

5 Adjective + noun combinations 1

Choose the adjective (a, b, or c) which best completes each sentence.

- 1 I really must go and lie down for a while. I've got a splitting headache!
- 2 a) cutting **b) splitting** c) ringing
- 3 No wonder your car won't start! Your battery's _____.
- 4 a) jammed b) empty c) flat
- 5 My uncle's always had a _____ spot for children. He really likes them.
- 6 a) soft b) kind c) warm
- 7 I had a _____ escape this morning when a car almost hit me as I was cycling to work.
- 8 a) near b) narrow c) close
- 9 It's a bit of a _____ statement to say that 'all Welsh people can sing' or 'all black people can dance'. I know lots who can't do either.
- 10 a) sweeping b) general c) broad
- 11 I didn't like smoked salmon at first. For me it was an _____ taste. Now I really love it.
- 12 a) experienced b) original c) acquired
- 13 I don't think Simon will ever get married. He told me he's a _____ bachelor.
- 14 a) decided b) confirmed c) complete
- 15 One of his _____ hates was people pushing in front of him at bus stops.
- 16 a) main b) favourite c) pet
- 17 She had a very _____ tongue, and could be really sarcastic when she was angry.
- 18 a) bitter b) sharp c) cutting

- 19 It was the first _____ meal the tramp had had for several days.
- 20 a) compact b) round c) square
- 21 My son's always getting into trouble for fighting at school. I think that's because he has such a _____ temper.
- 22 a) loud b) quick c) high
- 23 There's an _____ law in this club that you never borrow money from a fellow member.
- 24 a) unspeakable b) understood c) unwritten
- 25 'What does *inevitable* mean?'
- 26 'I haven't the _____ idea. Ask the teacher.'
- 27 a) foggiest b) briefest c) smallest
- 28 The result of the election was a(n) _____ conclusion.
- 29 Everyone knew which party would win.
- 30 a) obvious b) ready c) foregone
- 31 'I don't really want to be twenty-five again,' she said to her husband. 'It was just _____ thinking!'
- 32 a) hopeful b) wishful c) playful

KEY:

2c, 3a, 4b, 5a, 6c, 7b, 8c, 9b, 10c, 11b, 12c, 13a, 14c, 15b, 16c, 17c, 18c, 19c, 20a, 21c, 22b, 23c, 24c, 25c, 26c, 27c, 28c, 29c, 30c, 31c, 32c



Two often idiomatically mean the same as *narrow* (e.g. *a narrow escape* or *a narrow shave*).

Other idiomatically mean the same as *narrow* (e.g. *a narrow escape* or *a narrow shave*).

As well as the idiomatically mean the same as *narrow* (e.g. *a narrow escape* or *a narrow shave*).