



**Sample Paper: P000294**

NCFE Functional Skills Qualification in English at Level 1 – Reading  
(501/1660/5)

Time Allowed 1 HOUR

You may use a dictionary during this assessment.

Read the scenario and each document carefully.

Read each question carefully before answering.

**Marks are given for evidence of accurate reading only. No marks are allocated for spelling, punctuation and grammar.**

At the end of the assessment hand all documents over to the invigilator as instructed.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE OVER UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

For Examiner use only:	Reading		
Activity	1	2	Total marks
Marks awarded			
<b>Marks available</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>

SAMPLE

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## Owning a dog



### Scenario

You're thinking about getting a dog. You know that it's a big responsibility, so you want to understand the advantages and disadvantages of owning a dog.

**Read the documents and answer the questions that follow.**

## Owning a dog: the benefits

Dogs can improve your life and rarely ask for anything in return. Of course they do need care and feeding. This eats into your spare time and your budget. But if you have the energy, time and funds to care for a dog, then you might want to think about getting one.



The advantages are that dogs:

- are loyal friends
- always greet you with a wagging tail
- are pleased to see you when you return from work or a trip out
- are good listeners; you can talk to them!
- are a good way to make friends when you take them out for a walk or go to training classes
- help keep your home safe. Burglars are put off by barking.

Come rain or shine, your dog needs a walk. This has huge health benefits. It's good for the dog and good for you!

Research into other health benefits shows:

- patting a dog can lower blood pressure
- dog owners get well faster from illness
- dog owners have a higher survival rate after a heart attack
- owning a dog can help if you are on your own and feel fed up
- playing with a dog can make you feel good and calm.

Also, in my view, if you own a dog and you have children, it can teach them to be responsible. They can get involved in taking it for daily walks, feeding it and taking it to training.

If you like the sound of all of this and you have the time, budget and commitment to own a dog, then why not get one? The hard part will be to choose what kind. Will you have a rescue dog? Or do you have a favourite breed?

And last of all, you should remember the slogan: "A dog is for life, not just for Christmas". Sadly many thousands of dogs are given as presents each year and then cast off as soon as the novelty and reality of caring for them wears off.

**Questions relating to Document 1.**

1. You would find this document **most** useful if you wanted information about the:
- A. disadvantages of owning a dog
  - B. legal requirements of owning a dog
  - C. advantages and disadvantages of owning a dog
  - D. advantages of owning a dog.

**Please circle your answer**

1 mark

2. If you decide to buy a dog what does the writer think you might find the most difficult thing to do?

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..... 1 mark

3. According to Document 1, what is the first thing your dog does when you get home?

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..... 1 mark

4. According to the writer of Document 1, name **two** things that you need to have if you want to get a dog.

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..... 2 marks

5. Mario has had a heart operation. Give **two** reasons why owning a dog would be good for him.

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.....  
..... 2 marks

6. According to Document 1, describe **two** situations when having a dog might help you meet new people.

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.....  
..... 2 marks

7. According to Document 1, what is it that a dog needs every day that is also good for the owner?

.....  
..... 1 mark

8. If you live alone what are **two** of the benefits of owning a dog?

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.....  
.....  
..... 2 marks

9. In your own words, describe why the writer of Document 1 thinks that owning a dog would be a good idea if you have children.

.....  
..... 1 mark

10. Using the information given, and in your own words, explain what the slogan, "A dog is for life, not just for Christmas", means.

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..... 2 marks

**Total marks available: 15**

SAMPLE

# I've got a dog\_blog



## The Story So Far by Ella Jenkins

<b>Day 1</b>	Very excited. Today is the day I collect my two year old dog from the dog rescue centre. Took him for his first walk. He didn't seem to like walking, snapped at other dogs and pulled hard on the lead. Called him Baxter.
<b>Day 2</b>	Feel terrible. Didn't sleep last night. Baxter cried all night! Still had to get up early and take him for a walk. Will I really have to do this every day?
<b>Day 3</b>	Pouring with rain today. Still had to take him for a walk!! Then I had to clean all the muddy paw prints off my floor.
<b>Day 4</b>	Oh no, when I got up this morning I found he had chewed one of my new shoes!
<b>Day 5</b>	Ran out of dog food today. Didn't realise it was going to cost so much to feed him. AND, I have to take him to the vet this week to be wormed. More money!
<b>Day 6</b>	Let him off the lead in the park today and couldn't get him to come back. He just kept running away and growling at other dogs.
<b>Day 7</b>	Not a good week. Feel fed up. Didn't realise it was going to be so difficult and expensive to have a dog. Am I the right kind of person to own a dog? Perhaps I should give him back to the rescue centre.
<b>Day 8</b>	Decided not to give up so easily. Baxter is very cute and good company. So wrote down some questions and rang the rescue centre for a chat. They recommended getting a cage for Baxter to sleep in to give him a place of his own and to help him feel secure. They also suggested a good local dog training class to get him used to other dogs.
<b>Day 9</b>	Sat down and worked out a budget for Baxter's food. Found an excellent discount place where I can buy in bulk. Also taking out some pet insurance. Then if he needs to visit the vet, the bill won't be such a shock.
<b>Day 10</b>	First day at the training class. I was proud of Baxter. He behaved himself on the lead. He also started to be nicer around other dogs. Feel more confident now that I can keep him and look after him properly. Met some nice people there too.



**Questions relating to Document 2.**

**11.** Identify **one** thing that is implied by Ella's blog.

- A. She should keep Baxter on the lead until he is trained.
- B. She enjoyed taking Baxter for walks in the rain.
- C. She can safely leave shoes lying around near Baxter.
- D. She found it easy to look after Baxter in the first week.

**Please circle your answer**

1 mark

**12.** Identify **two** feelings Ella has towards owning Baxter.

.....  
..... 1 mark

**13.** When did ownership of Baxter help Ella meet new people?

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..... 1 mark

**14.** Give **two** things that Ella discovered about keeping a dog that she hadn't realised before.

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..... 2 marks

**15.** Why do you think it was a good idea for Ella to put Baxter in a cage at night?

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..... 1 mark

16. Ella's parents have a dog. Give **one** reason why it would not be a good idea for her to take Baxter to visit them before he started training classes.

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..... 1 mark

17. Find **two** things in Document 2 that show that Ella's attitude towards owning a dog was changing.

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..... 2 marks

18. What **two** things did the rescue centre suggest Ella should do to deal with the problems she was having with Baxter?

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..... 2 marks

19. In Document 2, identify **one** thing which was affecting Ella's budget in relation to having a dog? What did she do about it?

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..... 2 marks

**20.** Which of the two documents would be most useful to you if you were considering getting a dog? Give your reasons.

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..... 2 marks

**Total marks available: 15**

**End of assessment**

SAMPLE