

Cat cafes

Name _____ Date _____



Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-37199653>

Are cat cafes good for cats?

Black and white Lizzie hops on to the apparatus, walking with long elegant strokes as the wheel spins around. After a minute she hops off for a head rub and a back scratch from Mona before getting back on again. A gaggle of delighted customers gather and coo at the performance.

Mona heads upstairs to place a food order and Lizzie immediately loses interest in the wheel. As she walks past, I put out my hand for her to sniff. She ignores it. She arches her back to avoid a stroke. I can't blame her; I'm one of dozens of strangers who will want to pet her today.

The craze for cat cafes began in Taiwan in 1998 and then spread to Japan and beyond.

I'm visiting Lady Dinah's Cat Cafe in London. As this was the first cat cafe in Britain, it took a while to find premises and to persuade the local council to agree to the idea. The cafe was an immediate success with customers and it is still fully booked most days.

Animal charities are struggling with the number of homeless cats. According to the RSPCA its shelters are "full to capacity". The charity blames irresponsible cat owners, who allow their pets to breed unchecked. One female can produce 18 kittens a year. The number of stray cats in the UK is estimated at nine million, exceeding the 7.4 million kept as pets.

Nicky Trevorrow of Cats Protection is not convinced about the Kitty Cafe idea. "I think some rehoming centres do need to improve their facilities but I don't think cat cafes are the answer," she says. "They don't meet the needs of cats."

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Main points and detail

- 1) Who gives Lizzie a head rub and back scratch?

L1.9R. 1 mark

- 2) Where did the craze for cat cafes first originate?

E3.9R. 1 mark

- 3) Give two reasons why it took some time to set up the first UK cat cafe.

L1.9R. 2 marks

- 4) Who does the RSPCA blame for the number of homeless cats?

L1.9R. 1 mark

- 5) In the UK, which is the larger number?

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| The number of stray cats | <input type="checkbox"/> | The number of pet cats | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|

Tick one answer. L1.9R. 1 mark

- 6) Which organisation does Nicky Trevorrow work for?

E3.9R. 1 mark

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Words and language

- 7) Use a dictionary to find out the meanings of the words below.

coo _____

apparatus _____

E3.11R. 2 marks

- 8) You may use a dictionary to answer this question.

- a) 'A gaggle of delighted customers'

Give one word or phrase to replace 'gaggle' that keeps the meaning of the quotation the same.

L1.13R. 1 mark

- 9) Paragraph 4 uses language features to explain the problem of homeless cats.
Which **two** of these language features are used?

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| a | direct address | |
| b | statistics | |
| c | quotation | |
| d | rule of three | |

L1.12R. 2 marks

- 10) The text includes both facts and opinions. Quote **one** fact and **one** opinion.

Fact: _____

Opinion: _____

L1.11R. 2 marks

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Punctuation

- 11) Explain why RSPCA is written in block capitals.

L1.18R. 1 mark

- 12) There are two apostrophes in this sentence:

I'm visiting Lady Dinah's Cat Cafe in London.

Explain the purpose of each apostrophe by completing the sentences below.

The apostrophe in I'm _____

The apostrophe in Dinah's _____

L1.18R. 2 marks

Purpose

- 13) The main purpose of the text is to:

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| a | discuss whether cat cafes are a good idea. | |
| b | raise money for the RSPCA. | |
| c | describe the equipment used in cat cafes. | |
| d | persuade you to set up a cat cafe. | |

Tick one answer. E3.10R. 1 mark

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Writing Task

Have you ever owned a cat or another animal? Would you like to own a pet?

Write about your thoughts on becoming a pet owner.

You may wish to consider:

- The type of animal owned.
- The disadvantages of owning a pet.
- The important things to remember when becoming a pet owner.

Write 8-10 sentences. At least 3 must be compound or complex sentences that use conjunctions. Use at least 2 paragraphs. Check your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

(16 marks – 6 for SPaG, 10 for composition)
