

Patsy is reading an online forum about animals. Read the online forum.

www.petskingdom.com.hk/onlineforum

### Pets Kingdom – an online forum for pet owners

**Topic: Should the government implement stricter laws to protect pets' lives?**

Recently, there are a number of animal **abuse** cases reported in Hong Kong, which have raised public awareness of animal rights. Some suggest that the government should change the existing laws to stricter ones to protect animals. Leave your comments below!

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**Audrey801** *posted at 10:14 pm 16 Nov, 20XX*

I **absolutely** agree to the change! I have watched a video of an owner placing her cat in a washing machine. The owner said her cat was naughty and it was just a prank to punish it. But such act was not funny at all! I only find it ridiculous and **cruel**!

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**Diana\_hello** *posted at 3:32 pm 17 Nov, 20XX*

I have watched the same video. I can see that the cat was frightened and tried to escape. Although the cat made mistakes, the owner should teach it patiently instead. I also think that a change is needed as a deterrent.

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**Hanna273** *posted at 5:09 pm 17 Nov, 20XX*

I believe there are still a lot of animal abuse cases that we do not know because they are not reported. If stricter laws aren't imposed, **history will repeat itself**. I don't want to see anything like this happen again!

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**Benny\_xyz** *posted at 9:25 am 18 Nov, 20XX*

In Hong Kong, people who act cruelly to animals will face a fine up to \$200,000 and three years' imprisonment. But I think the law can't really protect animals. Since most people don't take animal abuse cases seriously, it is hard to discover the cases. The government should really educate the public more about animal protection.



**Abuse (n.)** here refers to the cruel treatment of animals. **Abuse** is also a verb which means 'to treat someone cruelly'.

e.g. It is wrong to **abuse (v.)** animals. Animal **abuse (n.)** is a crime in Hong Kong.



10 mins

DATE

Choose the best answers by blackening the circles.

1. According to Audrey801, why did the owner place the cat in the washing machine?

- i. She was bored.
- ii. She thought it was funny.
- iii. She wanted to bathe the cat.
- iv. She wanted to punish the cat.

A. ii and iv

B. i, ii and iii

C. ii and iii

D. none of the above



Tip  
Q1: Pay attention to the word 'prank' and guess what it means.



2. In line 18, the idiom 'history will repeat itself' means \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the same thing will happen again
- B. people will always remember history
- C. we should not make the same mistakes again
- D. a history documentary will be rerun on television

3. Who thinks there should be stricter laws to protect animals?

A. Audrey801

B. Diana\_hello

C. Hanna273

D. all of the above

Complete the answers.

4. What is the penalty if people in Hong Kong are cruel to animals?

The penalty is \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Why does Benny\_xyz think the existing law is not helpful?

It is because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fill in each blank with ONE word from the online forum. Change the word form when necessary.

Patsy\_678

posted at 8:49 pm 18 Nov, 20XX

I watched the news last night. A kitten was wrapped in tape in a strange posture, just because the owner wanted the kitten to hug her! This is so 6. \_\_\_\_\_! I couldn't imagine how the kitten felt. I think all these animal 7. \_\_\_\_\_ cases should 8. \_\_\_\_\_ public awareness of animal protection!



READING