

Wordbuilding collocations

► WORDBUILDING adjective and noun collocations

A collocation is a pair or group of words that we often use together. A lot of adjectives collocate with nouns:

large + city, ancient + language

- 1 Match these nouns with the group of adjectives (1–8) that form collocations.

café city friends hotel
language park transport work

- 1 first / foreign / official _____
- 2 five-star / comfortable / friendly _____
- 3 local / small / beautiful _____
- 4 polluted / noisy / crowded _____
- 5 expensive / popular / busy _____
- 6 good / close / old _____
- 7 public / private / air _____
- 8 full-time / office / hard _____

- 2 Complete these sentences with words from Exercise 1.

- 1 English is my _____ language.
All my family is from the UK.
- 2 This is a _____ hotel. A family owns it and everyone says 'Hello'.
- 3 My _____ park is about two minutes away. I often go there to relax at lunchtime.
- 4 The centre of my city is _____ on Saturdays because lots of people go shopping there.
- 5 This is a _____ café because it's near the university. Lots of students come here for coffee.
- 6 I was at school with Martin about 30 years ago, so he's an _____ friend.
- 7 The _____ transport system is very good in this city. There are lots of trains and buses.
- 8 I only work ten hours a week. I want a _____ job so I can have more money.