

## Paragraph #1

Dogs are domesticated animals that have been living with humans for generations. Dogs can be classified in a number of different ways. For example, they can be classified by breed. Examples of different breeds include beagles, basset hounds, poodles and countless others as defined by the American Kennel Club (AKC). They can also be classified by their role in the lives of their masters and the work they do. To illustrate this, a dog might be a family pet, a working dog, a show dog, or a hunting dog. In many cases, dogs are defined both by their breed and their roll. For instance, a dog could be a beagle that is a family pet.

## Paragraph #2

If your family is having trouble choosing between a cat or a dog, ask yourselves these questions to solve the problem. How much time can you dedicate to the pet? Dogs require more time than cats, and don't like to be left home alone, that factor should help narrow things down. If that solution doesn't work, consider this; how much can you afford to spend? Dogs are usually more expensive than cats. As a last alternative, ask yourself what temperament of pet you would prefer. Dogs are typically more affectionate and needy than most independent cats. These questions should help your family resolve their debate.

### Paragraph #3

The dogs of today (*Canis lupus*), based on genetic evidence, came from a now-extinct wolf-like animal. This happened in Western Europe 11 to 16 thousand years ago. This was before farming, so we believe dogs helped hunter-gatherers. The cause for them to stick around was the waste from human villages. Hunters would leave carcasses behind and wolves ate them. The effect was that humans let them stick around because they helped us track and capture prey, and defended us from larger predators like bears. So that is why the wolf-dog became man's best friend.

## Paragraph #4

Cats and dogs are the two most popular pets in the world. Both of these popular pets will show affection towards their owners. Similarly, they both can be trained to not "go" on the carpet. On the other hand cats are more independent and are generally cheaper and less demanding pets. However dogs are loyal and obedient but require more attention and exercise, including regular walks. Both of these popular pets will show affection towards their owners.

## Paragraph #5

Many people are surprised that cat's are considered only half-domesticated. Why are they only considered half-domesticated? The answer is because domestic cats are still natural hunters. Unlike many domestic dogs, they are still able to stalk prey and pounce with sharp claws and teeth. They are particularly effective at night, when their light-reflecting eyes allow them to see better than their victims. Domestic cats are still carnivorous, and have evolved a simple gut appropriate for raw meat. They also retain the rough tongue that can help them clean every last morsel from an animal bone. It could be that cats diets vary with the whims of humans, but cat's still enjoy their own hunting successes.

## Paragraph #6

When choosing a cat, first consider whether you want to get a purebred cat from a breeder, or rescue a cat from an animal shelter. Second, decide whether you will get a kitten or a grown cat. You can train a kitten to be live indoors or outdoors. Finally choose the breed of cat based on the personality you hope for. Different breeds have different temperaments, but they vary less than dogs. For example, Siamese cats are intelligent and playful, but can be very noisy, while long-haired cats are laid back and short haired cats are usually affectionate and even-tempered. Lastly, individual cats also have different personalities, so interact with them before taking them home.