Choosing a family pet

Every child dreams of having a little puppy or a kitten. However, with today’s busy lifestyle, owning a pet is a commitment many parents are not willing to make.

If your family is ready for the responsibility of a four legged pet, cats are easier to train than dogs. Cats can be litter box trained as early as five weeks. If your cat will be a house cat, it’s a good idea to buy a scratch post to save your furniture.

For those families that are not “cat people”, dogs truly are man’s best friend. However, they initially require a lot of time and patience. If you wish to add a dog to your household, there are a number of factors to consider before making your final decision. If you choose a purebred, consider the temperament first. Every child who has seen “101 Dalmatians” falls in love with the breed; however, Dalmatians are very, very hyperactive and are actually not the best choice for a child’s pet. If size isn’t a major factor in your decision, Retrievers and Labradors make excellent family pets. They are easy to train and very good with children.

When buying a purebred, do not go to the pet shop round the corner. Your best option is to check your local paper as there are many people who breed dogs. Buying a purebred from its parent’s owner usually guarantees a healthier puppy. Going to your local animal shelter is also an excellent option.

scratch: arañar
purebred: de pura raza

QUESTIONS

1. Are the following sentences TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
   a. Most parents can give pets the care and time they need.
   b. It will take you more than two months to train your kitten to use its litter box.

2. In your own words and based on the ideas in the text answer the following questions. Be careful with the grammar. (Puntuación máxima: 6 puntos)
   a. What aspects do you have to bear in mind if you want to buy a dog? Why?
   b. According to the text, where can you get the right dog for you?

3. Grammar. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
   a. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets:
      If I ......................... (have) to choose a pet, I ................. (choose) a hamster.
   b. Reorder the following sentence:
      / on / attention / pets / daily / depend / for / people /