Fact and Opinion

- A **statement of fact** can be proved true or false. You can look in a reference book, ask an expert, or use your own knowledge and experience.
- A **statement of opinion** cannot be proved true or false. It is a belief or a judgment. It often contains a word of judgment, such as *best, should, or beautiful*. It may begin with the words *in my opinion* or *I believe*.

Directions Read the following passage. Then complete the table. Read each statement and answer the questions at the top of each column.

My family is going to visit an animal rescue shelter this weekend. Rescue shelters take in animals that have been abandoned or mistreated by people. My parents say my sister and I can choose a pet from the shelter, but we can't agree on what type of pet to get. Cats make the best pets because you can teach a cat to use a litter box. Dogs have to be walked three or four times a day, and that's too much trouble.

Of course, my sister wants a dog—a big one. Raising a puppy requires time to train them. My sister promises that she will take care of a dog every day, but I think she is too irresponsible. Besides, kittens are cuter than puppies. When we go the shelter to look at all the animals, I believe she'll change her mind.

Statement	Does it state a fact or an opinion?	If an opinion, what are the clue words? If a fact, how could you prove it?
Rescue shelters take in animals that have been abandoned or mistreated by people.	Fact	Contact animal shelters to find out where their animals come from.
A puppy requires time to train.	**1.**	**2.**
Kittens are cuter than puppies.	**3.**	**4.**

5. Find one sentence that contains both a statement of fact and a statement of opinion.

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