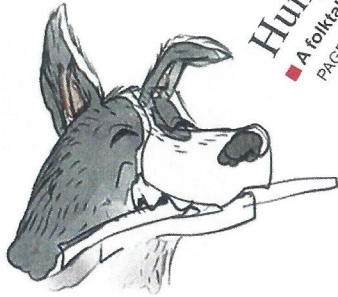




Why Dogs Chase Cats

Hunger causes friends to not be so friendly
A folktale retold by Mike Lockett, The Normal Storyteller; edited by Linda Ludwig
PAGE DESIGN BY ANGELA CHANG / ILLUSTRATED BY ARNOLD LEE



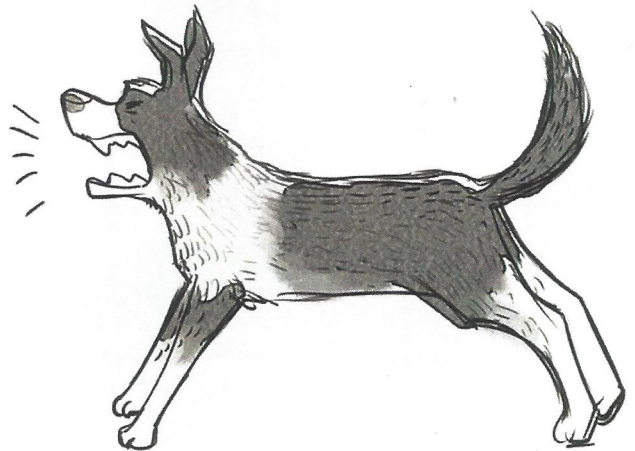
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Dog and Cat were really good neighbors. They said hello when they got up in the morning. They said good night when they went to bed.

Dog and Cat were good neighbors *indeed*. They lived next door to each other. They each had their own jobs to help them pay their bills and to put food on the table. Dog chased away *burglars*. He picked up sticks in the park. He chased squirrels out of people's gardens. He also could be seen helpfully washing down fire hydrants from time to time.

Cat caught mice. She got paid and always had extra mouse-kebabs to eat for dinner. Cat was also a *purr*-fect babysitter. Cat would *curl up* next to children and purr to put them to sleep.

In case you did not know it, animals are a lot like people. When they have a good job, a nice home and are well fed, they are happy and *get along*.

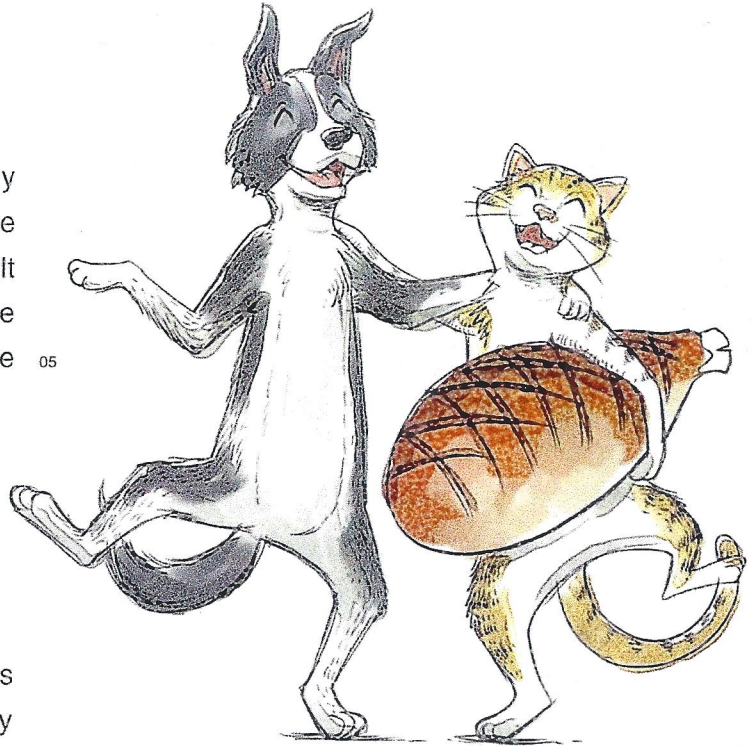


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Unfortunately Dog and Cat got old. They moved slower. Dog couldn't catch burglars. He was too old to chase squirrels out of gardens. It was hard to bend over to pick up sticks. And he was not as good as before at washing the fire hydrants. 05

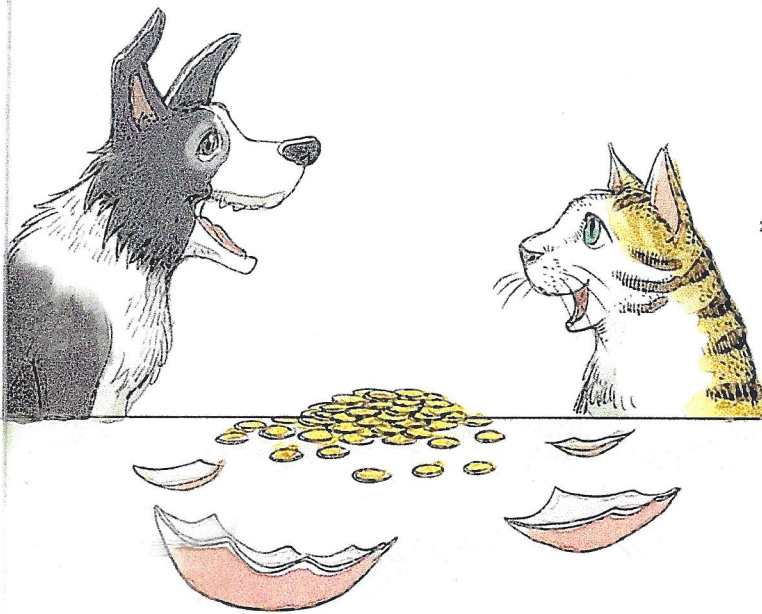
Cat could no longer catch mice. She was too *grouchy* to be around children. So Dog and Cat didn't get paid. They didn't have enough money to eat and began to act 10 *mean* toward one another.

Still, Dog had an idea. He brought out his "Doggy Bank." He had Cat bring out her "Kitty Bank." Don't laugh – humans have "Piggy Banks!"



15 They *pooled* their money together and walked to the butcher's store. There they bought the biggest ham in the world. It was so large that neither could carry it for very long. When Dog carried it, he sang, "Our ham. Our ham. Our ham." 20

But when Cat carried it, she sang, "My ham. My ham. My ham." ▶



Usage Tip

There they bought the *biggest ham in the world*. (p. 17, line 16)

片語 in the world 在這裡用來凸顯形容詞最高級所帶出的名詞，是一種強調的用法。

- We have all the time in the world, so you don't need to hurry.

Your turn

Talk About It

- How are people like Dog and Cat?
- They are like Dog and Cat in that ...
- What was the most surprising part of this story?
- The most surprising part was ...
- What different ending would you give the story?
- I would end the story ...



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"It was my money AND your money that bought the ham. So it is OUR ham!" said Dog. He went on singing, "Our ham. Our ham. Our ham."

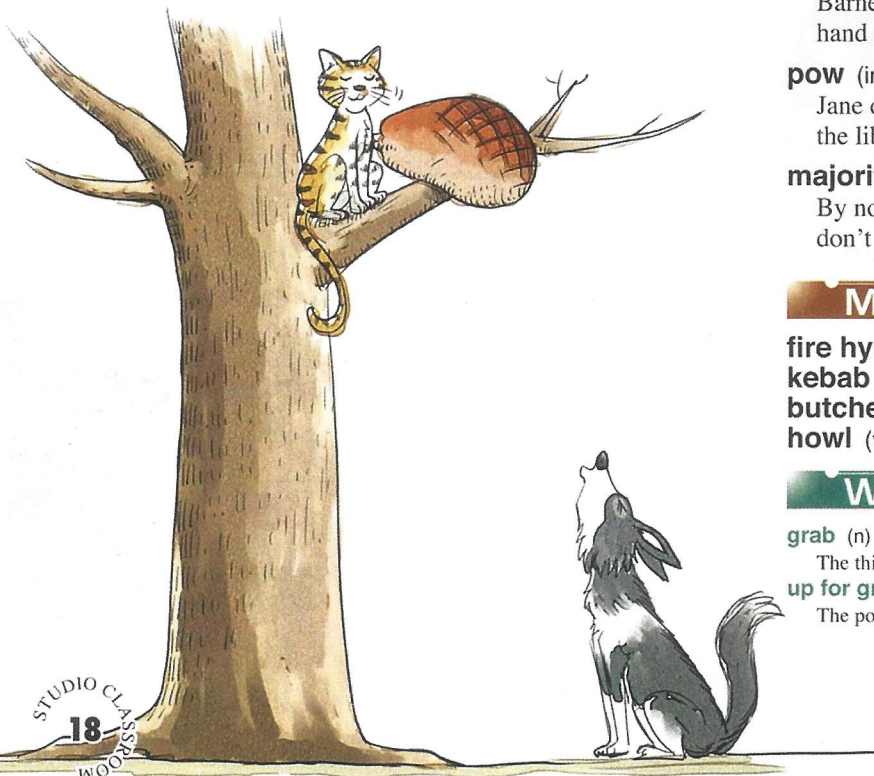
Cat said, "It is MY ham! My ham. My ham. My ham."

"No, no," **responded** Dog. "It's our ham! Our ham! Our ham!"

Cat took the ham back to carry it and started singing, "My ham! My ham! My ham!"

When they got home, Cat **grabbed** the ham and climbed a tall tree. She sat in the top of that tree for three days while Dog stood at the bottom **howling**. Everyone thinks dogs are howling at the moon. But they are really looking up and howling at the thought of that ham. After three days, Cat dropped the bone right on Dog's head. "**Pow!**"

When Cat came down out of the tree, Dog chased her up another one. By now the **majority** of dogs have heard the story, and that is why dogs chase cats. 🐾



Word Bank

indeed (adv) [m'did] 的確·實在

This past winter has been very cold **indeed**.

burglar (n) ['bɜːglə] 入室竊賊

The **burglars** entered the house through a back window that was not locked.

purr (v) [pɜː] 發出平穩低沉的聲音

My cat always **purrs** when he knows I am going to feed him.

⁰⁵ **curl up** (idiom) [kɜːl][ʌp] 蜷臥；蜷縮

Many people love to **curl up** with a good book on a rainy day.

get along (idiom) [ɡet][ə'loŋ] 相處融洽；和睦相處

Everyone in our class **gets along** very well.

unfortunately (adv) [ʌn'fɔːrtʃənɪtli] 不幸地；遺憾地

Unfortunately Jack didn't get into the university he wanted to attend.

grouchy (adj) ['ɡraʊtʃi] 易怒的；滿腹牢騷的

Pete gets so **grouchy** when he is tired.

mean (adj) [miːn] 刻薄的；凶惡的

Sandra is **mean** to all the kids in the neighborhood, so nobody will play with her.

¹⁵ **pool** (v) [puːl] 集合（資金或資源）

The two companies **pooled** their resources together to start a third company.

respond (v) [rɪ'spænd] 回應；回答

The kids **responded** with a loud "Yes" when asked if they wanted to play outside.

grab (v) [ɡræb] 搶奪·攫取

Barney **grabbed** the cookie out of his little brother's hand and ate it.

pow (interjection) [paʊ] 砰；啪

Jane dropped her books on the floor. "**Pow!**" Everyone in the library looked at her.

majority (n) [mə'dʒɔːrɪti] 大部分·大多數

By now, the **majority** of students have heard that we don't have school on Friday!

More Information

fire hydrant (n) [faɪə]'haɪdrənt] 消防栓

kebab (n) [kə'bab] 烤肉串

butcher (n) ['bʊtʃə] 肉販；肉商

howl (v) [haʊl] 長嚎

Word Bank Focus

grab (n) [ɡræb] 搶奪·攫取

The thief made a **grab** for Cindy's purse but missed.

up for grabs (idiom) [ʌp]'fɔːr][ɡræbz] 人人都可以爭取的

The position of class president is **up for grabs**.