

Practice

1. Match the nouns with the adjectives.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 a breathtaking | a view |
| 2 a blatant | b fighting |
| 3 a prolific | c documentaries on |
| 4 a gripping | animal experiments |
| 5 misleading | d judge |
| 6 a piercing | e lie |
| 7 sporadic | f novelist |
| 8 a sweeping | g reader |
| 9 a staunch | h security |
| 10 a watertight | i Republican |
| 11 harrowing | j information |
| 12 a lenient | k generalisation |
| 13 a meteoric | l rise |
| 14 an avid | m alibi |
| 15 lax | n film |
| | o scream |

2. Group the adjectives in the box into categories by putting them next to the appropriate heading.

flawless – arduous – dreadful – dreary – impeccable –
disbevelled – middle-of-the-road – dull – tedious – strenuous –
astute – mainstream – gruelling – mundane – shrewd – witty –
run-of-the-mill – lousy – atrocious – unblemished – crafty –
scruffy – bedraggled – conventional

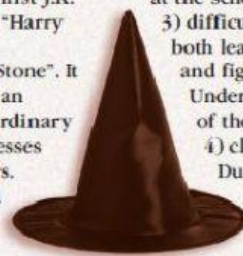
Boring:
Difficult:
Untidy:
Bad:
Clever:
Ordinary:
Perfect:

3. Read the following review and replace the adjectives in bold with more sophisticated ones from exercise 2.

SPELLBINDING HARRY

For an entertaining evening, I highly recommend the film version of the first J.K. Rowling book, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone". It is the story of an otherwise 1) ordinary boy who possesses magical powers. Orphaned as a baby when his parents were killed by an evil wizard, Harry is brought up by his 2) bad and unpleasant relatives, the Dursleys. Everything changes, however, when an untidy stranger turns up on his doorstep. His name is Hagrid and he happens to be the keeper

of keys at Hogwart's School for magicians. So begins Harry's education at the school and the 3) difficult task of both learning magic and fighting evil. Under the tutelage of the kindly but 4) clever Professor Dumbledore and with the help of his two faithful friends, Ron and Hermione, Harry achieves his goal. Daniel Radcliffe (as Harry) and his co-stars give 5) perfect performances in this refreshing new film in which there's never a 6) boring moment.



4. Decide whether the following adjective-noun combinations are possible or not. If you think that the combination is possible, tick the box that follows it. If not, correct it replacing the noun with an appropriate one. Then use the correct combinations in sentences.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 a gruelling shirt | ☐ |
| 2 a staunch enemy | ☐ |
| 3 a flawless performance | ☐ |
| 4 a scruffy pair of jeans | ☐ |
| 5 a crafty plan | ☐ |
| 6 a shrewd businessman | ☐ |
| 7 strenuous exercise | ☐ |
| 8 a tedious room | ☐ |
| 9 an atrocious driver | ☐ |
| 10 an astute look | ☐ |
| 11 an arduous journey | ☐ |
| 12 impeccable taste | ☐ |
| 13 mainstream politics | ☐ |
| 14 a mundane job | ☐ |
| 15 a dreary journey | ☐ |