The Most Famous Vet in the World

One of the most famous vets in the world is James Herriot (aka Alf Wight), who was a partner in a veterinary practice in Thirsk, Yorkshire. Over the course of several years, he wrote down many stories based on his life as a country vet - some of them sad, most of them amusing, and many of them 'laugh out loud' funny! So, in addition to being a much-loved vet, Alf was also an author – and a very successful one at that. His books became famous around the world, causing his hometown of 'Thirsk', which he renamed as 'Darrowby' in his books, to become a popular tourist destination.

Alf Wight used the **pseudonym,** James Herriot because, as a practicing vet, he was **prohibited** from using any form of advertising and could have been sued for **malpractice** if he had penned his books under his own name.

The story of the Christmas day kitten is quite possibly one of the saddest, but also the most heart-warming, with a really happy ending.

Answer all the questions below, before reading 'The Christmas Kitten,' in order to make sure that you understand the words which are in **bold print.**

Drag the meanings from column C into column B to match the words in Column A

A	B	C
1. aka		often
2. pseudonym		very energetic and rough
3. prohibited		moderately rich
4. malpractice		interested or curious
5. timid		to use gentle persuasion
6. posture		extremely large; enormous
7. well-off		anxiety, sorrow or pain
8. cossetted		all the time; as a habit
9. habitually		a fictitious name
10. frequent		of the cat family
11. feline		frightened; nervous
12. massive		professional wrongdoing
13. intrigued		also known as
14. to coax		pampered; spoilt
15. distress		forbidden by law
16. boisterous		the position of the body

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Choose from the words below to fill in the blanks

habitually, opportunity, symptoms, apologetic, bleak, palpated, terminal (as in illness), malignant, coma, rapidly, delight, golden retriever

1. The little girls squealed in when they opened their presents. (joy)
2. I am so happy that I had the to work in London. (chance)
3. The doctor the patients stomach when he examined her. (diagnosed by feeling)
4. I don't like my father's new wife. She is miserable. (always)
5. We are getting a new puppy soon. It is a (a breed of dog that is used by hunters to retrieve the animals which have been shot.)
6. He was in a for several weeks after the accident. (unconscious and unresponsive)
7. The weather is and miserable during the winter. (cold and harsh)
8. If you take you cat to the vet, he will ask you what the animal has been showing. (medical signs of a condition or illness.)
9. It is very sad that my uncle has a illness. He is so young, and he used to be so fit) (an illness leading to death)
10. The doctor said that he has a tumour in the brain.
11. My boss was very when he realised that I had not been paid. (sorry; remorseful)
12. Sadly, he is very ill, and his condition is getting worse. (quickly)

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