

Persuasive Essay—Weak Example

***This student did NONE of the assigned RESEARCH.**
He took the easy way out. He just wrote what he knew about—he
didn't do the work (and his grade reflected that...).*
*As you read this, **look** for **hard/strong evidence.**
Hard facts that **will support** his opinion.*

Chameleons

Think Chameleons are better then cats. Chameleons are easy to clean up after. Just take a cloth and pick up there mess. With cats, at first its easy. Then they go to the bathroom in there liter box. Then the liter box starts to stink. Then you have to clean it up and more cat liter.

I also think Chameleons are better because they eat cat food, crickets, super worms, meal worms, wax worms, cockroaches, sweet fruit, soft vegetables, pinkie mice and pinkie rats. For cats they have to have a special kind of food. Then you always have to go to the store to buy more. If the store doesn't have the kind of food you have to go to another pet store. Now you some reasons I like Chamleons more then cats.

PERSUASIVE ESSAY STRONG EXAMPLE (REWRITTEN)

Chameleons

My first memory of playing with a cat was when I was five. I was at my grandma's house and I went over to pet her cat. As my hand touched the soft cat hair, the cat hissed and scratched me. I had three rivers of blood running down my arm. It hurt, too. Since then, I have learned there are much better pet choices than a mean, old cat. I believe Chameleons are better than cats because of clean up, diet, and habitat. 63% of pet owners with a chameleon and a cat agreed. After doing a little research I can see why.

Chameleons are easy to clean up after. With cats, it's a stinky, gross chore. It seems easy at first. Then they go to the bathroom in their litter box and the litter box starts to smell. Before you know it, your sifting litter and gagging on the awful smell.

I also think Chameleons are more unique because of the diet they eat. There's nothing boring about their food: they eat cat food, crickets, super worms, meal worms, wax worms, cockroaches, sweet fruit, soft vegetables, pinkie mice and pinkie rats. So what does a cat eat? It's pretty boring. Just cat food. Little round chunks of kibble. What a boring life you'd have owning a cat.

Let's look at habitat. A Chameleon does best in a terrarium with lots of plants. It needs a UVB light so that its bones don't get weak. The light builds needed calcium. It needs human contact each day. So what about a cat's habitat? Just a boring old house that they sleep in all day long and while 60% of all cat owners like the boringness of a cat, I prefer the energy and excitement of a chameleon running up my arm—instead of scratching it!

Chameleons are awesome and unique creatures. Everything about them is unique. Wouldn't you like to own something that looks like the dinosaurs from the past? Maybe now you can understand why I like Chameleons more than cats.

Now this essay has everything on the checklist.

PERSUASIVE ESSAY STRONG EXAMPLE (REWRITTEN)—ANSWER KEY

Chameleons

Hook: My first memory of playing with a cat was when I was five. I was at my grandma's house and I went over to pet her cat. As my hand touched the soft cat hair, the cat hissed and scratched me. **OVEREXAGGERATION:** I had three rivers of blood running down my arm. It hurt, too. **TRANSITION & OVERSIMPLIFICATION:** Since then, I have learned there are much better pet choices than a mean, old cat. **THESIS:** I believe Chameleons are better than cats because of clean up, diet, and habitat. **STATISTIC** 63% of pet owners with a chameleon and a cat agreed. After doing a little research I can see why.

Chameleons are easy to clean up after. Just take a cloth and pick up their mess. **EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORDS:** With cats, it's a stinky, gross chore. It seems easy at first. Then they go to the bathroom in their litter box and the litter box starts to smell. Before you know it, your sifting litter and gagging on the awful smell.

TS: I also think Chameleons are more unique because of the diet they eat. There's nothing boring about their food: they eat cat food, crickets, super worms, meal worms, wax worms, cockroaches, sweet fruit, soft vegetables, pinkie mice and pinkie rats. So what does a cat eat? **EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORDS:** It's pretty boring. Just cat food. Little round chunks of kibble. **OVERSIMPLIFICATION:** What a boring life you'd have owning a cat.

TS: Let's look at habitat. A Chameleon does best in a terrarium with lots of plants. It needs a UVB light so that its bones don't get weak. The light builds needed calcium. **EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORDS:** It needs human contact each day, other words it needs love. So what about a cat's habitat? **OVERSIMPLIFICATION & EXAGGERATION, A FACT BACKING UP THE OPPOSING ARGUMENT, ANOTHER STATISTIC & EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORDS:** Just a boring old house that they sleep in all day long and while 60% of all cat owners like the boringness of a cat, I prefer the energy and excitement of a chameleon running up my arm—instead of scratching it!

CONCLUSION: Chameleons are awesome and unique creatures. Everything about them is unique. **CALL TO ACTION:** Wouldn't you like to own something that looks like the dinosaurs from the past? Maybe now you can understand why I like Chameleons more than cats.

Now this essay has everything on the checklist.