

**Owning a pet in the UK - Resource B**
**Cut up ✂**

<p><b>Pete bought his girlfriend, Sally, a kitten for Christmas. Sally does not have very much money and is not registered with a vet.</b></p> <p><b>Why does Sally need to register with a vet?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>So that the kitten can have its injections to protect it from disease; the cat will need an operation to stop it having kittens; if the cat is ill, it will need treatment.</i></p>	<p><b>Shammi works long hours and is away from her home for more than 10 hours every day. When she gets home, she is always very tired and goes straight to bed. She would really like to get a dog.</b></p> <p><b>Is getting a dog a good idea? Why?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>No, because she doesn't have time to walk it and it would be lonely.</i></p>
<p><b>Sophie lives in a flat in the city centre. She doesn't have a garden and she lives on the top floor. She would like to buy a kitten for her little girl, who is 5 years old.</b></p> <p><b>What should she do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>She shouldn't buy a kitten because cats need outside space; perhaps she could buy a smaller animal, such as a hamster or gerbil.</i></p>	<p><b>Andy wants a tortoise. Tortoises are exotic pets and are normally very expensive. Andy has seen an advert on the internet for cheap tortoises, but he doesn't know where the tortoises came from.</b></p> <p><b>What should he do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>He shouldn't buy an exotic pet online, unless the sellers can show they are licensed breeders; he may also need a licence as tortoises are exotic pets.</i></p>
<p><b>John's next-door neighbour owns many birds. In one cage, there is a parrot which does not have enough room to spread its wings.</b></p> <p><b>What should John do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>Phone the RSPCA and report the situation.</i></p>	<p><b>Sally wants to buy her friend a puppy for Christmas. She knows her friend will be moving to America in a few years, but she loves animals and wants to give her a nice surprise.</b></p> <p><b>What should Sally do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>Sally shouldn't buy her friend a dog as it may be difficult and expensive to take it abroad; perhaps she could choose a different pet with a shorter life expectancy.</i></p>
<p><b>Alice bought her daughter, Suzie, a cat. Unfortunately, Suzie is allergic to the cat so they can't keep it any longer. Alice doesn't know anyone who she can give the cat to, but she wants it to go to a good home.</b></p> <p><b>What should Alice do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>Alice should contact the RSPCA, who will be able to re-home her pet.</i></p>	<p><b>Ahmed saw some children from his road being cruel to their dog. They were hitting it and throwing things at it.</b></p> <p><b>What should he do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>Report the incident to the RSPCA.</i></p>
<p><b>While he was driving to work, John ran over a dog with his car. The dog is ok, but it has no collar and it is very frightened.</b></p> <p><b>What should John do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>Contact the RSPCA and ask for advice; contact your local police station and they will be able to advise you.</i></p>	<p><b>Amina has a very low paid job. She really wants to buy a pet, but she has hardly any money at all.</b></p> <p><b>What should she do?</b></p> <p>Suggested answer: <i>She could buy an animal which is not expensive to keep, such as a gerbil or a hamster.</i></p>