



Riddles for Adults



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1 I have cities but no houses, forests but no trees, and rivers but no water. What am I?

ANSWER _____

2 I can fill a room completely, yet I take up no space at all. What am I?

ANSWER _____

3 Feed me and I grow. Give me a drink and I die. What am I?

ANSWER _____

4 It belongs to you, but other people use it far more often than you do. What is it?

ANSWER _____

5 I run but never walk. I have a mouth but never speak, and a bed but never sleep. What am I?

ANSWER _____

6 I have one head, one foot and four legs, and you spend about a third of your life with me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

7 If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you no longer have me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

8 I have branches, but no fruit, no trunk and no leaves. What am I?

ANSWER _____

9 What word holds all 26 letters but has only three syllables?

ANSWER _____

10 I answer you in your own voice, but only in mountains, caves and empty halls. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11 I'm taken from a mine and shut up in a wooden case that I never leave, yet almost everyone has used me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

12 I turn once, and what is out can't get in. I turn again, and what is in can't get out. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13 What can you see in the middle of March and April that you can't see at the beginning or end of either month?

ANSWER _____

14 What is the longest word in the English language?

ANSWER _____

15 Name a common household word that contains two U's in a row.

ANSWER _____

16 Rearrange the letters of NEW DOOR to make one word.

ANSWER _____

17 I'm a word of three letters. Add two more, and there will be fewer of me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

18 You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?

ANSWER _____

19 What can you keep after you give it to someone?

ANSWER _____

20 What breaks but never falls, and what falls but never breaks?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★ ★

21 A man walks into a café and asks for a glass of water. The server pulls out a party horn and blows it loudly right behind his ear. The man smiles, says "Thank you," and leaves without drinking anything. Why?

ANSWER _____

22 Romeo and Juliet are found lying still on the floor in a puddle of water, surrounded by broken glass. The cat is sitting nearby, looking pleased. Nobody is ever charged with a crime. What happened?

ANSWER _____

23 On a game show, a car is behind one of three doors and goats are behind the other two. You pick door 1. The host, who knows where the car is, opens door 3 to show a goat and asks if you want to switch to door 2. Should you?

ANSWER _____

24 How many people need to be in a room for there to be a better than 50% chance that two of them share a birthday?

ANSWER _____

25 How many times a day do the hour and minute hands of a clock form a right angle?

ANSWER _____

26 If $1 = 5$, $2 = 25$, $3 = 125$ and $4 = 625$, then $5 = ?$

ANSWER _____

27 Four cards lie on a table, each with a letter on one side and a number on the other. You see A, K, 4 and 7. Rule: "If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other." Which cards must you turn over to check the rule?

ANSWER _____

28 In the US, I have two coins that add up to 30 cents, and one of them is not a nickel. What are the two coins?

ANSWER _____

29 I start every ending and finish every lifetime, and I'm the most common letter in English. What am I?

ANSWER _____

30 A collector is offered an ancient coin stamped with the date "50 B.C." He calls the police straight away. Why?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Riddles for Adults · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. A map
2. Light
3. Fire
4. Your name
5. A river
6. A bed
7. A secret
8. A bank
9. Alphabet
10. An echo
11. Pencil lead. It's graphite, dug from the ground and sealed inside wood.
12. A key
13. The letter R (it's in the middle of "March" and "April").
14. Smiles. There's a "mile" between the first and last letters.
15. Vacuum
16. ONE WORD. The letters of "new door" rearrange to spell "one word."
17. Few. Add "er" and it becomes "fewer."
18. Corn on the cob. You throw away the husk, cook the cob, eat the kernels and throw away the cob.
19. Your word
20. Day and night. Day breaks, and night falls.
21. He had hiccups. The water was meant to cure them, and the sudden fright worked instead.
22. They're goldfish. The cat knocked their bowl off the table.
23. Yes, switch. Your first pick wins 1 time in 3. The host always shows a goat, so the other 2 chances in 3 move to the remaining closed door.
24. 23. With 23 people there are 253 possible pairs, and the chance of at least one shared birthday is about 50.7%.
25. 44. In 12 hours the minute hand gains 11 laps on the hour hand, and it makes a right angle twice per lap, so 22 times. Over 24 hours, that's 44.
26. 1. The first line says $1 = 5$, so $5 = 1$.
27. The A and the 7. The A must have an even number on the back. The 7 must not have a vowel on the back. K and 4 can't break the rule whatever is on their other side.
28. A quarter and a nickel. The quarter is the one that isn't a nickel.
29. The letter E
30. It's a fake. Nobody living in 50 B.C. could know that the years would later be counted "before Christ."

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/riddles-for-adults/, where you can also play them as a game.