

Section 1

#1: Introduction (First paragraph)

Strengths:

- Your opening successfully introduces the cats versus dogs debate, which is a topic your readers will recognise
- You clearly state your position that cats are better, which helps readers know what to expect

Unnecessary repetition → Your introduction mentions that cats are superior twice in similar ways. The phrase "cats are on the upper hand, compared to dogs" and then immediately saying "cats...are superior to dogs" tells readers the same thing. This makes your introduction feel longer than it needs to be. Instead, you could state your main point once clearly, then move straight to explaining why.

Try combining these ideas: *"When looking at the unique qualities of both animals, cats stand out as the better choice for most people because of their independence, low maintenance needs and calming presence."*

#2: Independence paragraph (Second paragraph)

Strengths:

- You include a specific statistic (79% of cat owners) which adds support to your point
- Your topic sentence clearly introduces the main idea about cats' independence

Vague connection between ideas → You mention that cats can spend time alone and then jump to saying this helps them "thrive in a diverse variety of living environments," but you don't explain how these two things connect. Why does being independent mean they work in different homes? What types of homes are you thinking about? Your readers need you to show them this connection more clearly.

Consider explaining: *"This independence means cats can live happily in small flats where owners work long hours, or in larger homes with busy families, without becoming lonely or stressed."*

#3: Low maintenance paragraph (Third paragraph)

Strengths:

- You make a clear comparison between cats and dogs, which helps prove your point
- You provide another specific detail about interaction time (15-20 minutes)

Missing explanation of why this matters → You tell readers that cats need less time and attention than dogs, but you don't explain why this is actually good for pet owners. Yes, cats need less maintenance, but so what? Your readers need to understand how this benefits them in their daily lives.

Think about adding: *"This makes cats ideal for people who work full-time jobs or have busy schedules, as they can provide companionship without demanding hours of care each day."*

■ Your piece presents a clear argument for cats over dogs, and you've included some helpful statistics to support your points. However, your writing would become much stronger if you explained your ideas more fully. Right now, you're telling readers facts (cats are independent, cats need less time, cats are calming) but not always showing them why these facts should matter to someone choosing a pet. Think about your reader asking "So what?" after each point you make—then answer that question. Additionally, your paragraphs would flow better if you connected your ideas more smoothly. For example, in your independence paragraph, explain exactly how independence helps cats fit into different homes. In your maintenance paragraph, describe what busy pet owners could do with the extra time they save. Your calming presence paragraph also needs more development—one study from 2008 isn't quite enough, and you could describe what the calming feeling is actually like. Also, watch out for small grammar errors like "can be have" and "are shown to reduce" which make sentences confusing. Finally, your conclusion feels a bit rushed. Instead of just restating your points, you could leave readers with a final thought about why these qualities make cats special companions.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Dogs or cats? That question has been asked countless times in the last few years and many people have concluded that one is better than the other depending on needs and lifestyle. However, when looking at the unique qualities of both animals, it is clear that cats ~~are on the upper hand, compared to~~ **have the upper hand when compared** to dogs. #1 Cats, with their independent ~~personality~~ **personalities**, low maintenance requirements and calming presence are superior to dogs. ~~While dogs can bring energy and affection to someone, it is the calming nature of cats that attract many people.~~ **Whilst dogs can bring energy and affection, it is the calming nature of cats that attracts many people.**

#2 One of the most ~~recognised~~ **recognisable** qualities of cats ~~are~~ **is** their independence. Unlike dogs who require constant attention, cats are willing to spend time on their own. A study conducted by the Australian ~~Board~~ **Bureau** of Statistics has shown that 79% of cat owners have reported that their cats are happy to spend time by themselves, whereas only 24% of dog owners have reported the same. This characteristic allows cats to thrive in a diverse variety of living environments without requiring too much from owners.

#3 Cats are generally much ~~less maintenance~~ **lower maintenance** than dogs. Dogs require daily walks, constant supervision when outdoors and need a lot of time and attention to feel content. In contrast, cats are more capable ~~to~~ **of entertaining** themselves without constant monitoring and attention. Studies have also proved that on average, a cat only needs 15-20 minutes of human interaction per day, making cats a perfect companion for most households.

One of the most overlooked ~~factor~~ **factors** of cats ~~are~~ **is** their calming presence. The gentle purring of a cat ~~from far away can be~~ **can have** a soothing effect, reducing stress from work. Many cat owners have also mentioned that patting a cat ~~to be~~ **is** calming and relaxing. A study from 2008 has shown that cats ~~are shown to~~ **can** reduce stress ~~from~~ **in** patients with anxiety.

It is clear that ~~that~~ cats ~~are on~~ **have** the upper hand when compared to dogs. They are independent, low maintenance and soothing to their owners, unlike dogs who can bring more stress. The next time someone asks you cats or dogs, think carefully **and** pick cats.