

TEXTO

BRIT'S BEST FRIEND

There are almost twenty-eight million households in the United Kingdom. Seven million of them are home to “man’s best friend”: the dog. Britain is a nation of dog lovers, with up to 14 per cent of owners saying they prefer their pet to their partner.

The dog, a.k.a *Canis familiaris*, was first domesticated around 10,000 BC. However, pet-keeping only became socially acceptable in Britain in the 18th century. One hundred years later, the Victorians began to emphasise the importance of home and domestic life, and that domesticity included pet dogs. Children kept pets to cultivate compromise and caring values.

In Britain today, dogs are more important than ever. Almost 25 per cent of owners have a social media profile for their pet, 85 per cent consider it to be a member of the family, and 33 per cent of dogs have their own chair in the living room. British people walk their dogs more than any other European nation, for up to three hours a day. Animal experts explain the British devotion to dog-walking as a useful aid to a socially-awkward nation- it helps people to socialise with strangers.

Man’s best friend has also been an important aid during the pandemic. Millions of people confined to home have turned to their pets for company. And thousands more are buying dogs every day. Puppy prices have doubled, sadly producing a new criminal activity. Gangs are stealing bitches and forcing them to breed, and then selling the puppies for enormous sums. Man and dog are both victims of Covid-19.

(Adapted from © Brit’s Best Friend, SPEAK UP by Conor Gleeson.)

Cuestiones

1. According to the text, are the statements below TRUE (T) or FALSE (F): Put a cross (X) in the right column. (0.4 puntos cada respuesta correcta. Total: 2 puntos)

	T	F
1.1 14 per cent of British people prefer their animal to their husband or wife	X	
1.2 Having a dog was socially acceptable in 17th Century		F
1.3 Almost 25 % of dogs have their own social media profile.	T	
1.4 Walking a dog helps people talk to other dog owners they haven’t met before.	T	
1.5 Buying a dog is now cheaper than it was before the pandemic.		F

2. Match the synonym of the words below with a word from the box: (0.4 puntos por palabra correcta. Total: 2 puntos)

AGREEMENT	TRAGICALLY	PURCHASING	HOMES	AID
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- 2.1. HOUSEHOLDS: **HOMES** (Paragraph 1)
 2.2. COMPROMISE: **AGREEMENT** (Paragraph 2)
 2.3. HELP: **AID** (Paragraph 3)
 2.4. BUYING: **PURCHASING** (Paragraph 4)
 2.5. SADLY: **TRAGICALLY** (Paragraph 4)

3. Complete the following sentences. use the appropriate form of the words in brackets when given. (0.2 PUNTOS POR ESPACIO CORRECTO. TOTAL: 2 PUNTOS)

3.1 Rottenburg, **where** (1) I live, has plenty of parks and gardens to walk dogs.

3.2 I **received** (2) (receive) an important phone call yesterday night.

3.3 Keeping a pet **helps** (3) (help) teenagers become much **more responsible**(4) (responsible).

3.4 **Can** you **feed** (5) (can/feed) the dog now? Put his food **on** (6) the plate, please.

3.5 Morgan **has studied** (7) (study) in the same school **since** (8) she came to England.

3.6 This is **the tastiest** (9) (tasty) cake I've ever tried! It's yummy!

3.7 I'm really excited about our next vacation, **but** (10) I'm worried about flying.

4. Complete the conversation below with the sentences from the box: (0.4 puntos por cada espacio correcto. Total: 2 puntos)

I'll give it a go	What other classes do they have?	I'm not good at art
How about coming with me?	I'm quite good at drawing	

KIM: I'm registering for a cooking lesson at the Youth Club.

MIA: That's great! 4.1. **What other classes do they have?**

KIM: There's lots of stuff on the website, like singing, art, drama...

MIA: Well, I think 4.2. **I'm quite good at drawing.** I'd like to try the art class.

KIM: Good idea.

MIA: 4.3. **How about coming with me?**

KIM: No way!

MIA: Why not? You'll enjoy it!

KIM: 4.4. **I'm not good at art** . I wouldn't mind doing something else together, though.

MIA: OK. What about drama?

KIM: Yeah, OK. 4.5. **I'll give it a go** .

5. Write a composition (70-90 words) giving your opinion about the following topic:

DESCRIBE YOUR IDEAL PET

What's your ideal pet? What do you like about it? How do you care about your pet?

Se valorará la organización y coherencia textual (0.5 puntos), la riqueza léxica (0.5 puntos), la riqueza gramatical (0.5 puntos) y la ortografía (0.5 puntos). Si la expresión escrita no se ajusta al tema, la puntuación será de 0 puntos. En el caso de que no llegue al mínimo número de palabras exigido (70 palabras) o se exceda del máximo (90 palabras), la puntuación máxima será de 1 punto.

My ideal pet is a dog. I love dogs because they are loyal, friendly, and fun to be around. They make great companions, always happy to see you and ready to play. I would enjoy taking my dog for walks every day and teaching it new tricks. To care for my pet, I would make sure it has enough food, water, and exercise. I would also take it to the vet regularly to keep it healthy. A dog would be the perfect friend for me!