**PETS**

**Vocabulary:**

**1.allergic to:**  The sound a cat makes.
**2.bark:** A strap around an animal’s neck that is used to attach a lead.
**3.breed:** The sound a dog makes.
**4.collar:** To use a hand to play with an animal’s fur.

**5.feathers:** The long strong hairs growing from an animal’s cheeks.
**6.fetch:** A reaction to something that often includes sneezing.

**7.kennel:** The specific type of animal.

**8.lead / leash:** The rope or other material used to stop an animal running away, normally a dog
**9.meow:** The covering of a bird’s body.
**10. muzzle:** A game to play with a dog where the person throws something and the dog brings it back.
**11.stroke(Br)/pet (US)** A small house for a dog.
**12.wag:** a nose and a mouth of an animal or a covering to put over it against biting

**13.whiskers:**  To move a tail from side to side.

Do you have, or have you ever had, any pets? What are/were they? What are/were they like? How do/did you take care of them? If not, why not?

Why do you think people keep pets?

Do you like visiting pet shops?

How can pets help people? Mentally and physically? Give examples.

Have you ever had any negative experience with a pet or animals in general?

Think of the positive and negative aspects of owning the following pets: *a parrot, a goldfish, a rabbit, a large non-poisonous snake, a small poisonous snake, a large exotic spider, or a white rat.*

Do you think that dogs should usually sleep inside or outside?

Would you have a pet if you lived in a small flat?

What do you think of the idea of virtual pets, like Tamagotchi?

Should all dogs have to wear muzzles? At all times? Why/why not?

Should people be legally obliged to clean up their dog's mess in the street? Are they?

What should be done if somebody is attacked by a dog? Should the dog be killed? Should the owner be fined or sent to prison? Why/why not?

Some people say there are no dangerous dogs - only dangerous owners. What is your opinion?

Do dogs and their owners start to look like each other?

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Cats are better because…** | **Dogs are better because…** |
| Hunting |  |  |
| Obeying humans |  |  |
| Working |  |  |
| Recognising people |  |  |

**Reading 1:** A couple in England could lose their home because they want to live with their pets. Clive and Rose Restall live in their rented home in southwest England with their 21 pet guinea pigs. The owners of the house, Plymouth Community Homes (PCH), say the couple have too many pets in the house. PCH want Mr and Mrs Restall to get rid of the guinea pigs. A spokesperson from the PCH said the number of animals in the couple’s house is unacceptable. The spokesperson added that the number of pets is not allowed in the contract the couple signed to rent the house. The PCH warned Mr and Mrs Restall that they must move out of the house if they do not get rid of the guinea pigs.

Mr Restall, 57, said he needs his guinea pigs because they have helped him fight cancer. Doctors told him he had cancer in 2010. Soon after, he bought several guinea pigs to help take his mind off his cancer. He said his new pets made him happy again because they made him forget about his cancer. He told reporters that his guinea pigs are mystic – they have special powers to help people. He said the animals have even helped his neighbours with personal problems. Mr Restall spoke about his pets, saying: "They've helped me through my cancer. They've helped me cope." He added: "The local community love them just as much as I do. I sometimes loan them out to people if they need someone to talk to."

**Reading 3:** We are already a nation of dog lovers. However the UK’s love for their pets is evolving into obsession as they are becoming more than family pets but one of the latest fashion accessories. The recent trend, mainly in female celebrities, is to take your dog with you everywhere in your handbag whether you are going shopping or out to dinner. Her Majesty the Queen is famous for her corgis but these days you are just as likely to see singers Geri Halliwell and Cheryl Tweedy travelling with their dogs.

High street shops like Next and Top Shop are making money out of the trend by selling items of dog clothing alongside their women’s collections. They are entering the ‘dog clothing’ market by making it easy to buy for your dog while buying for yourself. There is no need to shop online at one of the dedicated dog clothing websites or go to a specialist shop dog-fashion is now out in the open.

And people are not just pampering their pets with the latest clothes and accessories. More people are taking their pets away with them for holidays. UK hotels and holiday parks are catering for the animal lover by allowing people to holiday with them. If you are travelling abroad you could leave them at a doggie retreat or spa where they will be pampered.

**Rearrange the underlined words:** Everyone needs a pet. cool look an really to after It’s animal of some kind, or even a bird or insect. I’ve always had pets. When I grew up, we had three dogs, five cats, lots and tortoise a rabbits of. I lost count of the number of rabbits we had. important really are Pets kids for. Looking after pet the responsibility a teaches child. It’s cute the children with at way play looking their pets. much so have to seem always They fun. I wonder if pets like being pets. I think if I were a dog, it’d be a good life to be a pet. I get all my food given to me, I have somewhere warm dry get to to sleep run and and I and play lots. I suppose if you had a bad owner, that wouldn’t be good. One unusual day pet I like want a an tarantula or a scorpion.

**What do you think of the following statements?**

It’s cruel to keep dogs in flats.

Cats can’t be owned - they just tolerate people.

Dogs should be banned from city centres.

Dog owners who don’t clean up their animals’ excrement should be fined.

Cats can be ‘man’s best friend’.

Dogs that wear clothes look ridiculous!

Dangerous dogs shouldn’t be kept as pets.

**Translate:**

Chtěl bych si koupit psa, ale nemohl bych se o něj starat.

Ještě nikdy jsem se nedotkl hada.

Znáš někoho, kdo má neobvyklého domácího mazlíčka?

Bojím se zvířat, které mají více než čtyři nohy.

V naší zemi je čím dál tím více lidí, kteří mají nějaké domácí zvíře.

Psi do parku nesmějí.

Jak jsi vybral jméno pro svého psa?

Náš pes velmi často žvýkal maminčiny boty, což ji přivádělo k šílenství.

Nechápu, proč lidé potřebují mít doma nějaké zvíře.

Mohl bys pohlídat mou kočku, zatímco budu na dovolené?

Můj pes nesnáší náhubek ani obojek.

Sousedova fena pořád štěká. Nemůžu v noci spát.

Malí psi jsou někdy agresivnější než velcí.

Podle mého názoru, psi do bytu nepatří.