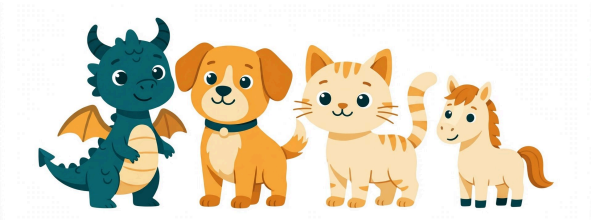
Bryson

Grade 8 | Writing Assignment
Date: Monday, November 16, 2026

The Pet You Wish You Could Have

Persuasive Essay — 500–750 words



Your job: Pick the pet you wish you could have — any animal, real or impossible — and write a persuasive essay arguing that our family should **actually get it**. Do not just say it would be fun. Prove it: show what it would really cost, what caring for it would really take, and why it is worth it anyway.

CHECKLIST — YOUR ESSAY MUST INCLUDE

- ☐ The pet you chose, clearly named in your introduction
- ☐ **Real costs** — getting the pet, food, vet or other care, supplies
- ☐ **Real care requirements** — daily time, feeding, exercise, cleaning, and space it needs
- ☐ **Why it is worth it** — the strongest reasons our family should say yes
- ☐ **One counterargument** — for example, the cost or the mess
- ☐ **Your answer** to that counterargument
- ☐ **A concluding ask** — end by clearly asking for the pet
- ☐ 500–750 words total

A STRONG STRUCTURE

Paragraph 1: Introduce your pet and your claim.

Paragraph 2: The real costs — honestly.

Paragraph 3: The daily care it needs, and who does it.

Paragraph 4: Why it is worth it.

Paragraph 5: The counterargument — and your answer.

Paragraph 6: Conclusion with your ask.

Title: _____

Keep going: Start your essay here, then continue on the back of this sheet or on lined paper. Staple any extra pages to this sheet so everything stays together.

WORD COUNT

_____ **words**

Goal: 500–750 words