

词汇: animal welfare 动物福利

For some people, there's no better **companion** than **man's best friend** – a dog. This four-legged **canine** can bring comfort and joy and provide much-needed exercise for you when it needs walkies! This probably explains why dog ownership increased last year because people spent more time at home during the coronavirus pandemic lockdown.

It was demand for **puppies** in particular that saw the biggest increase. Who couldn't resist their playful personalities, adorable eyes, and super-soft **coats**?

However, as demand for a new **pooch** increased, so did the price tag. Popular **breeds**, such as **Cockapoos** and **Cocker Spaniels**, saw even sharper price increases, and puppies have been selling for £3,000 or more.

Animal welfare charities fear that high prices could encourage **puppy farming**, **smuggling** or dog theft. And a BBC investigation found some **breeders** have been selling puppies and kittens on social media sites – something charities have called “extremely **irresponsible**”.

But despite some new owners purchasing a dog **legally**, maybe from a **rescue centre** or **registered** breeder, they've proved to be ill-prepared for life with a new **pet**, and the pet itself has found it hard to come to terms with life in a new home. **Animal behaviourists** in the UK have reported a surge in requests to help dogs suffering from **fear-aggression** after their **lives have been turned upside down**.

Looking to the future, there are concerns about the welfare of these much-loved pets. Ian Atkin, manager of the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary in the UK, told the BBC: “At the moment, the dogs are having a great time, but **separation anxiety** could still surface when people go back to work.” And Claire Calder from the UK's Dogs Trust rescue charity says “the economic situation also means that some people may find they can't afford to look after a dog.” The message is not to buy a puppy in haste and to pick one that fits into your lifestyle.

词汇表

companion	伴侣
man's best friend	狗
canine	犬
puppy	小狗, 幼犬
coat	(动物的) 皮毛
pooch	狗
breed	品种
Cockapoo	可卡颇犬
Cocker Spaniels	可卡犬
puppy farming	幼犬养殖
smuggling	走私, 贩卖
breeder	饲养动物的人
irresponsible	不负责任的
legally	合法地, 依法
rescue centre	救援中心
registered	已注册的
pet	宠物
animal behaviourist	动物行为学专家
fear-aggression	害怕受攻击
lives have been turned upside down	生活变得一团糟
separation anxiety	分离焦虑症

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why did dog ownership increase during the coronavirus pandemic?
2. What caused the increase in the price of puppies?
3. True or False: *All new dog owners were totally prepared for their new pets.*
4. How might going back to work affect the behaviour of a dog?
5. Where have some puppies been sold that have caused charities to be concerned?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He was very _____ to drive after drinking alcohol.

irresponsible	irresponsing	irresponsable	irresponsed
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2. My brother is a good travelling _____ – we love the same places and have so much fun together.

adorable	breed	companion	personality
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3. My favourite dog is a sheepdog – I love their _____.

smuggling	walkies	personalities	behaviourists
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4. They say dogs are _____ and it's true: Rover is my best friend!

men's best friend	man's best friend	men's friend	man's bestie
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5. I am _____ for this race – I haven't done any training.

fear-aggression	turned upside down	ill-prepared	haste
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答案

1. Why did dog ownership increase during the coronavirus pandemic?

Because people were looking for something to give them companionship and exercise.

2. What caused the increase in the price of puppies?

As demand for a new puppy increased, so did the price tag.

3. True or False: *All new dog owners were totally prepared for their new pets.*

False. Some new dog owners were ill-prepared for life with a new pet.

4. How might going back to work affect the behaviour of a dog?

Dogs could suffer from separation anxiety when people go back to work.

5. Where have some puppies been sold that have caused charities to be concerned?

A BBC investigation found some breeders have been seen selling puppies on social media sites.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He was very **irresponsible** to drive after drinking alcohol.

2. My brother is a good travelling **companion** – we love the same places and have so much fun together.

3. My favourite dog is a sheepdog – I love their **personalities**.

4. They say dogs are **man's best friend** and it's true: Rover is my best friend!

5. I am **ill-prepared** for this race – I haven't done any training.