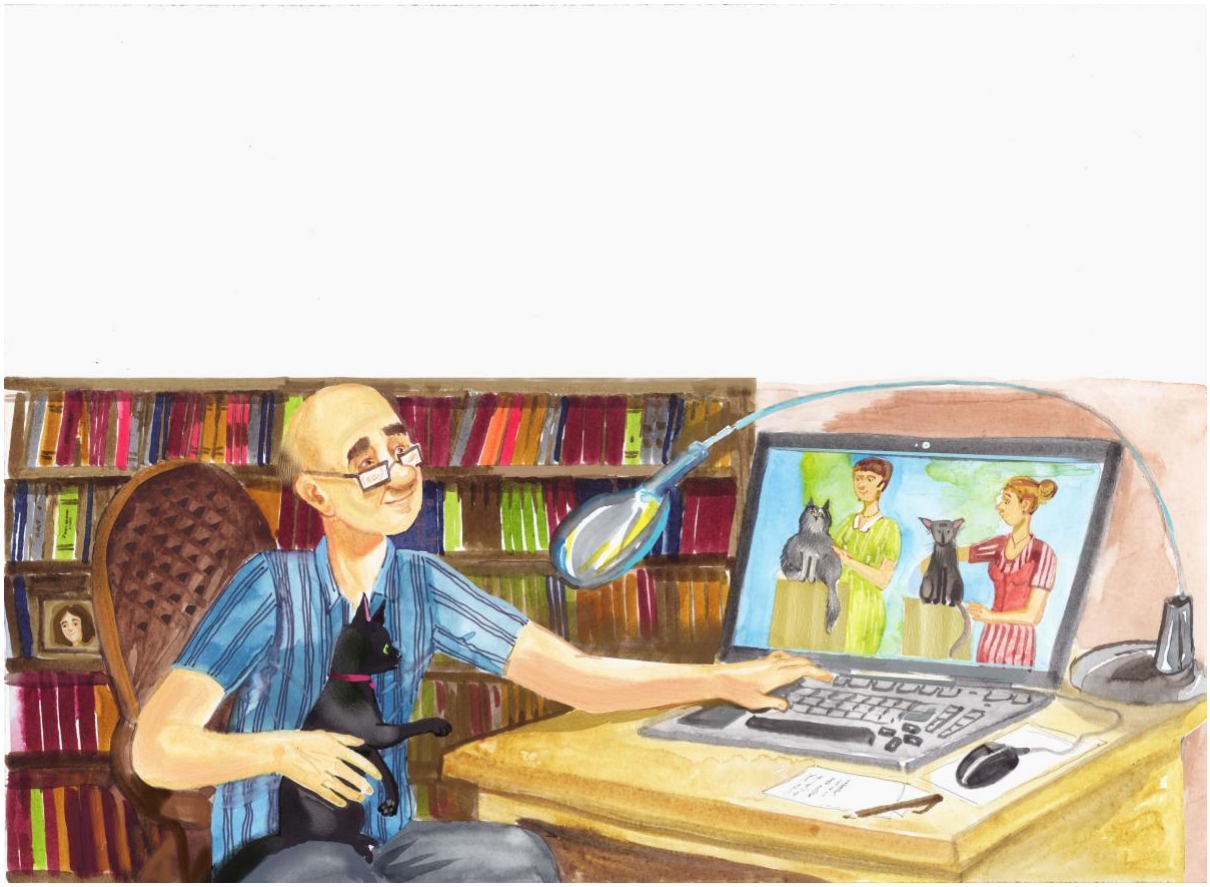
CLEO



Question booklet

Francisco Javier del Pino Romero

Free copy

CLEO: Question booklet

Francisco Javier del Pino Romero

1ª edición / 1 editie: 2025

© 2025, Fiscal Celestial
© de la redacción / Redactie: Francisco Javier del Pino Romero
© de las ilustraciones / Illustraties: Ekaterina Muratova
© de las traducciones / vertalingen:
Lieve Behiels,
Allan Brown
Elena Kupriyánova
Cristina López Devaux
Javier del Pino Romero
© de la revisión / revision: Stephanie Horsford

www.fiscalcelestial.org

Depósito legal / Wettelijke depot: D/2025/Fiscal Celestial, uitgever

Alle rechten voorbehouden. Behoudens uitdrukkelijk bij wet bepaalde uitzonderingen mag niets uit deze uitgave worden verveelvoudigd, opgeslagen in een geautomatiseerd gegevensbestand of openbaar gemaakt, op welwe wijze ook, zonder de uitdrukkelijke voorafgaande toestemming van de uitgever.

Todos los derechos reservados. Está estrictamente prohibida cualquier forma de reproducción, distribución, comunicación pública o transformación total o parcial de esta obra, sea cual sea el medio usado, sin el permiso expreso y por escrito del editor.

CLEO: QUESTION BOOKLET



This workbook is based on CLEO, a bilingual book written in Spanish by Francisco Javier del Pino Romero and translated into four other languages.

Four versions of CLEO have been published:

- Spanish-French: ISBN 9789464516135
- Spanish-English: ISBN 9789464517866
- Spanish-Dutch: ISBN 9789464516128
- Spanish-Russian: ISBN 9789464517859

These exercises are intended for students of Spanish as a foreign language, as well as for students of French, English, Dutch or Russian with a B level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). They are also an ideal tool for children of Spanish-speaking parents living in a country where one of the book's languages (French, English, Dutch, Russian) is the official language and who are schooled in that language, or for native speakers of French, English, Dutch and Russian who are learning Spanish.

For more information about CLEO, visit its website: www.fiscalcelestial.org

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

In this workbook you will find exercises to improve your knowledge of the five languages of the book and to acquire vocabulary. These are not beginner's exercises. All are based on the book CLEO.

Both the CLEO book and the workbooks consist of 51 chapters. In the workbooks, the chapter titles are in uppercase and numbered. In addition, after the title of each chapter, you will find in parentheses the page numbers of the corresponding chapter in the book. This will make it easier and quicker for you to find the answers. The questions are also numbered (267).

The great advantage of studying CLEO is that it is designed for individual work without a teacher. The CLEO study pack consists of the CLEO book, a question booklet (65 pages), an answer booklet (84 pages) and a recording of the book in Spanish. You can download the question and answer booklets and the recording from the website www.fiscalcelestial.org. The book, however, must be purchased. By clicking on the link below you can watch an explanatory video about CLEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyfLZ7gIkcI

Apart from a few different types of exercises (fill-in-the-blank or matching words with their definitions), there are two main types of exercises in this workbook:

- questions about chapters of the book,
- translation exercises and gap-fill exercises.

The total number of words in CLEO amounts to 21,363, of which 3,695 are different words, and around 2,100 unique words (if only one term per root is counted). The linguistic and thematic difficulty level of CLEO corresponds approximately to a B1 level of the CEFR, with some parts of certain chapters closer to A2 and others approaching B2 depending on the vocabulary or structures used.

To make the most of this workbook, here is the working method I recommend:

1. Of course, you should start by reading the CLEO book in your mother tongue, in Spanish, or in both. If you read in Spanish first, you can check the translation into your mother tongue when you come across unfamiliar words or expressions. It's easy, since every even page contains the original text in Spanish, and every odd page the translated text.
2. Next, you can start answering the questions in Spanish, French, Dutch, English or Russian in the respective workbooks. But how to do it? Depending on your level in the chosen language:
   a) you can listen to the recording of each chapter and then answer the questions;
   b) you can read each chapter and then answer the questions without looking at the answers in the book;
   c) finally, you can answer the questions simply by copying the answers from the text of each chapter.
3. As for the translation exercises (from Spanish into your mother tongue or from your mother tongue into Spanish), it is advisable to read each chapter in the chosen language and then try to translate the sentences. Depending on your level, you may also simply copy the translation from the book into the workbook. Copying helps fix unfamiliar words or expressions in memory.

The above applies to any student whose mother tongue is French, English, Dutch or Russian with a B level, or to any Spanish-speaking student of one of these four languages.

However, it should be borne in mind that the translations of the book CLEO are not the Bible: they are a version of how what the author wrote in Spanish could be expressed in English, French, Dutch or Russian, but they are not the only valid translations. As the saying goes: “Every teacher has his own way.” Nevertheless, the book’s translations can serve as a model.

Words are learned in context. It is naïve to believe that we can learn lists of words in a foreign language. That is why the method I propose is the ideal way to assimilate vocabulary: through repetition, writing, reading and listening.

A special case is that of children whose father, mother or both parents are Spanish speakers and who live in a country where the official language is one of those of the book (France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Russia, etc.). In such cases, it is most likely that these children are schooled in one of the official languages of those countries.

If the father or the mother is Spanish-speaking, he or she can read chapters of CLEO to his or her child and ask the questions from this workbook. Afterwards, he or she can correct the answers given in Spanish, even if the child uses different words from those in the book.

The book CLEO can be very suitable for these children, provided they have an intermediate level of oral and written comprehension in Spanish.

The same can be said for children whose first language (or the language of their parents) is English, French, Dutch or Russian and who live in Spain or in any other Spanish-speaking country.

I hope that the book CLEO and the question and answer booklets will be useful to you.

Francisco Javier del Pino Romero
Antwerp, 1.6.2025

1. AUTHORS NOTE (pp. 4-5)

1. **Who wrote Cleo's biography?**

2. **What are a cat owner's duties?**

3. **How old is Cleo?**

4. **In addition to narrating the life and adventures of a talking cat, what is Cleo?**

2. MAIN CHARACTERS (pp. 6-7)

5. **How many human siblings does Cleo have, and what are their names?**

6. **How old are Cleo's human siblings, and what are they studying?**

7. **What other characters appear in the book?**

8. **Where do Cleo and her adoptive father live?**

3. CLEO'S NOTE (pp. 8-13)

9. **Who came up with the idea of writing this book and when?**

10. **How did Cleo learn to speak Spanish?**

11. **What other languages does Cleo understand?**

12. **Why doesn't Búho want anyone to know that Cleo speaks Spanish?**

13. **Why does Búho want to write a book about Cleo?**

14. **Why does Cleo want a book to be written about her?**

15. **Why can't Cleo write the book herself?**

16. **Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:**

    A snooze

    Cats have very good ears

    I'll be careful

    That's unfair

    A talking cat

4. WHO AM I? (pp. 14-17)

17. **What are Cleo's qualities?**

18. **What is Cleo's flaw?**

19. **How does Cleo describe her adoptive father?**

20. **What does Cleo want?**

5. WORDS GONE WITH THE WIND (pp. 18-21)

21. **What does Cándida ask Ruti and Elena?**

22. **What do Ruti and Elena want?**

23. **What does Cándida answer?**

24. **What has Ruti done to make her father proud of her?**

25. **What has Elena done to make her father proud of her?**

26. **What is the father's gift to Ruti and Elena?**

27. **What do Ruti and Elena ask their father for as a gift for their good grades?**

28. **Why does the cat have to be Spanish?**

29. **What does Ruti and Elena's mother say?**

Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

If you get good grades

If you do your homework

I'm very proud of you

You play sports

A three-week tour of Spain

Cats here are very bad-tempered

They fight each other

6. CAT WANTED (pp. 22-29)

30. What did Ruti and Elena do during the summer of 2013?

31. What did Cleo need in order to enter the distant country where Ruti, Elena and their mother live?

32. Why didn't Ruti and Elena like the cats they saw in the shop?

33. How did they find Cleo?

34. Why did they name her Cleo?

35. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

International pet passport

The cat needed to be vaccinated

A large shopping centre

We searched the internet

We found an advert from a lady who was gibing away kittens

We arranged to meet her the next day

Like a bewitched forest at sunset

She too had dark hair and green eyes

The lady shouted at me: “Watch out!”

7. CLEO’S MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN (pp. 30-31)

36. Who chose whom: did Cleo’s father choose her or did Cleo choose him?

37. **What is Cleo's first memory of her childhood?**

38. **What did they give Cleo when she arrived at the beach flat with her father and sisters?**

39. **Did Cleo eat at the old woman's house? Why?**

40. **Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:**

I don't know when or where I was born

A pungent smell of cow dung

I recognise her by her smell

She is talking to someone

In a language I don't understand

My two sisters speak to me with affection

I breathe a sigh of relief

8. AT THE BEACH FLAT (pp. 32-35)

41. **What did the vet do to Cleo?**

42. **Why can't Cleo travel with the girls to the faraway country?**

43. What happened to Cleo, where did she go?

44. What does Cleo see through the airplane window?

45. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

We arrived at a flat near the beach

I was quite small and inexperienced

I could suddenly undestand everything they said

For some unknown reason

They couldn't understand me

9. CLEO AT HER NEW HOME IN VIENNA (pp. 36-37

46. How many different cans of food did Cleo try?

47. Which two tins of food does Cleo like?

48. What is Cleo's daily life like?

49. Why is Cleo naughty?

50. Why does Búho never catch Cleo when he chases her?

51. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

She is having a great time

She is capricious and very picky about food

Cat food from the best-known brands

She's very naughty

She scratches the sofa and the speakers

She bites my ankles

I never quite understand when she is happy and when she is sad

10. STATES OF MIND (pp. 38-41)

52. When does Cleo purr?

53. Why does Cleo scratch the sofa?

54. How does Cleo show what mood she is in?

55. Why does Búho chase Cleo and shoot at her with a water pistol?

56. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

When I'm happy, I purr

I'm sad when he ignores me

I don't scratch the sofa out of spite

My father says I never laugh

He doesn't know what he's talking about

My tail and my ears are eloquent

It's a game of hide and seek

I can hardly contain my laughter

I know my father cares about me

I'm as sensitive as a teenager

I can get emotional very quicky

11. EATING AND PLAYING (pp. 42-45)

57. What are Cleo's favourite activities?

58. What does Cleo eat?

59. What did Cleo do when her father gave her a tin of food she didn't like?

60. What toys has her father bought for Cleo, and which one did Cleo like best?

61. What does Cleo do with her toys?

62. What sports does Cleo play?

63. What are Cleo's favourite hobbies?

64. What music does Cleo listen to and what does she watch on television?

65. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I spend all day running, jumping and playing

I burn huge amounts of calories

I can't stop myself

I don't know why I do it

I do some stretching

12. RUTI AND ELENA'S HOLIDAY IN VIENNA (pp. 46-53)

66. Why does her father not allow Cleo to go outside?

67. Use the words (some appear several times) from the list below to fill in the gaps in the following text (pp. 46-48-50)

Exercise a): list of words

affectionate	Argentinean	curling	emerald	feed	flatulence	foal	fur
hiding places	line	mane	mare	playful	punctuality	rubbish	slender
sneaking	sparks	staring at		subject	tail	tilts	wardrobe
wild							

Cleopatra, fourth in the *Árbol del Bosque* _____, better known as Cleo, is famous in our building on Vienna's *Mariahilferstrasse* for her dazzling black _____ and _____ eyes. In addition to her magnificent _____, she is also known for her _____ and _____, if occasionally rebellious, character.

Cleo's life is quite busy. Between catching flies, eating meat and playing with the ping-pong ball, Cleo keeps her body _____ and toned, and her nails perfectly sharp and manicured at all times.

In the morning, Cleo is the first to wake up and waits for her _____ Ruti to come out of the "forbidden bedroom", which Cleo is rarely allowed to enter, for her own safety.

The room called "Dormitorius Papi" is a place full of dangers and _____ where Cleo, being so adventurous, enjoys _____ under the bed or into the gigantic _____.

The first thing Ruti has to do when she gets up is to feed Her Majesty Cleo, who also gets Papa, Ruti, Elena and Pablo to do whatever she wants by _____ them with her yellow-green eyes – as big as two lanterns – and _____ her tail against their legs. Even though Cleo's breakfast smells like a mixture of vile _____ and a _____ bin full of fish scraps

in mid-summer, her subjects sacrifice their olfactory sensitivities for the love and respect they have for their mistress.

Cleo is a picky eater. She is used to eating _____ beef, salmon and exquisite tuna. Moreover, Cleopatra demands _____ for meals. She works herself up into a frenzy of indignation when one of her subjects forgets to _____ her at the usual times, namely 8.00 am, 12 noon, 4.00 pm and 8.00 pm. When Cleo shows her _____ side (which can also happen after she's eaten a good steak), she goes on a rampage like a freaked-out _____ protecting her imaginary _____. She _____ her head to one side, puffs out her _____, and arches her back as she dashes about with fiery _____ in her eyes.

Exercise b): list of words

caress catching cousin dangerous ferocity flies honest mercy nap pastimes paws shines sleepy spread tortured toy mice

When the sun _____ through the windows of Her Majesty's living-room and the flies start to come in, she has a great time. Indeed, one of Cleo's favourite _____, apart from chasing _____ (of which she has thirty different models), is _____ flies.

_____ hardly ever come through the windows anymore because word has _____ about Cleo the cat's _____ and speed. Sure enough, every now and then a _____ fly gets in, and forthwith Cleo swipes it with her _____ and eats it at once, with no _____ or compassion. When she wakes up from a good _____, still a little _____ and with her eyes half-closed, she allows her subjects to _____ her. Unfortunately, being as sweet, good and _____ as she is, Cleo tends to credit others with a similar disposition, and this can be _____. More than once, she has fallen into the hands of the giant Guillermus Villainous (our _____ from Cordoba, who sometimes comes to visit) and she has been maliciously _____ by him.

68. Why does Cleo say that human children take many years to learn how to behave?

69. What did Pablo and his cousin Guillermus do to Cleo one dahy when her father was not at home?

13. CLEO'S OPERATION (pp. 54-57)

70. What happened when the vet inserted a thermometer into Cleo?

71. What did her father do?

72. What were the symptoms of Cleo's first heat?

73. What would have happened if the vet hadn't sterilised Cleo?

74. What does Cleo do when her father takes her out of the carrier and picks her up?

75. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo had pooped herself

The smell in the car was unbearable

She looked pretty pissed off

She ran off like a scalded cat

Cleo's first heat

Cleo would start meowing for no reason

She nods in agreement

When the dreaded moment comes

I take her in my arms

She is still under the effects of the anaesthetic

She's fully recovered

14. WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? (pp. 58-60)

76. How does Cleo feel under the effects of the anaesthetic?

77. Who does Cleo mistake her father for?

78. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

What's happening to me?

My head is spinning

I'm swaying from side to side

Am I dreaming?

I'm scared!

A jabbing pain

It hurts a lot

My father has come to see me a few times

15. I DON'T UNDERSTAND HUMANS (pp. 60-61)

79. Why does Cleo say she doesn't understand humans?

80. Who does Búho meow at for an hour?

81. Why, according to Cleo, is it healthier to take several naps during the day than to sleep all night?

82. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

In the morning when he wakes up

At night before going to bed

He hardly spends any time with me

They won't let me sharpen my claws on the sofa

16. NO ENTRY pp. 62-63)

83. Why has Búho forbidden Cleo from entering his bedroom?

84. What does Cleo do to get into the bedroom?

85. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

No entry

I must have kicked her or slapped her

She would dig her claws into my bottom

So I banned her from my room

17. CRIME AND PUNISHMENT (pp. 64-65)

86. What does Liena say we should do to Cleo?

87. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Crime and punishment

I sharpen my claws on the couch

It doesn't make any sense

He's always punishing my

He's put me on a diet

I'm going to tear a strip off her

18. PEE AND POOP (pp. 66-69)

88. What tools are necessary to clean Cleo's litter tray?

89. Why does Cleo cover her poop and pee with sand?

90. Why doesn't Cleo understand that her father doesn't have a box with sand in it like she does?

91. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

It's not true that cats are as clean as people say

Cleo is the cleanest Kitty in the world

She grooms herself many times a day

Poop stinks, especially mine

I use my paw as a shovel to hide the poop

19. MY FUR IS FALLING OUT! (pp. 70-71)

92. Why does Búho have to buy catnip for Cleo?

93. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I'm losing my fur

I hope I don’t go bald like my father

I started scratching my body all over

Cats shed their fur several times a year

20. CLEO’S MEALS (pp. 72-75)

94. Why is Cleo on a hunger strike?

95. What does Cleo eat?

96. How does Cleo prefer her prawns?

97. What is the recipe for preparing prawns for Cleo?

98. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I peeled a prawn for Cleo and gave it to her to taste

She absolutely loved it

When I opened a can of cat food, she refused to eat

She went on a hunger strike

She turned around and walked away grumbling

She is always sniffing at the food I prepare

But she won't listen to me

21. CLEO'S VOMITING HABITS (pp. 76-77)

99. Why does Cleo hardly ever vomit now?

100. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

The first time she threw up I was scared

Cleo starts squealing with joy

22. A KIND-HEARTED CAT (pp.78-79)

101. Why is Cleo a noble cat?

102. Why does Búho think Cleo licks his bald head?

103. What does Cleo do when Búho talks to Liena on the phone?

104. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

She is incapable of harming anyone

They say cats will hold a grudge against you if you ever hurt them in any way

I stepped on her tail unintentionally

Why are you hurting me if I haven't done anything to you?

Cleo is very naive and trusts everyone

Cleo thinks that her tongue an bge a remedy against baldness

She always gets up to some mischief

23. A SPOT OF TRAVEL (pp. 80-83)

105. Where are Cleo and her father going on their trip?

106. What does Cleo do during the trip?

107. Why does Liena's sister-in-law criticise Búho?

108. What does Cleo think?

109. Why doesn't Cleo like car trips?

110. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Today we set off on a trip

Cleo spent the first two hours protesting

Thanks goodness I stopped her in time

I remove the collar to brush her fur

They seem to enjoy wearing jewellery, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, watches, hats or scarves

My father is right about that

24. CLEO'S FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH A DOG (pp. 84-87

111. Why did Cleo have a dangerous encounter at Liena's house?

112. What did Cleo look like when she felt cornered?

113. What does Cleo think of the shaggy dog?

114. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo's first encounter with a dog

We spent a week's holiday at Liena's place

Cleo got on well with her

She didn't allow Liena to hold her

The dog continued to harass her

She stood with her back to the books like a cornered cat

Blockheads

What appalling manners!

25. CLEO AND THE PIANO LESSONS (pp. 88-93)

115. What reward do the children at Liena receive when they do their homework well?

116. Why does Cleo complain that earplugs for cats have not yet been invented?

117. Why did Cleo not learn to play the piano?

118. How did Búho consoled Cleo?

119. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I've been fond of music since I was a kitten

Cats have a very good ear and appreciate good music

Pablo studied singing and piano at the Vienna Conservatory

I like meeting Young humans, although some girls snort at me

What a pity they haven't invented cat earplugs yet!

One day Liena told my father that she wanted to teach me to play the piano

My claws are not made for playing the piano, but for catching mice

26. PROS AND CONS OF BEING A CAT (pp. 94-95)

120. What does Cleo dislike about being a cat?

121. What does Cleo like most about being a cat?

122. Why do dogs hate cats so much?

123. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Pros and cons of being a cat

What do I like about being a cat and what do I dislike?

I also dislike that he keeps me locked up at home

Even though he says it's for my own good

The dogs have it in for us

There are some humans who are allergic to cats

Scapecats (scapegoats)

27. MY FATHER BEGINS TO CATCH THE DRIFT OF THINGS (pp. 96-97)

124. What would Cleo's father like to do?

125. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

They always speak Russian because Liena is Russian

When I forbid her to climb on the table

When she spots a fly she can't catch

Just imagine how many people would welcome the services of a cat-language interpreter

28. SOMETHING STRANGE IS GOING ON. WE'RE MOVING HOME (pp. 96-97)

126. How did Cleo find out that she was moving to another house?

127. What does Cleo do to the boxes?

128. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I realise we are moving somewhere and I'm worried

I'm playing hide and seek!

I still don't understand human language well

I have to learn everything by myself!

29. AT LIENA'S PLACE (pp. 98-99)

129. What is the first thing Cleo does when she arrives at Liena's house in Brussels?

130. What does Búho do when Cleo misbehaves?

131. What does Cleo think of Liena?

132. Why does Cleo think Liena is ignorant?

133. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo and I have moved into Liena's flat in Brussels

What a dressing-down Cleo and I receive!

I don't trust her one bit

He doesn't have the sixth sense that we cats have

30. LIENA TORMENTS CLEO (pp. 100-101)

134. Why is Liena unhappy that Cleo relieves herself like a normal cat?

135. Why doesn't Cleo want to poop in the toilet?

136. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Liena keeps a mop in a bucket as well as a dustpan there

Cleo looks at me with a satisfied expression on her face

I burst out laughing, but Liena is not amused

Liena has told my father that I'm stupid because I haven't learned to poop like humans

31. MY DAD HAS ABANDONED ME (pp. 102-103)

137. Why does Cleo scratch the sofa?

138. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I have to go on a work trip to Salzburg

It's the first time I'm leaving Cleo alone with Liena

Before I leave, I say goodbye to Cleo

She's going to take good care of you

I just can't help myself!

Will you pay attention for a moment?

32. LIENA AND CLEO ARE LEFT ON THEIR OWN (pp. 104-107)

139. What changes when Liena and Cleo are left alone?

140. What does Cleo do in this situation?

141. Why does Cleo think her father is naive?

142. Why does Cleo complain about Liena?

143. Why is Cleo afraid of Liena?

144. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Liena is trying to re-educate me, but she won't succeed

She has stopped feeding me the prawns my dad bought for me

She tells him that I've been naughty

She's alive and kicking

33. WAR GAMES (pp. 108-109)

145. What is Cleo's favourite game?

146. How does Cleo defend herself?

147. How does the wrestling match between Cleo and her father end?

148. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

War games

What Cleo likes best is playing games

She fights back like a cornered cat

I tickle her belly

She lies on the floor on her back

Her nails were like hooks digging into my flesh

She almost crippled me!

34. IN THE LION'S DEN: HOLIDAYS AT YORIK'S HOME (pp. 110-119)

149. Where did Cleo and her father spend New Year's Eve and with whom?

150. Who is Yorik?

151. How did Cleo know Yorik was there?

152. How did Cleo react when she saw Yorik?

153. What did Yorik do when he saw Cleo?

154. What did Cleo do in the garden?

155. What does Cleo do when Yorik approaches her?

156. What does Yorik eat?

157. How does Yorik feel when he cannot find Cleo's food bowl?

158. What does Yorik do next?

159. How did Cleo learn dog language?

160. What does Cleo think of Yorik?

161. What does Yorik ask Cleo?

162. What does Cleo answer?

163. Is Yorik happy with his life?

164. What does Cleo say about Yorik's appearance?

165. Why does Yorik always have his tongue hanging out?

166. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

In the lion's den

What I don't understand is how neither of them smelled the other

Little by little they both became aware of each other's presence

Cleo backed away against the wall with a fierce expression

So everything went better than expected

Cleo spent the night awake with her eyes fixed on the door

She bares her fangs at him

Since he doesn't get what he wants, he cries and whimpers like a spoilt child

She looks at him over her shoulder unblinkingly

Cleo doesn't twitch a muscle

Cleo taps him on the shoulder with her paw

I am forgetting my dog language because I don't practice it

You are the only dog I've met so far who is nice and hospitable

It's just that your food smelled so good and was so tasty!

I'm very grateful for your hospitality

She says that obesity is a breeding ground for disease

The only drawback is that they don't give me enough food

What's wrong with my appearance?

Appearances can be deceiving!

35. MISSING (pp. 120-121)

167. What happened to the cats featured on the 'missing' posters?

168. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

When I sit reading by the light of a lamp, Cleo notices her shadow

I see the astonishment on her face

At last she gets tired and dozes off

Cleo tries to sneak out through the front door, which is ajar, but I don't let her

Were they killed by a dog or run over by a car?

When I get home, Cleo has already heard me and is waiting for me at the door

36. 2016: THE MOVE TO ANTWERP (pp. 122-123)

169. Where did Cleo and her father move to?

170. What did Cleo like most about the new flat?

171. Why did a police officer come to Cleo's house?

172. Why did Cleo think the police officer had come to arrest her?

173. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

At first she was a bit scared because of the high ceilings

The policeman was in uniform and had a gun

Cleo probably thought they were coming to arrest her

I live in a world full of danger, and even in my own home I don't feel safe

We cats have hardly any rights

37. LIE DOWN WITH DOGS, RISE UP WITH FLEAS (pp. 124-127)

174. What does Cleo say about fleas?

175. What was Yorik's farewell gift to Cleo?

176. Why did Cleo go two weeks without eating meat?

177. What did the vet do to Cleo?

178. How long did the treatment last?

179. Did Cleo infect her sisters with fleas?

180. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Dogs and cats are attacked by fleas

But humans are attacked by other, similar bugs: lice

I was itching all over and couldn't stop scratching

She put me on an operating table

The vet removed as many fleas as she could

I soon started feeling much better

38. CLEO'S DATE WITH HER NEIGHBOUR GALA (pp. 128-131

181. Who is Gala?

182. What did Gala do at Cleo's house?

183. What did Cleo do?

184. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo's date with her neighbour Gala

Shortly after we moved to Antwerp, I met my second-floor neighbour.

It seems this first encounter didn't go too well

Cleo hisses and bares her teeth

39. CLEO THE HUNTER (pp. 132-135)

185. How did Cleo's father help her hunt flies?

186. What did Cleo do after knocking the flies down?

187. How do mice get into Cleo's flat?

188. How did Cleo catch her first mouse?

189. What did Cleo's father do with the mouse?

190. Why did Cleo get angry with her father?

191. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

As we all know, cats are excellent hunters

Cleo hunts flies without parental help

Juega con ellas en el suelo hasta que se las come

There are holes in some of the walls where the water or heating pipes run through

I got up and saw her staring at one of her toy mice

The mouse played dead, but Cleo can't be fooled

Cleo clearly had no intention of eating the mouse

40. CLEO'S CONSTIPATION (pp. 136-139)

192. What health problem does Cleo sometimes have?

193. What does Cleo do when she is constipated?

194. What happened once when Cleo couldn't poop for three days?

195. What does Cleo normally eat?

196. What did the vet recommend to Cleo's father?

197. What did Cleo do when she heard about her favourite foods?

198. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo's constipation

Sometimes Cleo has trouble pooping

Then she put a big nappy on her, like the ones used for babies

I can't do it overnight

41. PUT AN OLIVE IN YOUR LIFE! (pp. 140-141)

199. What does Cleo's father say about olives?

200. What is Cleo's meal schedule?

201. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Put an olive in your life!

So I bought her a tin of pitted olives and put one in her dish

It looked like she was eating an ice cream

I was wrong to impose strict meal times on Cleo

So now I feed her when she asks me to

42. THE OUTDOOR BAN (pp. 142-145)

202. What is the advantage of having Cleo at home instead of a small child?

203. What did Cleo say when her dad suggested that drinking the water from the soaked chickpeas would make her fart all day?

204. Why wouldn't Cleo's dad let her go out onto the stairs?

205. Why does Cleo meow by the door?

206. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Having Cleo at home is almost like having a toddler

They say that cats get depressed if their master or mistress is gone for more than a few days

Some even stop eating and die of starvation

I have to sleep there the night before a day's work

I had left a pot of chickpeas to soak on the kitchen table

I guess she spent the whole day farting

Nobody smells better than we do

The neighbours might think that I was mistreating her

Cleo doesn't know what she wants

The way the world is nowadays, a house cat wouldn't survive in the street for very long

But at least my father doesn't talk to me as if I were a baby

Human years are not like cat years

43. A SNORING CAT (pp. 146-147)

207. Why does Cleo leave her bed at night to go and sleep on the sofa?

208. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

When she was little, she didn't snore

You could fall asleep listening to her snoring as if it were a lullaby

Yes indeed, it's unbelievable how loud my father snores

Sometimes, I even have to go to sleep in the living room

44. THE YEAR 2020: CONFINEMENT (pp. 148-149)

209. Why does Cleo say that humans are wearing muzzles?

210. Why does Cleo say that nothing has changed for her with the lockdown?

211. What has been the main change in Cleo's home due to the lockdown?

212. Why has Cleo changed her opinion of Liena?

213. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I looked out of the window and saw that all humans are wearing muzzles

I was surprised to find out that they also bite, like dogs!

A very dangerous virus has spread all over the world

I must say that I have changed my mind about her

So, every cloud has a silver lining

A few days ago an electrician came to fix something at home

45. CLEO'S SEVENTH BIRTHDAY (pp. 150-155)

214. When was Cleo's birthday?

215. What did they give Cleo as a present?

216. Use the word lists to fill in the gaps in the texts below (pp. 152-154).

Exercise a) – Fill in the gaps in the text with the words from the list below

adult affectionate baby birthday cat chest describe fangs fearless fluffy introduce love mentally motorbike purring scratch shoulder smart smells sniffs snorts stroll touch

I think her **cat** age corresponds to the age of an **adult** woman. That's why she's so **smart**, I guess. We celebrated her **birthday** by playing all day together. Cleo has changed a lot, both physically and **mentally**, since I adopted her. So I think it's about time to **describe** Cleo in detail and **introduce** her as she is at the moment.

Cleo is a small, soft and **fluffy** cat. She is **fearless**, but also paranoid when she hears strange noises. She is also elegant and always **smells** good. Cleo is very **curious** when I have visitors – she **sniffs** everyone – but she is also suspicious. And she doesn't allow anyone to **touch** her. If anyone tries to do so, she **snorts** at them and bares her **fangs**.

Cleo is still as **affectionate** as a baby, and she needs me to tell her every day that I **love** her. When I wake up in the morning, she always asks me to hold her in my arms and take her for a **stroll** around the flat. She presses herself against my **chest** and puts her little paws on my **shoulder** in the same posture as a human **baby**. When I hold her in my arms and **scratch** her head, she starts **purring** discreetly. The purring is a kind of soft rumble. It sounds a bit like a **motorbike** starting up.

Exercise b) – Fill in the gaps in the text with the words from the list below

bathroom	bowl	cheeky	child	curious	desk	front	grateful	hind
knocking	leg	naps	nose	objects	polite	shrimp	stretching	tongue
tray	whim							

She is very **grateful**. When I'm about to feed her a **shrimp**, she circles around me several times and then presses her **nose** against my **leg**. In cat language, that means "thank you". When she has finished eating, she does the same. And she is also very **polite**. When I'm in the **bathroom**, even if the door is open, she always asks permission to come in, by **knocking** on the door with one of her **paws**.

She takes several **naps** a day, and when she gets up, she does some proper **stretching**: first she arches her back upwards, then stretches her **front** legs, and then her **hind** legs, like an athlete.

Cleo can be quite **cheeky**. When I am working at the computer (usually translating), she climbs onto my (fairly large) **desk**, wanders around without even touching the many **objects** strewn across its top, and sometimes, on a **whim**, drinks water from my glass. It's amazing how fast she moves her **tongue** when drinking. Since I noticed that she prefers a glass to a **bowl**, I've been putting her water in a glass on her **tray**. Cleo is as **curious** as a snoopy old lady – always nosing everything – and she is also as happy as a **child** with a new toy.

Exercise c) – Fill in the gaps in the text with the words from the list below

affection	affectionate	armchair	arms	bedside table	breed	climbing
dog	dozes	floor	forbade	high	ladder	lap
master	nightmares	nudges	push	shelf	snoring	watching
windowsill	work					

Cleo has something of a cat and something of a **dog** – is she a new **breed** of animal, a dog-cat or cat-dog? She is as **affectionate** as the most faithful dog to her **master**. She always wants to be near me. She **dozes** on the sofa next to me when I **work**. She sleeps on the **windowsill** above my head when I sleep, or waits for me to wake up sitting on my **bedside table**. When I work at the computer, she sometimes sits under the table and sometimes on my **arms**. It's not easy to work like that! Sometimes she **nudges** my face with hers to thank me or to show her **affection** – not just when I **feed** her.

Lately, she has taken to **climbing** the library **ladder**, which is 3.10 metres **high**. At first, she would **push** the books off the top **shelf** and drop them to the **floor** until I **forbade** her to do so. Now she stays up there **watching** me while I work. In the evenings, I sit in a comfortable **armchair** to read or watch TV and Cleo sits on my **lap**.

And speaking of **snoring**, you already know that Cleo snores too, but what you didn't know is that she also has **nightmares**, just like a human.

217. How does Cleo thank her father when he gives her a prawn?

218. Why does Cleo climb the stairs in the library?

219. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

How quickly time goes by!

Sometimes we make things up when we are jealous

I think her cat age corresponds to the age of an adult woman

Cleo is fearless, but also paranoid when she hears strange noises

She doesn't allow anyone to touch her

If anyone tries to do so, she snorts at them and bares her fangs

She takes several naps a day

Cleo can be quite cheeky

Cleo is as curious as a snoopy old lady and she is also as happy as a child with a new toy

46. THE ORIGIN OF CLEO'S PARANOIA (pp. 156-165)

220. What will happen to Cleo on the streets since she is a she-cat, according to her father?

221. Why does Cleo's father say that cats do not have the same rights as dogs?

222. What is the proof that dogs are known to be the domestic animals with the best sense of smell?

223. Why, according to Cleo's father, are there no cats working for the government of any country?

224. Why doesn't Cleo want her father to go out with her?

225. Where did Cleo go when she went out?

226. What shop windows did Cleo look in?

227. What did Cleo do when two dogs ran after her?

228. How did Cleo escape from the dogs?

229. What does Cleo's father say to her when she said she didn't understand why the dogs were chasing and harassing her?

230. What happened in ancient Egypt if someone killed a cat?

231. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

She seems to be frightened by any noise she hears

I've told you many times that there are many dangers on the street

You might be stalked and beaten up by a gang of street cats

You might be chased by killer dogs

You might lose your way

In practice, cats are marginalized, despised, and harassed by dogs

What if you get lost and then can't find your way back?

She stopped several times at Belgian chocolate shops and handcrafted jewellery shops to look in the windows

Suddenly from a distance I saw a man walking two dogs on a leash

Cleo came out from under the car, scared and feeling guilty for not listening to me

I warned you about what could happen

What a cruel world this is!

You young people tend not to obey your parents, though we've got a lot of life experience

47. WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH YOU, CLEO? (pp. 166-167)

232. Why did Cleo not greet her father, when he returned from Brussels but instead hid away and not come out for lunch or dinner?

233. How did the humans know that Cleo speaks and understands human language?

234. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I took Liena to her home in Brussels and spent the night there

I found her hiding in her little house and thought she just wanted to be alone

I started to worry when she didn't turn up for lunch or dinner

I approached them to find out what they smelled like and they immediately pinned me down, tied me to a chair, and started asking me questions

I played dumb and meowed as if I didn't understand them

The took a blood sample from me with a syringe

They hooked me up to a machine after putting wires on my head

All I can do is change the lock

48. CLEO SEES A PSYCHOLOGIST (pp. 168-175)

235. Why does Cleo's father want to take her to see a psychologist?

236. Why doesn't Cleo want to go to a psychologist?

237. Why does Cleo say that Ruti and her father are crazy?

238. Why doesn't Cleo's father want Cleo to talk to the psychologist?

239. What does Cleo's father complain about to the psychologist?

240. Why does the psychologist think it is not a good idea for Cleo's father to adopt another little kitten so that Cleo is not alone and has someone to play with?

241. Why is Cleo jealous of her father's girlfriend?

242. Why is Cleo angry with her father?

243. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

I need meat and fish to grow up

Well, I think you're the one who should go see a psychologist

You and Ruti, who's a vegan, are trying to convince me to give up eating meat

Tell me what's wrong with your cat

She scratches the sofa when we visit my friends' homes

It seems your cat knew nothing about your plans to adopt another kitten

Your cat may get depressed – or she may be very happy to have a playmate

I pay for the consultation and Cleo and I drive home

So I'm the last to know about such important things!

You make decisions that concern me, and you don't bother to consult me!

49. ODE TO CLEO (pp. 176-179)

244. Fill in the gaps in the texts with the words from the list below

Exercise a)

Banter beautiful brightens companion health hilarious laughter mood wake witticism work of art

Cleo is the best **companion** a human can wish for. Cleo **brightens** up my day with her witty **banter** and puts me into a good **mood** as soon as I **wake** up. She is **hilarious** and good for my **health**. With her every move, every pose, every **witticism**, she makes me burst into **laughter**. Cleo is also a monument. She's so **beautiful** that, when I look at her, I feel I'm admiring a **work of art**.

Cleo is jet **black**, but when the sun **shines** on her, she changes colour like a **chameleon** and turns **chocolate** brown. Her fur shines like **silk** and is **fluffy** like cotton wool.

Exercise b)

animal	bristles	brush	call	colour	combed	eat	emeralds
enough	feel	feelings	happy	head	hugging	intonations	
jingling	jowls	lap	laughing		light	massage	
massaged	movie	pads	palm	place	slave	soft	stares
tiny	topaz	watch					

Cleo is **tiny**, hairy, soft – so **soft** that when you hold her in your arms you **feel** as though you were **hugging** a furry toy **animal** that is somehow alive. Her eyes are two **emeralds** that change **colour** and shape. They turn yellow like a **topaz** in the dark, and narrow down to a thin streak in bright **light**. She never comes when I **call** her. She **stares** at me as if to say: "If you want something, come to me and say it. I'm not your **slave**!" She only follows me around, **jingling** her little bell happily, when I say: "Let's get something to **eat**!" She also won't sit on my **lap** when I call her, but if I show her her cat **brush** and run my fingers through the **bristles**, she quickly leaps onto my lap and settles there to be **combed** and massaged. She absolutely loves to be **massaged**, especially on her head, **jowls**, throat and paw **pads**. Sometimes she moves around, rubbing against the brush, and all I have to do is hold it in **place**. Then she puts her face in the **palm** of my hand and I brush her **head**. She makes such a **happy** face that I burst out **laughing**. Every evening she sits on my lap for me to **massage** her. When I grow tired, I say: "Is that **enough**?" and she replies: "meeeooow!", which means: "Is that all? I want more!"

Then she naps on top of me while I read a book or **watch** the news, a **movie** or a football match. It's funny how with just one word, "meow", though uttered with a range of completely different **intonations**, Cleo can express joy, pain, fear, anger … and many other **feelings**.

245. In which three places did Cleo hide?

246. What is Cleo's favourite hiding place?

247. What is Cleo afraid of and why?

248. How does Cleo wake her father up in the morning?

249. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book. You will find them in the answer booklet:

Cleo puts me into a good mood as soon as I wake up

She's so beautiful that, when I look at her, I feel I'm admiring a work of art

When the sun shines on her, she changes colour like a chameleon and turns chocolate brown

Her eyes are two emeralds that change colour and shape

She never comes when I call her

Then she puts her face in the palm of my hand and I brush her head

She makes such a happy face that I burst out laughing

Then she naps on top of me while I read a book or watch the news

From time to time, Cleo disappears, and I can't find her anywhere, no matter how hard I look

What I fail to understand is why she didn't answer when I called her

Her favourite hiding place is under the bed

Cleo is a sleepyhead – she sleeps twice as much as humans!

50. THE CAT BEAUTY CONTEST (pp. 180-187)

250. What would Cleo have to do to participate in a cat beauty contest?

251. Why doesn't Cleo want to participate in a cat beauty contest?

252. What would interest Cleo in participating in a beauty contest?

253. What does Cleo think about outer and inner beauty?

254. Why doesn't Cleo want to sing in the contest?

255. Why won't Cleo have to wear a mask?

256. How was Cleo welcomed at the Cat Beauty Contest?

257. What happened during the jury's deliberations?

258. Why did the jury members argue that Cleo should win the prize?

259. Why did some jury members not want to give Cleo the prize?

260. What prize did Cleo win in the contest?

261. What song did Cleo hum when she won?

262. What do the other cats do when they hear Cleo sing?

263. What do the humans do when they hear Cleo sing?

264. Translate the sentences below into your mother tongue and compare your translations with those in the book

Wouldn't you like to take part in a beauty contest?

You'd be known worldwide by every cat!

I already have everything I want

Humans, in general, are attracted by external beauty

You know, *If you want something, you've got to work for it*

You can hum whatever song you like best

I hope I don't have to wear a mask

I wouldn't be able to breathe properly or smell anything

Children under 12 are not obliged to wear a mask

There were cats of more than fifty breeds

There were some cats who looked down their noses at her

The presiding judge asks for silence and the Clerk announces the prizes by category, by age and breed

The gold medal goes to Cleo for her beauty, naturalness, kindness and intelligence

When long-haired cats are put under the shower, they look like scarecrows

The cats stop meowing and the humans stop chatting

Little by little, one after the other, they join Cleo in singing the song's refrain in chorus

When Cleo finishes singing, the audience bursts into applause and cheers

51. EPILOGUE (pp. 188-189)

265. What are the responsibilities of a cat owner? Fill in the blanks (p. 188).

abandon	adopting	affection	bill	brush	check-up	children
dustpan	feelings	floor	fur	litter	living	love
pee	personality	play	poop	regret	responsibilities	responsible
sick	toy	twice	unconditional		vaccinations	water

Most **children** want a dog or a cat at home, but **adopting** a cat should be a **responsible** act and you should think **twice** before doing so, because many people **regret** it later and **abandon** their pet. A cat is not a **toy**, but a **living** being with **feelings** and emotions, with his or her own **personality**. Cleo has given me her **unconditional** love, lots of **affection**, company and a sense of wellbeing. If you want to have a cat at home, you should know that you will have **responsibilities**, namely:

- Buy cat's food and biodegradable, organic **litter**
- Buy a litter box and pooper-scooper, as well as a **brush** and **dustpan** for any litter that is spilled on the **floor**.
- Clean the **poop** and **pee** out of the litter box every day.

- Feed your cat and change its **water** regularly
- Brush its **fur** every day.
- **Play** with your cat every day.
- Take your cat to the **vet** once a year for a general **check-up**, or for **vaccinations** – and pay the **bill**!
- Take good care of your cat if it gets **sick**
- **Love** your cat for the rest of its life.

266. After reading and answering all the questions, have you memorised the translation of some of the phrases below that appear in the book? These are mainly fixed expressions with figurative meanings, various nominal phrases, colloquial expressions and several proverbs that are worth remembering:

- To have a bad temper
- To breathe a sigh of relief
- To ignore someone
- To be annoyed
- To rush out like the devil is chasing you
- To take a quick nap
- To tear a strip off
- To hold a grudge against someone
- To be on the lookout
- To catch on the fly
- Blockhead
- To have it in for someone
- Scapegoat
- To play hide and seek
- To get/give someone a telling off

- Not to trust someone at all
- To laugh one’s head off
- To be alive and kicking
- To defend oneself tooth and nail
- In the lion’s den
- Breeding ground
- Appearances can be deceiving
- To play dead
- To change your mind
- Every cloud has a silver lining
- Like a child with new shoes
- To take a nap
- To play dumb
- To be a sleepyhead
- No pain, no gain