

Audio script

Words in *italics* and within [.....] are those spoken by the interviewer.

Please note that filler words such as 'err' have been removed from the script but you will hear them on the recording.

- 00:00 *[What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a pet?]* Some of the advantages obviously are the unconditional love that your pet can give you. That when you come home from like a tiring day at work, there is someone always here who's going to be very happy to see you.
- 00:26 They can be incredibly comforting, incredibly sweet, but it's also very difficult and demanding if they are ill because they obviously can't tell you what the problem is and then obviously can be super worrying.
- 00:46 So, for me, the biggest disadvantage is the sort of like emotional side when they are poorly and then you want to be a responsible pet owner. And of course, responsibilities like waking up at the early hours to take them out for a walk and not just once. *[Not if you have a cat.]*
- 01:15 I know. But you still have to like, you know, feed them, look after them. You can't just... *[And of course, sometimes it could be financially difficult. It could be quite expensive having a pet].* Yes. So, there's obviously financial demands that bills, you know, food, supplements. *[So, what rules do you have for your pet?]*

- 01:41 So, we don't have an awful lot of rules in the house, meaning that my dog can absolutely it's absolutely allowed on furniture, for example. We do have like the door rule, which means that the dog is always the last one to exit the door or to leave the house or any door, which is something that is for her own safety.
- 02:11 And this is something that she more or less knows now, but she's always pushing her boundaries. So, this is a rule she always needs to be reminded of. And I would say that's like the only rule we have in the house because otherwise she's a very sophisticated and well-behaved dog. Outside, yeah, she's always on the leash and she's only allowed to walk around freely in the dog park.
- 02:42 You know. And the rule is come back when her name is called, which again more or less works. [*Okay. So, what kind of advice would you give to pet owner, prospective dog owners, would you sort of maybe three of the most important pieces of advice for a prospective dog owner?*] Yeah. So, I think you do need a lot of patience when you're trying to teach a new rule or a new trick to your dog.
- 03:12 Consistency is key. So, if something is a rule today, it absolutely has to be a rule tomorrow and next week. And maybe advice number three is that if you're in doubt, maybe ask for professional help, like a dog trainer. I remember we had an issue with her recall and the door, for example.
- 03:40 So, we had a dog trainer come to our house for a couple of hours and he showed us some tips and tricks. And then we followed those religiously.

03:52

And then she learned this, even though she was an adult dog when we implemented these rules. Consistency in repeating and repeating did end up for being a very well-behaved dog