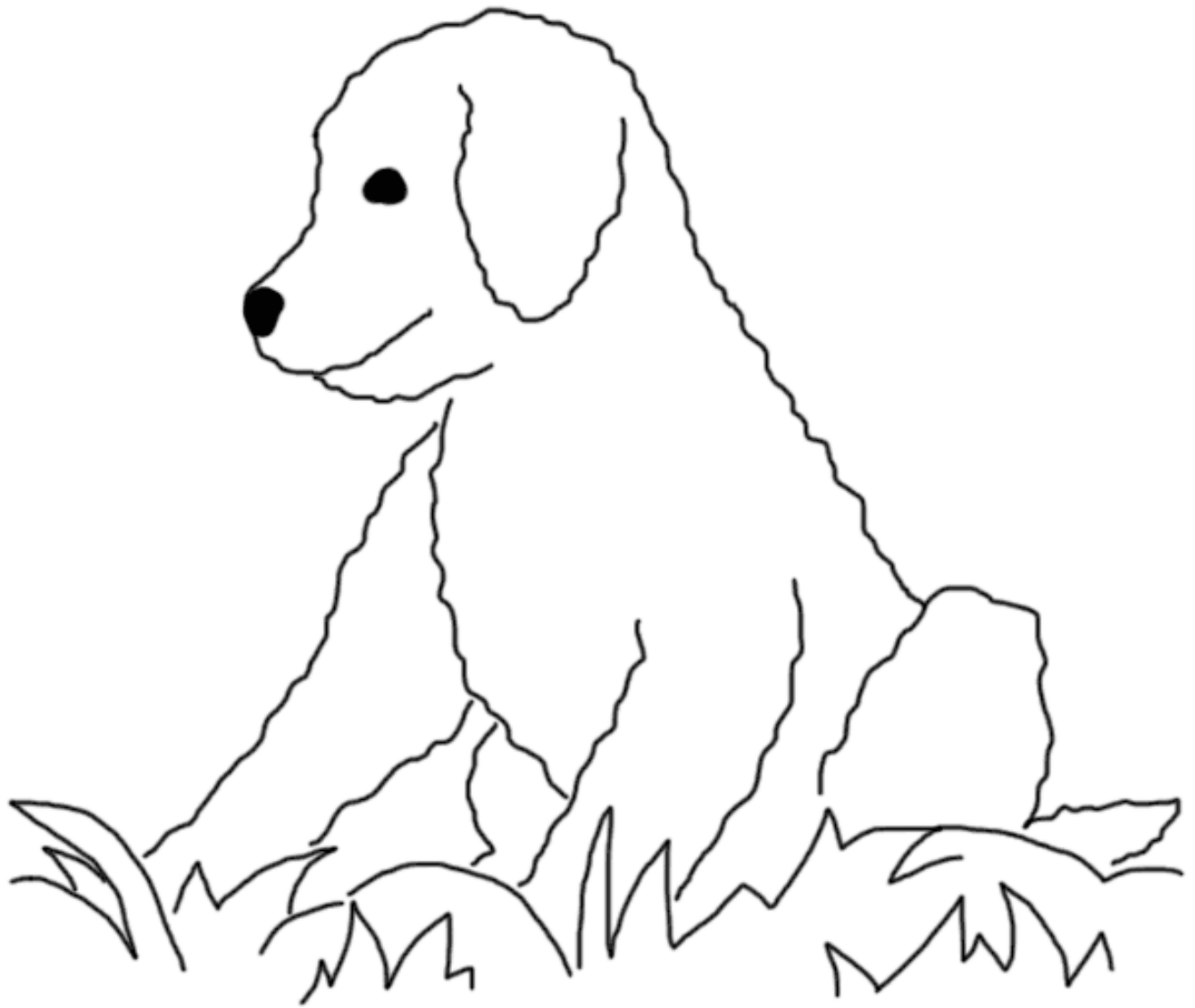
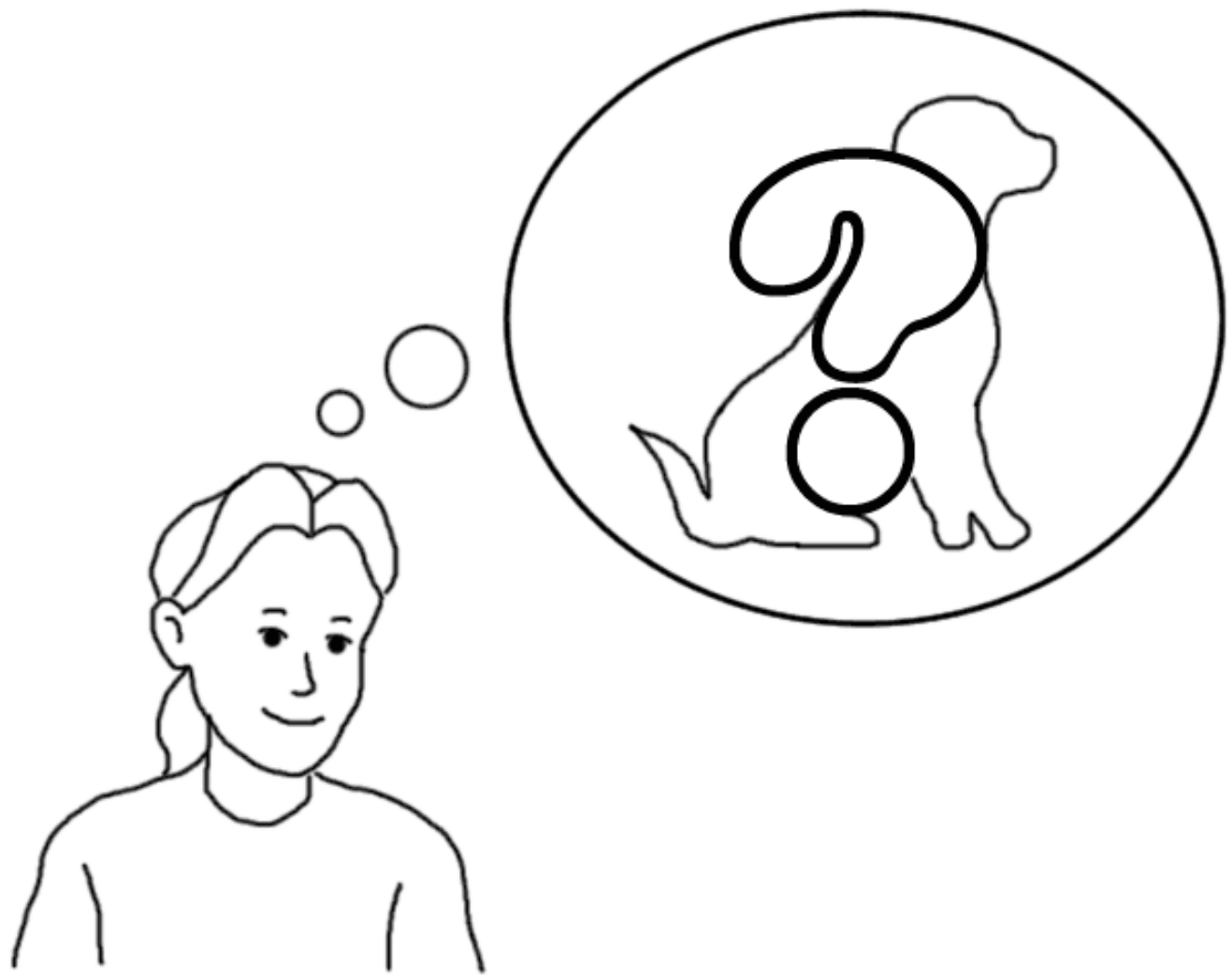


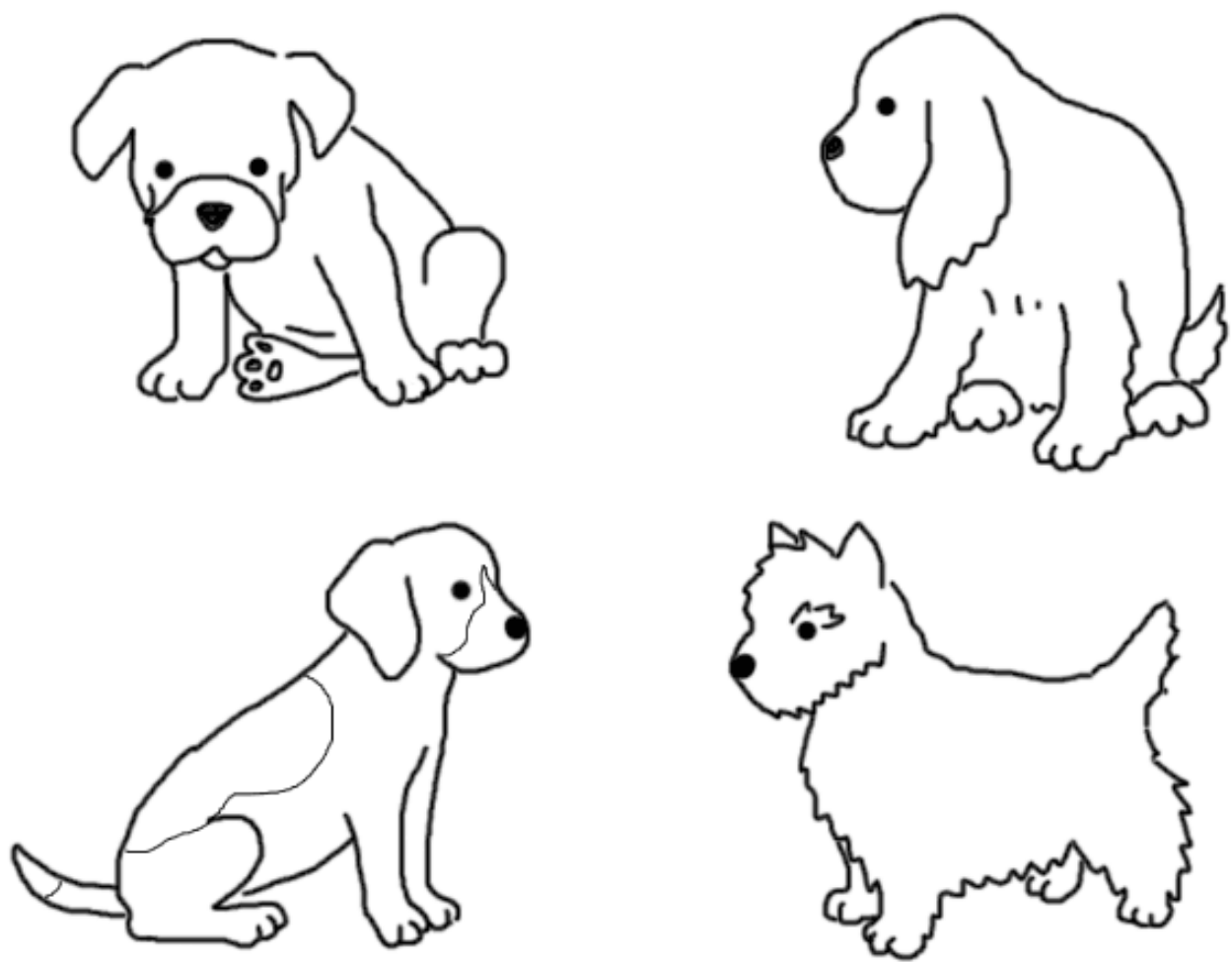
A Puppy for Upton



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Upton was having a birthday in one month. His mother wanted to give her son a puppy. She did not know what kind of puppy to get Upton. Upton did not know what his mother was up to, but he knew his birthday was coming up in one month.



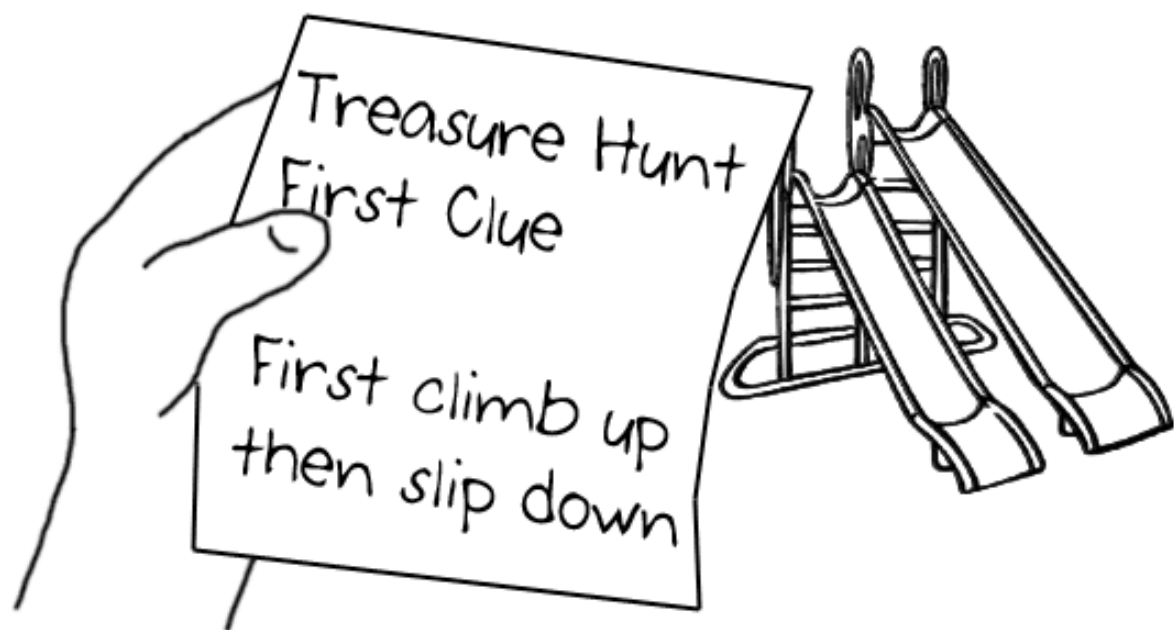
Upton's mother looked at puppies at the pet store. She looked at pugs, hounds, and collies. She looked at spaniels, Labradors, and poodles. She looked at German shepherds, terriers, and Chihuahuas. His mother did not know which puppy would be just right for Upton.



On Sunday, his mother looked in the paper. She looked at ads for puppies. She looked in puppy magazines. She looked on the Internet. Upton's mother was even more confused. What kind of puppy should she get for Upton?



Finally, she called a pet doctor, or veterinarian. The vet asked her all kinds of questions about Upton. The vet asked if they lived in a house or apartment. She asked if Upton was active or quiet. She asked if Upton really wanted a puppy or if it would end up being cared for by his mother. Then, the vet suggested a special puppy that she thought would be just right for Upton.



Upton had his tenth birthday party in the park. He had birthday cake and balloons. He opened the presents from his guests after the games. His mother prepared a treasure hunt for Upton's last present. She put a dozen clues on paper for Upton. She hid the clues in the park. Upton opened one clue and then the next. He followed the map all over the park.



When Upton opened the last clue, it read, "Look under your birthday table where you will see a box. Lift the cover off and open the box." Upton carefully lifted the tablecloth. Under the table was a funny-shaped box. It was covered with a blanket. Upton could hear something. He removed the blanket. He quickly lifted the cover on the box, and out jumped Upton's puppy.



The puppy jumped into Upton's arms. Upton picked up his puppy and hugged it.

He was so excited. "A puppy! A puppy! Mother, you got me a puppy! Thank you, thank you!" exclaimed Upton. "I love it!" The puppy jumped up and licked Upton. "What kind of puppy is it?" Upton asked.



The puppy was apricot-colored. It had a wooly and curly coat. It had long legs and a long nose. "What does it look like to you, Upton?" asked his mother.

"Well, kinda like a poodle, but also kinda like a Labrador. What kind of puppy is it, Mother?" asked Upton again.

"Upton, you are right. It is a poodle and a Labrador. It's called a Labradoodle," said Mother.



Upton and the little Labradoodle were a perfect couple. Upton loved his puppy and named him "Doodlebug." Upton and Doodlebug took care of each other for many years. When Upton grew up, he told his family that his favorite birthday memory was the year he got his puppy, Doodlebug.

1. Why did Upton's mother want to get him a puppy?
 - a. Upton was lonesome.
 - b. Upton was having a birthday.
 - c. Upton wanted a brother.
 - d. Upton was leaving home.

Answer: _____

2. Why did Upton's mother look at so many puppies?
 - a. She lived in a pet store.
 - b. She wanted to get the cheapest pet.
 - c. She did not know what kind would be right for Upton.
 - d. She wanted a black dog.

Answer: _____

3. Besides the pet store, where did Upton's mother look for a puppy?
 - a. She looked in the newspaper.
 - b. She looked in the hallway.
 - c. She looked at school.
 - d. She looked at the police station.

Answer: _____

4. Who did his mother call for help in finding a puppy?
 - a. She called the veterinarian.
 - b. She called her mother.
 - c. She called her neighbor.
 - d. She called Upton.

Answer: _____

5. Where was the puppy hiding at Upton's party?
- a. in a treasure chest
 - b. in a kennel
 - c. in a covered box under the table
 - d. in a pen

Answer: _____

6. What kind of dog did Upton get?
- a. Upton got a Labrador.
 - b. Upton got a poodle.
 - c. Upton got a pug.
 - d. Upton got a Labradoodle.

Answer: _____