

**Topic: Pets**

**Let's get started...**

Do you have a pet? What kind of pet do you have? Have you ever had a pet?

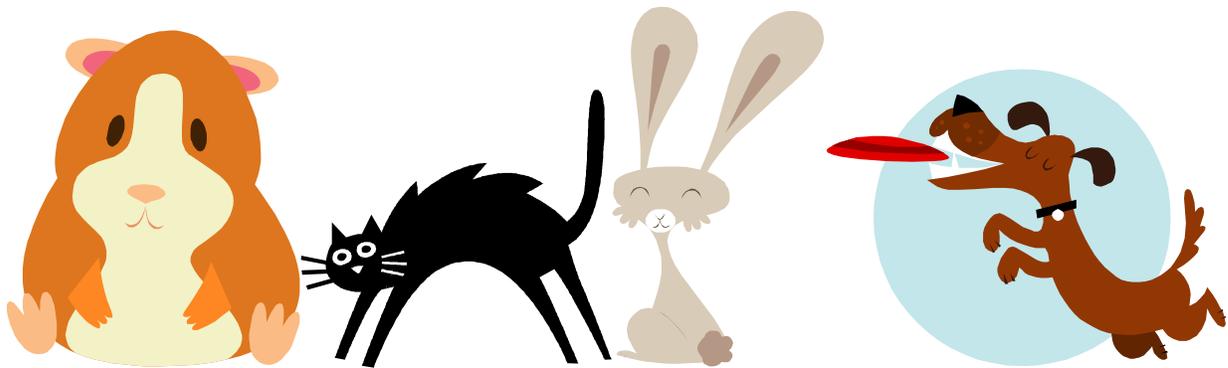
**Background:**

Millions of people have pets. People like pets because most pets are friendly, loyal, and good companions. The most common pets in America are dogs, cats, fish, hamsters, and birds. Some pets live inside, and some pets live outside. Some people love their pets so much that they treat them like human beings!



**In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:**

Do you like pets or animals? Why or why not?  
What is your favorite kind of pet? Why?  
What is your least favorite kind of pet? Why?  
Do you think pets are important for people? Why or why not?



**Share your partner's answers with the group.**

**Discussion Questions:**

Why do people have pets?

What are some positive aspects of having a pet?

What are some negative aspects of having a pet?

What kinds of pets are common in your native country?

Are there any restrictions on having pets in your native country?

Are any pets illegal in your native country? In America?

Do you think there should be restrictions on having pets in America? Why?

Which kind of animals do you prefer: pets or livestock? Why?

If you could have any pet, what kind of animal would you have? Why?

Do you think some people spend too much time with their pets?

Do you think pets should be treated like pets or like people? Why?

What kinds of pets provide useful services? (For example, Seeing Eye Dogs, Police Dogs)

Are you allergic to animals? Do you have any other allergies?

Do you think pets should be able to eat people food? Why or why not?

What do you think about putting a locator chip in a pet?

What do you think about Scoop laws? Do you think people follow these laws?

What is your favorite story, movie, or book about a pet?

Where can you get a pet? (For example, pet stores, breeders)

Would you rather buy a dog that was bred or a rescued dog?

Have you ever visited the veterinarian? What did you think?

Have you ever been to a pet store? What was the most interesting item in the store?

If your pet needed surgery, would you pay for it? How much would you pay?

Do you like going to the zoo? What animals do you like at the zoo?

Do you think dogs should be kept on a leash in public? Why?

What should you do if you want to take your pet from America to your native country?

In people abuse animals in your native country, what kind of punishment do they receive?

**New words and Idioms:**

Loyal, companion, restrictions, livestock, allergy, locator chip, Scoop laws, bred, rescued, veterinarian, surgery, leash, abuse, punishment