

**Lesson 1**

**Directions:** Read the following passage. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

## Dogs for Different Deeds

Which animal has been a pet throughout history? If you ask people around the world, they will probably answer, “dogs.” Dogs are known for their intelligence, loyalty, and hard work. Different types of dogs are trained to perform different jobs.

Many people get dogs to guard their houses. Dogs do more than guard houses, though. Some work as seeing-eye dogs to guide people who are visually impaired. Some act as “ears” for people who are hearing impaired. Others retrieve items for people who are wheelchair-bound. Dogs may be helpful to hospital patients who need their spirits lifted. Some dogs help police officers find criminals. They do this by following the scent left from a piece of clothing. While people enjoy many other animals, dogs always have been a reliable source for work and emotional support.

Dogs make good pets because they are easy to train. Unlike cats or rabbits, they respond to commands and work for treats. Some dogs are trained to play roles in TV shows or movies. Dogs can learn to hunt, fetch, and pull. For example, huskies often haul sleds with supplies across the snowy fields of Alaska. Through hard work and patience, dogs can learn to do almost anything.

Because of the close relationship humans have with dogs, dogs treat humans as part of the dog’s pack. The human family becomes the dog’s family. Dogs are very loyal. When humans pet, feed, brush, walk, or play with their dogs, the dogs feel close to them. They are reminded of their instinct to stay close to their pack for protection in the wild. Since dogs are no longer wild, they look to people as their family group.

There are many reasons why dogs and humans have a close relationship. They enjoy working and playing together. Humans also value dogs for the safety they provide. It seems unlikely that dogs will ever be replaced as the favorite pet.

*Use with page 16.*

**Lesson 1****Practice: Making an Educated Guess**

**Directions:** Use “Dogs for Different Deeds” to answer the following questions.

1. Which is the best summary of this passage?
  - (A) Dogs enjoy being cared for.
  - (B) Dogs help people who are visually impaired or hearing impaired.
  - (C) It is easy to train a dog.
  - (D) Humans value dogs because of their helpfulness and loyalty.
  
2. In this article, what does the word *pack* mean?
  - (A) to put things in a suitcase
  - (B) a box of objects
  - (C) a group or family
  - (D) to fill completely
  
3. How do dogs help police officers?
  - (A) They guard people’s houses.
  - (B) They protect people who cannot see.
  - (C) They help them find criminals.
  - (D) They follow them around.
  
4. In this article, what does the word *retrieve* mean?
  - (A) to fetch
  - (B) to haul
  - (C) to obey
  - (D) to roll over
  
5. What makes Alaskan huskies helpful dogs?
  - (A) They help people who are hearing impaired.
  - (B) They work as seeing-eye dogs.
  - (C) They pull sleds through the snow.
  - (D) They visit hospitals to cheer up people who are sick.

 **CHECK** Did you read all of the choices before making your decision?

Use with page 17.