

Please find below an example of a band 5 response from a Year 7 student. The response has been copied exactly as written.

7th June 2021

Dear Editor,

I am writing to give my views on the statement that people become too attached to pets. I disagree. Animals can be useful but spoiling them is necessary. A happy pet makes a happy home.

Pets offer friendship. Lance, my Jack Russell, has given me and my family years of laughter and happiness. He is always there to give me a smile at the end of a long day and has been the glue that holds our family together. Just ask my sister! Without Lance to entertain us then our bond wouldn't be so strong. Our attachment to Lance is what keeps us all going. This attachment has also taught me about responsibility. Caring for another creature has taught me to be more compassionate.

I agree that pets can be useful. My grandmother recently lost her eyesight and is now using a guide dog. This has been life-changing for her. Additionally, my younger brother worries when he is in crowded places and the doctors recommended a dog to help with his needs. Lance has been brilliant and has worked wonders for my brother's confidence. I believe that these pets are only useful because they love their owners and if they weren't happy and spoiled, would they really bring so much to our families?

Finally, I would like to say that animals would become sad if not treated kindly. Would this not be a form of cruelty? They often say that a dog is for life, not just for Christmas.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Yours sincerely,

Max Hart

- Clear understanding of the task/question
- Ideas are well controlled
- Accurate and ambitious
- The writer has clearly structured their ideas across the response

9 + 4 = 13 marks