

Scenario Cards

Module 9, Lesson 9

Issues and Ethical Considerations

Dog Meat

An annual dog meat celebration is held each June in Yulin, Guangxxi, China. This tradition has been in practice for over 400 years. It was believed that eating dog meat would ward off the heat felt through the summer months.

Dogs are placed in crates and cages, paraded for viewing before they are prepared for consumption.

10,000-15,000 dogs are consumed during the 10-day festival.

Dog meat is a regular item on menus in Korea, China, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines, Polynesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Switzerland, the Arctic and Antarctic.



Dog-meat dish from Guilin. Tail used as decoration.

Dog Shows

Described as celebrating the potential inherent in dogs of all breeds and backgrounds. Show activities can include a variety of tests:

- Field trials
- Herding tests
- Appearance and structure

Dog shows can be local, national or international. Dogs are often bred for participation.



Dying dog hair

Hair dye is designed for humans, not for dogs. Chemicals in the dye can increase risk of chemical burns and skin irritation. Some dogs can experience allergic reactions to the dye. Should the dog try to lick its coat during the process, toxic dye can be ingested, leading to nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and other more serious health issues.

People dye their hair for cosmetic reasons. Dogs do not have this same need.



Dog fashion

Fashion trends date back to collars from the Egyptian pre-dynastic period. Photographs from the early 1900s show people dressing their dogs in human costumes.

Dog fashion has become increasingly popular since 2011 with clothing choices available in a variety of designer styles. This has fast-become a billion dollar industry.

The rise in dog fashions reflect changing relationships between dogs and humans with many dogs becoming an emotional extension of oneself or substitute for family.



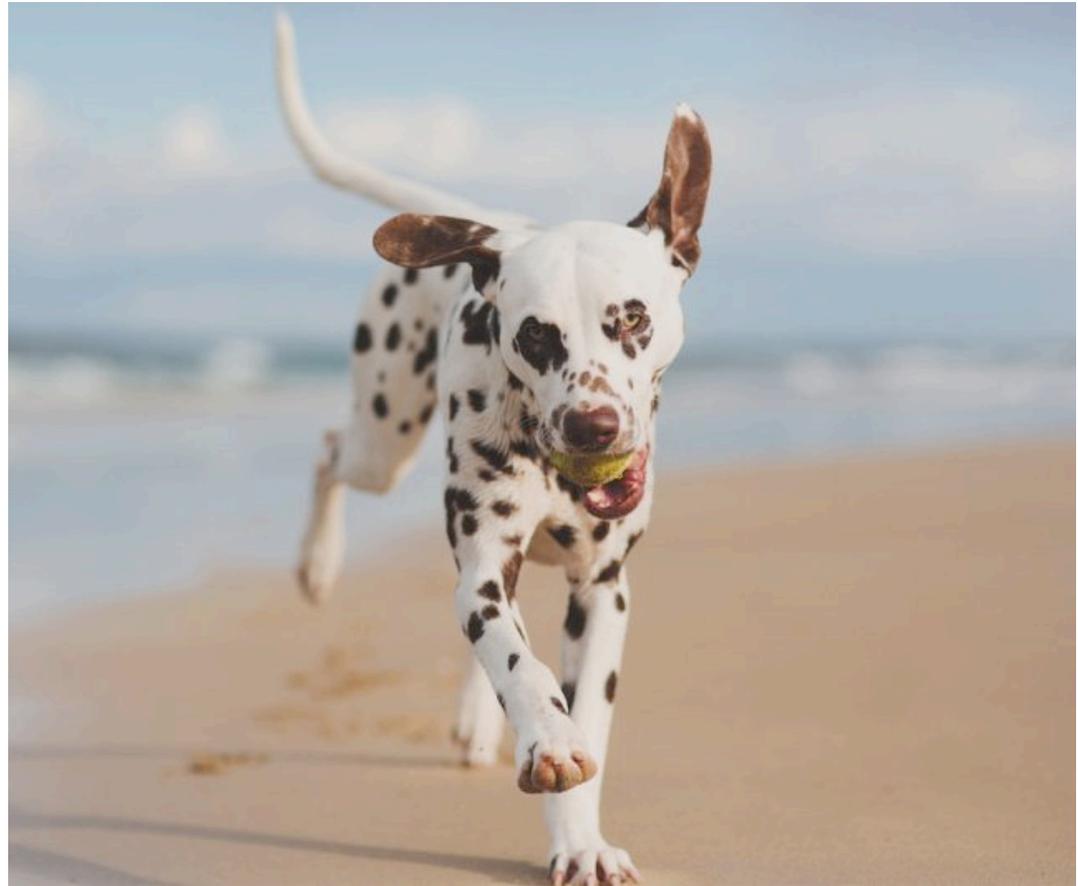
Dog Exercise

Exercise is good for dogs and their owners, but the level of exercise should be tailored to the breed, age and physical abilities of the dog.

Duration: Too much exercise can lead to long-term injury. Not enough can lead to obesity.

Know the surroundings: Recognize if it is too hot or too cold and if there is dangerous debris that can get caught in dogs' paws.

Mental stimulation: Activity is more than physical. This is a time that can build connection between you and your dog.



Dogs in cars

Many dogs love being in cars and want to be where the action is – right up front.

Windows: Dogs like to hang their heads out the window. What happens if something hits the dog, if the air is particularly cold?

Accidents happen: Should the driver get into an accident, what happens to the dog who is in the driver's lap or unrestrained in the car?

Dogs and motion sickness: How can dogs be affected if you're driving on a particularly curved road or if the dog is feeling sick?

Leaving pets in the car: What do you do with your pet when you reach your destination? What if it's a hot day?



Dog sledding

Alaskan husky is the most commonly used dog in sled racing. Bred for performance, these dogs bear little resemblance to the original breeds they came from.

Sledding is currently a competitive sport as well as a task for working dogs who live in extreme weather conditions.

Dogs may race in short events of 4-100 miles or in races as long as 1,000 miles.



Dog racing

Dog racing is an organized, competitive sport in which greyhounds either race around a track or follow a lure.

This sport began in 1876 in England, but popular dog racing (with betting) began in California in 1919.

Concerns have risen over what happens when the dog reaches 4-6 years old and can no longer race.

Some countries, like Australia, are banning dog racing due to medical issues related to racing activities and care.

