

Dear perfect parents,

Why should I have a puppy? What makes me think I can look after one? I know we've had this conversation before and I agree with you that I wasn't really ready before. However, I have matured quite a bit. Not only that, but I think there are many reasons why I should be allowed to have a dog.

Did you know that having a loving dog would teach and encourage me to be responsible for something? The most obvious responsibility is that the growing puppy would need to be cared for. Pets need to be fed, they need regular exercise and close companionship. I can do all of these now - you know how I love to run. I can take him with me. And yes, I know that I will also have to take care of when he makes a mess (I have rubber gloves and I am prepared for that too!)

I know you feel a bit guilty because you are so busy and that you feel you neglect my needs, so a dog would help ease this burden. Surely, you would be happy that I am having fun and not just sitting around the house, bored and inactive on my PlayStation.

Are you aware that recent studies have shown that having a dog will actually improve the well-being of all family members? In Sweden, work has shown that young children who live with dogs are 50% less likely to develop allergies, asthma and eczema. I could go on and on (but I know that will annoy you), so here is a short list of other reasons why a dog would be good for all of us.

- It provides fun & laughter at the end of a hard day - a dog will always be pleased to see you!
- We can practise our reading to the dog, when you are too busy.
- The house will be protected, as we will have a guard dog.
- If we got one from the shelter, you would be doing something good for society.

You may still not be entirely certain, but let me assure you that I am more mature now. The fact is I am most definitely ready for this responsibility and I would like you to acknowledge this by adding a dog to our family.

Yours most appreciatively,

Eager Ed

## READING COMPREHENSION



What are the main facts presented in this letter?

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How does the letter start? What is the purpose of the start of the letter?

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How does the letter end? What is the purpose of the end of the letter?

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What relationship does the writer have with the people they are writing to (addressees)? State 3 pieces of evidence that supports this.

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Do you think the writer will be allowed a dog? Give reasons to support your answer.

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What do you think the 3 most persuasive phrases used in the letter are? Give reasons for your thoughts.

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