

Pet Salon

Do you like to go to the salon? People often go to a salon to get their hair washed or cut. After people have been to a salon, they usually look beautiful. But did you know that pets have salons, too? At a pet salon, pets like cats and dogs can get their fur washed and cut. This is called pet grooming. After pets visit a salon, they look clean and neat.

Groomers wash pets with special shampoos for animals. Before they wash the animal, they first put some cotton balls in the animal's ears to keep water out. After checking the water temperature, the groomer will get the animal's body wet. Then they put some shampoo on the animal and wash it. After that, the groomer will rinse the animal. It is important to get all the shampoo out of the animal's fur.

As soon as the pet's fur is dry, the groomer uses special scissors or clippers to cut its fur gently and carefully. The groomer also cuts the fur around the pet's ears, paws and tail. The groomer will often trim the pet's nails, too. When everything is done, the groomer will do a final check to make sure they didn't miss anything. They want your pet to look great and feel happy. (216 words)



Look Over There

Bill and his friends often go out to eat. They're college students and enjoy spending time together.

“Hey, Katrina! Do you want to go to dinner at a new place tonight? They have live music,” Bill says to his friend Katrina.

“Sounds fun, but I can't. I have too much homework. I have to stay home and study,” she says. Too bad, says Bill. Next time, then.”

Bill is disappointed. He always Invites Katrina to do things; he likes her a lot. But she can't go tonight, so he asks other friends.

“Zack, can you go to dinner tonight?” Bill asks, “We're going to a place with live music.”

“Sure, Bill, I'd love to come! Will there be dancing?” Zack asks.

“Oh, yes! We can have dinner and then dance the rest of the night! We'll have a great time,” Bill says.

Bill and Zack walk into the restaurant. Their other friends aren't there yet. They sit down at a table to wait.

Zack looks around. He sees two people at another table talking and laughing.

“Bill, look over there. Isn't that Katrina?” Zack asks.

Bill looks. “Yes, that's Katrina,”he says. Bill is upset.

Katrina is not at home doing her homework. She lied to him.

What should Bill do? (210 words)



FINN McCOOL Part I

People in Northern Ireland tell about a giant named Finn McCool. Finn was the biggest and strongest giant in all of Ireland.

One morning a man came to the giant's door. He was from Scotland, and he had something to tell Finn.

“A big giant from Scotland named Benandonner wants to fight you,” he said. “He is bigger and stronger than any giant in Ireland, and he will prove it!”

When Finn heard that, he felt angry. “Fight me?” he shouted. “Benandonner will never beat me in a fight, and I will go to Scotland and prove it!”

But how could he get there? Finn decided to build a strong stone walkway across the water. He went to the coast and began throwing big rocks into the water.

Back in Scotland, Benandonner heard about Finn and his walkway. Benandonner really wanted to fight Finn, so he started building a walkway from his side.

After two long days, the path was long enough to connect the two countries. Finn was ready to fight, so he ran across the walkway to Scotland. When he got there, he saw Benandonner. He was asleep by the water. He was tired from building the pathway. Finn looked at him and thought, “He isn't just big. He's enormous! I might not be able to beat him!” And Finn ran back home to Ireland. (227 words)



FINN McCOOL Part II

When Finn got back to Ireland, he told his wife about Benandonner.

"He is enormous!" said Finn. "He might beat me if I fight him."

"If you don't go to Scotland, Benandonner will come here," worried his wife.

"What can we do?" asked Finn.

Finn's wife thought of a plan to save her husband. Using bed sheets, she made some giant baby clothes. She gave them to Finn to put on. They had a large cradle in their house. She made him get into it and pretend to be a baby.

The next morning, someone knocked loudly on the door. Finn's wife answered the door. There stood the angry giant Benandonner. He pushed his way into the house shouting, "Where is Finn? I'm going to beat him!"

When he entered the living room and saw the cradle, he went to look in it. As he looked at the baby in the cradle, Benandonner's eyes got big. The baby in the cradle was enormous!

Benandonner thought to himself, "If this is the son of Finn McCool, Finn McCool must be even more enormous!" Benandonner got scared. He could not beat such an enormous giant. He left the house and ran back to Scotland. On his way, he destroyed the walkway. He didn't want Finn to come after him!

After Benandonner left, Finn and his wife laughed and laughed about tricking the giant! (231 words)

