

Judgments About Cats and Dogs

One of the purposes of the cat and dog analogy is to transfer our knowledge of animals to people. The intention is to remove judgments we have about people. This worksheet helps our understanding of the difficulty of removing such bias.

Interview at least one dog person and one cat person. Briefly explain the analogy and ask them for what attributes they would assign to dog people and cat people.

Initials of first dog person: _____

Brief description of characteristics that qualify the person being interviewed as a dog persona:

What attributes did they assign to dog people?

What attributes did they assign to cat people?

(Optional) Initials of second dog person: _____

Brief description of characteristics that qualify the person being interviewed as a dog persona:

What attributes did they assign to dog people?

What attributes did they assign to cat people?

Initials of first cat person: _____

Brief description of characteristics that qualify the person being interviewed as a cat persona:

What attributes did they assign to dog people?

What attributes did they assign to cat people?

(Optional) Initials of second cat person: _____

Brief description of characteristics that qualify the person being interviewed as a dog persona:

What attributes did they assign to dog people?

What attributes did they assign to cat people?

Reflect and share if there is a pattern between the dog-ness or cat-ness of the person interviewed and whether the person assigns more positive attributes to their own species and negative attributes to the opposite species. Also share if you have the same tendency. It might be interesting to ask people what percentage of people the interviewees think are dog people and cat people.