投稿類別:英文寫作類

篇名:
Behaviors of Maltese
瑪爾濟斯的行為

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I Motivation

There's one Maltese named Ball-ball in my house, which we have been keeping for almost nine years. Loving her very much, I am willing to do a research on the behaviors of Maltese so that I can figure out what my lovely dog thinks whenever it does various behaviors.

For instance, on a chilly night in December, I noticed that Ball-ball trembled every other ten seconds. At first, I considered her to be feeling cold. Nonetheless, after three minutes, she started to be unable to sit or stand still, just like there were ants on her bottom. All of a sudden, I heard a strange sound from her stomach. It seemed that there were some bubbles breaking insides. She looked ill, not to mention the expression of pain on her face. It turned out that she had a severe stomachache.

By doing this research, I hope that I can gain more knowledge about the Dog Behaviors, and no matter what happens in the future, I can do the proper action as soon as possible.

II Research Questions

1. What would Maltese do to express its emotions?

2. How can we know whether it is uncomfortable or not?

III Research Methods-Literature Review

To know more about Maltese, I searched for the information from Internet and a book, and then integrated them into following materials:

Q1 What would Maltese do to express its emotions?

A. Ears

When Maltese's ears cock forward, and forces its body at the same time, it means that it is about to attack you. On the other hand, when its ears lop, it means that it wants to make friends with you. Besides, when it is nervous or afraid, it keeps trembling with its ears tight.
Interpreting Behaviors of Maltese

B. Eyes

If Maltese keeps looking at a dog or a person, it means that it wants to challenge it/him. In contrast, it would look around when it feels insecure.

C. Tongue

When Maltese wants to make a good relationship with someone, or sometimes it wants to soothe someone, it would lick him/her. Additionally, when Maltese suddenly faces high tension, it would lick its nose to transfer its own sense of tension. We can also pat it gently to help it relieve.

D. Tail

Nothing is more expressive than Maltese's tail! When Maltese wags its tail, we can know that it is happy. The happier it feels, the more excited it wags its tail. In addition, when it keeps staring at you with its tail wagged slowly, you'd better keep away from it because it is giving you a warning signal.

Q2 How can we know whether it feels uncomfortable or not?

Pets can't tell their owners whether they are uncomfortable or not by speaking languages. So, our interaction with pets and careful observation play a vital role in understanding our pets' physical condition.

When we discover that our dogs have no strength, or they even have no appetite to eat anything, we can almost know that there must be something wrong with them.

IV Comparison between Maltese and Golden Retriever

Maltese is one kind of popular pet dogs, and I want to know the differences between small pet dogs and big pet dogs, so I decide to compare Maltese with another kind of popular pet dogs--Golden Retriever.

A. Personality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maltese</th>
<th>gentle, elegant and lenient, fervent and active, brave and stubborn, cute, smart</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2
B. Appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Maltese</th>
<th>Golden Retriever</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maltese</strong></td>
<td>long wool, small, clear, round head, big and round eyes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Golden Retriever</strong></td>
<td>wide head, short ears, black nose, strong body</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Behaviors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Maltese</th>
<th>Golden Retriever</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maltese</strong></td>
<td>like to get along with people, need enough security, dislike to play with other dogs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Golden Retriever</strong></td>
<td>like to destroy furniture, easy to get nervous, like to play with others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V Interviews

I interview the vet, Wen Kang, who looks after my dog to understand more about Maltese’s behaviors. And I get a lot of new knowledge which I didn’t find on the Internet and the book before.

Q1 What does it mean when Maltese licks us?

When we find that Maltese is licking us, we should notice that maybe it is hungry. By the way, Maltese also expresses its obedience or respect to those who it thinks are strong by licking them.

Q2 Why does Maltese sigh?

If Maltese sighs after having its meal, it means that it is very contented. On the other hand, if it sighs with its eyes open widely, it may mean that it feels helpless.

Q3 Do all dogs like to play toys with their owners?

Not really. Some dogs may, but others play with their owners for attracting
their owners’ attention. If dogs feel that their owners often neglect them, they would try some tips to catch their owners' attention. So when your dog wants to play with you, don't refuse them!

Q4 Why do some dogs eat their own excrement?

When dogs are lack of nutrition, they would eat their own excrement as their nutrition resources, and it usually happen to stray dogs. If pet dogs eat their own excrement, the problem usually lies in the pressure their owners give them:
(1) Maybe they want to attract their owners’ attention.
(2) If their owners often blame them by hitting or abusing, they would think that if their owners see their excrement, they must be very angry, then they would be punished.

Q5 Why do Maltese yawn?

Maltese would yawn when it is tired, just like we humans. Besides, it also yawns when it feels anxious. Between Maltese and other dogs, they yawn to each other to show their kindness.

Q6 Do Maltese only gasp when it feels hot?

Except for feeling hot, Maltese would gasp when it feels excited, anxious, or nervous as well.

VI Conclusion

After doing this research, I think that I now understand Maltese’s behaviors more than before. I believe that by doing this research, I can judge what my dog thinks and how its physical condition is more correctly.

VII References
A. 伊藤英男（2004）。瑪爾濟斯教養小百科。新北市：世茂。