

Test 3--The History of Cats

Directions: Read the passage to answer questions 1-5.

Cats have a long and interesting history. In fact, the cat was probably the first animal kept as a pet. The Egyptians worshiped cats. In Europe cats were praised for their ability to catch rats and mice. They were much in demand during the Black Plague illnesses of the 14th century.

In the Middle Ages, cats lost much of their appeal because they became connected with devil worship. Many cats lost their lives and gave rise to superstitions still held by some people today.

The American Indian did not appear to keep cats as pets, so it wasn't until the white settlers came from Europe that cats were kept as pets in America. The Colonists, like the Europeans, found cats helpful in controlling rats and mice.



1. Through the ages, the cat _____.
 - a. has been a favorite pet
 - b. has been both prized and hated
 - c. has been kept by all races of people
 - d. has been valued for its intelligence
2. The group that DID NOT appear to keep cats as pets were _____.
 - a. the Colonists
 - b. the American Indians
 - c. the Europeans
 - d. the Egyptians
3. When did cats lose much of their appeal because they were connected with devil worship?
 - a. the 11th century
 - b. during Colonial times
 - c. in the Middle Ages
 - d. during the twentieth century
4. In this passage, the writer _____.
 - a. explains why the cat was the first pet kept by man
 - b. defends the importance of cats in the home
 - c. traces man's attitudes about cats
 - d. compares the cat with other animals
5. Which sentence best expresses the main idea?
 - a. Cats have a long and interesting history.
 - b. In fact, the cat was probably the first animal kept as a pet.
 - c. Many cats lost their lives and gave rise to superstitions still held by some people today.
 - d. The Egyptians worshiped cats.