

Unit 9 Competitive edge

Before you watch

1 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you have a pet or do you know anyone who has a pet?
- 2 Why did you or they choose this type of pet?
- 3 What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a pet?
- 4 Would you consider entering a pet for an animal show? Why or why not?

2 Match the words (1–6) with their meanings (a–f).

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 tremble (vb.) | a) get something back |
| 2 pleasing (adj.) | b) private |
| 3 retrieve (vb.) | c) shake because you are nervous, excited or afraid |
| 4 tiresome (adj.) | d) show that you are angry about being treated badly by looking unhappy and not talking to anyone |
| 5 sulk (vb.) | e) making you feel annoyed or bored |
| 6 personal (adj.) | f) something that gives enjoyment |

While you watch

3 Watch the video and write a summary sentence.

4 Complete the sentences with “Jackie” or “Gavin.”



- 1 _____ says their favorite cats are Siamese.
- 2 _____ has a cat called Stanley.
- 3 _____ has a cat which won an Imperial Grand Certificate at a recent show.
- 4 _____ had dogs when they were a child.
- 5 _____ isn't really competitive about anything.
- 6 _____ is only competitive about cat shows.

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why is Jackie's Apricot Siamese so special?

- 2 How did Gavin feel when his cat won a prize?

- 3 Why does Jackie sometimes have to feed her kittens?

- 4 What sort of cats does Gavin usually have?

- 5 How are Siamese cats similar to dogs?

- 6 How does Jackie feel when the cat that has beaten her is better?

After you watch

6 Complete the phrases with the correct form of the verbs *compete*, *lose*, or *win*.

- 1 The two puppies were _____ for attention from their mother.
- 2 Lucy _____ heart after she came last in the competition.
- 3 Simon _____ with his brother in the race.
- 4 Kim _____ out to Paul who crossed the line just before her.
- 5 He tried to _____ me over by offering to do my shopping for me.
- 6 All competitors did well, but finally the Pekinese _____ the day.

7 Write sentences using the expressions from Exercise 6.

Over to you

8 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Which of the speakers in the video do you think is most competitive and why?
- 2 In what ways can competitiveness be a positive personality trait?
- 3 In what ways can competitiveness be a negative personality trait?
- 4 Do you think that you are competitive? Why or why not?

9 Work in groups and debate this statement.

Competition is a healthy and necessary part of life.