



1. Read the text and mark the statements

True (1),

False (2),

Not Stated (3).

The Debate

Their parents had promised the twins a pet for their twelfth birthday. The only limitation was that it had to be a pet. Singular. That meant the twins had to agree on what kind of pet to get. Making a Decision

For weeks, Louisa and Duncan researched pets on their own. They spent hours looking at pet photos online and talking to their friends about the types of pets they owned. Duncan's best friend suggested a dog, but "his cousin suggested an iguana. Louisa's friends told her to get a parrot. The same cousin told her to get an iguana too.

Finally, each had made a decision. Duncan wanted an iguana, and Louisa decided on a cat. They both went to their parents with the decision. But their father reminded them of the agreement. They did not have to convince their parents but each other. Convincing the Other

The night before they were to go to the pet store the debate began. Duncan opened by stating how iguanas were easy to care for. Remembering Louisa's obsession with dinosaurs the summer before, Duncan suggested that iguanas were basically just smaller dinosaurs. Louisa said that iguanas were not fun pets because they did not do anything. A cat, she argued, could be held and would play with them. "Of course, you would want a cat. All girls want a cat," Duncan replied. "That is unfair. None of my girlfriends even has cats. They all told me to get a parrot or a dog."

"Well, all the girls I know at school love cats." The Compromise

The debate went on for hours with little progress. Each sibling realised the other would not be convinced. So Louisa offered a compromise. "What was your second-choice pet?" she asked.

"I guess a dog," Duncan said. "Mine too."

And so, they decided to get their second choices. The next day, their birthday, their father bought a collie puppy for them.

- A. Mum and Dad were going to give a pet to each of their twin-children as birthday presents.
- B. It had always been Louisa and Duncan's dream to have a dog.
- C. Louisa's best friend had a parrot.
- D. The twins' cousin's idea of the best pet was an iguana.
- E. Louisa was interested in dinosaurs some time earlier.
- F. Cats were most popular pets with the girls at the twins' school.
- G. The debate was long and hard.
- H. It took the children three hours to come to the agreement.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Read the text again and choose the right options.

2. At the time of the debate Louisa was _____.

- 1. 10
- 2. 11
- 3. 12
- 4. 13

3. Duncan was told to get a _____ as a pet by his best friend.

- 1. dog
- 2. parrot
- 3. iguana
- 4. cat

4. Louisa suggested a compromise because _____.

- 1. she knew that Duncan liked dogs just as much as he liked iguanas
- 2. neither she nor Duncan could convince the other one to get the other's animal
- 3. their parents made it clear that they could buy any kind of pet they both wanted
- 4. dogs and cats are both similar in that they can both be played with and held

5. The word debate in the story most nearly describes _____.

1. thinking
2. fighting
3. an agreement
4. a discussion

6. They both agreed on a dog because _____.

1. they were tired of arguing
2. it was both siblings' second priority
3. their parents told them to hurry up with the decision
4. they liked their friend's dog