

IELTS ENGLISH PODCAST. ANIMALS. TRANSCRIPT

Have you ever had a pet before?

Yes, I've had many pets before. I've had dogs, rabbits, hamsters, a bird. My most memorable pet would probably be my bird. My bird was called Sunny and she lived with me for several years in my house in Korea and she'd fly around the house and she kind of spoke. She said a few words and made a lot of noise. Unfortunately one year she actually became very sick and passed away. That was a few years ago, but I had a lot of fun with her over the 4 or 5 years that I raised her.

What kinds of animals do people in your country have as a pet?

Well, I'm from England and I think English people are big dog lovers. We often raise dogs. I see families with several dogs sometimes and I think because we have so many parks in England it's a really good opportunity to be able to walk the dog and play and let the dog get plenty of exercise, so that's the most common pet in England.

Talk about a pet that you or someone you know once had.

I'd like to tell you about my pet Sunny. Sunny was a bird. I say was because unfortunately she passed away. I bought her about 5 years ago when I was living in Korea. I guess I was quite lonely so I wanted to have a pet to keep me company in my house. My house was quite small so it was difficult to raise a dog or a cat. I think that would have been unfair to the animal so I decided to get a bird because I could let the bird fly around my room or my house, but it was kind of a low-maintenance choice and in the end, it was a very good choice. She stayed with me for 5 years and we had a wonderful time unfortunately as I said after 5 years. She became sick. We don't know why. It was something that just can happen and unfortunately she passed away, so that was perhaps 3 years ago she passed away. Let me tell you a little more about Sunny. She was a small parakeet a type of parrot and she was yellow with orange cheeks. She was loud. And she had quite a unique character. She was full of energy, full of life and she really loved flying so whenever I came home. I opened my cage, her cage and she flew around my house and caused a lot of trouble, but she was a real pleasure to raise. I loved her very much. She gave me a lot of joy and also to my friends as well. They all really enjoyed seeing her. In the future, I really hope to have another parrot actually. I'm not I'm not sure what species, but I'd like to have another parrot and raise her in the same way.

VOCABULARY

cage (noun) - a strong structure made of bars or wire that keeps animals or birds inside.

hamster (noun) - a small pet animal like a mouse with big cheeks that store food.

hunted (adjective) - being chased or looked for by someone who wants to catch you.

joy (noun) - a very happy feeling.

maintenance (noun) - the work done to keep something working well or in good condition.

opportunity (noun) - a good time or chance to do something.

parakeet (noun) - a small, colourful bird that is often kept as a pet.

rabbit (noun) - a small animal with soft fur, long ears, and a short tail.

species (noun) - a group of the same kind of animals or plants.