their emotions.
<b>Thirty fourth question</b>	25	15	<b>62%</b> Like to be praised for their hard work.
<b>thirty fifth question</b>	21	19	<b>52.5%</b> hate to be limited by rules or principles
<b>thirty sixth question</b>	36	4	<b>90%</b> think that feelings are the most important in life.
<b>Thirty seventh question</b>	21	19	<b>52.5%</b> feel disorganized when they have to meet a deadline.
<b>Thirty eighth question</b>	34	6	<b>85%</b> think that picking up or acquiring new information or

			facts is a more effective.
<b>Thirty ninth question</b>	25	15	<b>62%</b> think working more effective when they are assigned specific tasks.
<b>Fortieth question</b>	29	11	<b>72.5%</b> Think that the time which is given a task they do not treat it seriously; they want to enjoy it without thinking about the deadline.
<b>Forty first question</b>	35	5	<b>87.5%</b> like open to the novelty always.
<b>Forty second question</b>	21	19	<b>52.5%</b> like perceiving possible outcomes of their actions
<b>Forty third question</b>	26	14	<b>65%</b> Like starting acting their need to gather all necessary information first.
<b>Forty fourth question</b>	29	11	<b>72.5%</b> base their judgments more on feelings than thinking.
<b>Forty fifth question</b>	34	6	<b>85%</b> Dislike adventure what they like; they rather prefer sticking to a pattern
<b>Forty sixth question</b>	16	24	<b>40%</b> like treating everyone in a personal way.
<b>Forty seventh question</b>	6	34	<b>15%</b> what they do is not influenced by emotions.
<b>Forty eighth question</b>	20	20	<b>50%</b> like trying out new options, ideas and opportunities; they never stick to the known.

## 5. Discussions and the findings

The first question was asked if the participant gets shy when s/he has to perform in front, In a large group of people twenty-three "23" of the participants said "yes" but about seventeen "17" said "no" which means 57.5 % of this result can be concluded which is referring to that most of them have some anxiety and most of them feel that while talking they have to think about their saying. It refers to a weak personality, but not a big differential in this situation.

The second question was if s/he prefers to guide his/herself own learning or the way s/he works. The result showed thirty-eight "38" said "yes" and just two "2" said "no" which means 95% agree, so the result means most of them feel confidential self so the result shows a big difference.

Question number seven was about if s/he rather seeks solitude and if s/he prefers to be relaxed when s/he is not surrounded by other people. Thirty-four "34," said yes and the rest said "no" which means 85%, which means a high percentage feel relaxed in crowded, and they do not get frightened. Question number twelve. If the decisions s/he makes always are based on careful planning. 32 said "yes" whereas the rest answered "no" which refers to 80% agree. It means that most of them do not choose the decision till doing a deep thinking of the result.

Question sixteen was if s/he feels uncomfortable in a crowd. Thirty-two of them said "yes" and the rest of them were disagreeing. It means that "80%" feel uncomfortable when they speak in a crowd and this refers how a weakness of the personality.

The question twenty-second was if s/he likes looking ahead because s/he thinks about new opportunities. Thirty-six said "Yes". It means about 90% like looking ahead to the opportunities for the future. Question thirty was if s/he thinks that the truth is the most important even if it hurts other people's feelings. Thirty-three said "Yes". It means 82% agree with it. The question thirty-sixth was if s/he thinks that feelings are the most important in life. Thirty-six agreed with it. It means 90% believe that the feelings of human beings are very important.

The question thirty-eighth was if s/he thinks that picking up or acquiring new information or facts is a more effective thirty-four described as true. It refers to about 85% as acquiring new information or facts is more effective. The question forty-one was whether s/he is always opens to novelty. The result shows thirty-five agree, and this indicates that 87% like. Question forty-five was if adventure is not what s/he likes and prefers sticking to a pattern. Thirty-four agree with this. It refers to 85% like adventure and prefers sticking to a pattern.

## 6. Summary of Findings

The result shows that most of the participants were in more situations closely related to their feelings and they felt themselves in a confidential mood, further than that they did according to their personality and the result shows that a big difference in the ability of all students.

But there is a huge contrast in the situation of relaxed feeling, when they are in crowded places, they do not feel frightened of talking among others. It refers to seeing that most of the participants are not choosing the decision till get deep thinking of the result before the choosing process.

However, there is a large difference in feeling uncomfortably during the speaking process in a crowd; which appeared a disagreement with previous options that showed "80%". So, this concludes with, how weak they are in personality traits. The personality anxiety appeared a large number of the sample was worried about the plan; it was about 90% like looking forward the future opportunities and they like to have dreams.

Another big diversity in their thinking of beliefs about, how feelings control their beings and order them and how to deal with all emotions in their life, it was 90% agreed. And as known the feeling is very important for human beings. And "85%" of the sample were like an adventure.

## 7. Conclusion

This paper concluded that the personality traits of Libyan English speakers at various levels of education, BA, MA, and Ph.D. are to find out the affections which affect the personality traits. Also, this study was conducted to have more understanding of the differences between personality traits and desire to contact in English language as a foreign, and if there is any affection for the speaking process in English as a foreign. The samples were collected from places of study; where the English language is used as a foreign and second language. So, the current study examines the participants' personalities and if anything is affecting them. So, their personalities were put under checking deeply and how they felt during their speaking process. All the samples were Libyan.

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