

Lesson 8: Leadership

In pairs or a group, read the following character description for Scott then discuss the conclusions that readers could make about his leadership based on the text.

Fifteen years old, a nationally ranked rider, Scott is a poster boy for potential. He's also at a crossroads, about to be tested in ways he's never imagined.

Scott's style is natural, fluid, intuitive – like him. He leads with his heart. He has the kind of maturity that comes from losing someone too early. For Scott, that was his mum. It's been eight years now, but Scott's lucky – he's got his dad, Griffo.

They're close. Griffo selflessly cut his own career short to care for his son when his wife died. Going to work in the mines, he and Scott went wherever the job took them. But they've always ridden together, and Scott has developed into an exciting racer. Back in Alice Springs now, Griffo's heart is set on providing the opportunities for his son that he couldn't take.

And it's Scott's last year of juniors, so if he wants to make the leap to the seniors, it's now or never.

His experience also makes him the logical team leader – but that doesn't mean the other riders are going to follow... He's got to prove himself beyond just being the team owner and head coach's son. As if that wasn't enough, Griffo has thrown every last cent of their savings into MaveriX. This needs to work – and Scott is the key.

It's a lot of pressure on young shoulders. Still a boy, but nearly a man. Loyal, empathetic, hot-headed sometimes, easy-going at other times, kind – he's a great mate to have. And the last thing he wants to do is let anyone down.

If riding is Scott's future, he needs to win. And his best chance of winning is to pull this team together.

After reading, identify and record any specific adjectives, idioms or phrases that speak to Scott's ability (or inability) to lead the MaveriX team.