

Section 1

#1: Introduction (First paragraph)

Strengths:

- Your opening grabs attention with a friendly question that readers can relate to
- You clearly state your main idea right away, making it easy to follow your argument

Informal tone inconsistency → Your writing mixes casual chat language with more formal essay structure. Phrases like "right?" and "but cats?" sound like you're talking to a friend, but then you use research and organised paragraphs like a formal essay. This makes readers unsure whether they're reading a friendly letter or a school argument. Pick one style and stick with it throughout your piece.

Exemplar: *Choosing the perfect pet can be challenging. However, I believe cats make better companions than dogs because they are independent, clever, and emotionally comforting.*

#2: Body paragraph about independence (Second paragraph)

Strengths:

- You include a personal story about Ginger that helps readers picture what you mean
- You support your point with a specific statistic (71%) which makes your argument stronger

Limited development of ideas → Your paragraph jumps quickly from one point to another without fully exploring each idea. You mention Ginger keeping you company and then immediately give a statistic, but you don't explain *why* independence matters or *how* it improves daily life with a pet. Readers need more details about what makes this quality special and how it affects the owner's experience.

Exemplar: *Ginger's independence meant I could focus on my conversation whilst she entertained herself nearby. This balance between companionship and freedom is particularly valuable for people with busy schedules who cannot constantly supervise an energetic pet.*

#3: Conclusion (Final paragraph)

Strengths:

- You remind readers of your three main points clearly
- You connect back to your personal experience, which ties the essay together nicely

Weak call to action → Your final question "why wouldn't you choose a cat?" doesn't give readers a strong reason to agree with you or take action. The question is too simple and doesn't leave readers thinking deeply about your argument. Your conclusion needs to make readers feel convinced, not just ask them an obvious question.

Exemplar: *Therefore, if you value a pet that offers affection without constant demands, a cat provides the perfect balance of companionship and independence that enriches daily life.*



Your piece presents a clear argument with good organisation and personal examples that make your points relatable. The structure works well with an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. However, your writing would benefit from deeper exploration of each idea. For instance, when you discuss cats being clever, you could explain what makes their problem-solving special compared to other pets, or how this cleverness creates unique bonds with owners.

Additionally, your paragraphs sometimes feel rushed—you mention an idea and immediately move to the next point without fully developing your thoughts. Try spending more time on each example. When you describe Ginger opening the cabinet, what did this moment teach you about cats? How did it change your view of them?

Also, consider your tone more carefully. Your piece switches between chatty questions and formal research, which can confuse readers. Choose whether you want a friendly, conversational style or a more formal, persuasive essay style, then maintain that throughout. Your evidence is good, but you could strengthen your argument by explaining *why* these statistics matter to potential pet owners. What does it mean for someone's daily life that 65% of cat owners feel less stressed? Paint that picture for your readers so they can imagine themselves experiencing these benefits.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

~~Choosing the perfect pet can be tricky, right? But honestly, I think cats are better than dogs.~~ [Choosing the perfect pet presents several challenges. However, I believe cats make superior companions to dogs.] Dogs can be loud, needy, and full of energy, but cats? Cats are independent, clever, and emotionally comforting. From my own experience, they bring a quiet kind of happiness that lasts all day. ~~Here's why I think cats make the best pets.~~ [The following evidence demonstrates why cats make exceptional pets.] #1

First, cats are independent. Isn't it nice to have a pet that doesn't constantly need your attention? Last summer, I visited a friend, and her cat Ginger kept me company without being clingy. She curled up beside me ~~while~~ [whilst] I read or chatted, and I felt calm just having her there. Actually, studies show that 71% of cat owners say their cats are easier to take care of than dogs. Unlike dogs, cats are happy to relax on their own, which is perfect for busy people—or anyone who just wants some peace and quiet. #2

Cats are also clever. Have you ever seen a cat do something and just thought, "Wow, how did they do that?" Ginger once opened a cabinet just to get her toys, which completely amazed me. Research shows that cats are excellent problem-solvers and can learn by watching, which makes them endlessly interesting and fun to be around.

Finally, cats are emotionally comforting. Can just a few minutes with a furry friend really make you feel calmer? I know it does for me. During a stressful week at school, petting Ginger for a few minutes helped me feel relaxed and happy. Studies even show that 65% of cat owners feel less stressed when spending time with their cats. Unlike dogs, who show love loudly, cats give quiet comfort—and sometimes that's exactly what you need. #3

In conclusion, cats are independent, clever, and emotionally comforting. My experiences with Ginger, along with research, show how amazing cats are. So if you want a pet that loves you without always needing attention, why wouldn't you choose a cat?