

## Karl Lagerfeld's cat set to inherit millions

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Photo - ArabianBusiness.com

Following the death in Paris on Tuesday of legendary fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld, news is emerging that his pet cat could inherit millions of dollars. His fluffy, white Burmese cat, Choupette, became a global, feline icon after she became Lagerfeld's pet and companion. In an interview last year with fashion magazine Vogue, Lagerfeld said he would leave part of his estimated \$150 million fortune to Choupette. She could be set to inherit millions of dollars. The cat is not exactly short of cash. Lagerfeld said Choupette was the "most famous" and "richest" cat in the world. She made \$3 million as a model in one year for just two jobs - one for a German car company and the other for a Japanese cosmetics brand.

Karl Lagerfeld unashamedly admits that he "stole" Choupette from her former owner. He explained: "Choupette belonged to a friend of mine who asked if my maid could take care of her for two weeks when he was away. When he came back, he was told that Choupette would not return to him." Lagerfeld joked: "He got another cat who became fat." Lagerfeld spent years pampering his pet. He fed her on a diet of king crab, smoked salmon and caviar. She enjoyed a luxurious lifestyle most of us can only dream of. She is looked after by two maids. Lagerfeld never let Choupette advertise cat food. He said: "I don't allow her to do foodstuffs and things like that. She's far too sophisticated."

Sources: [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) / [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com) / [the-guardian.com](http://the-guardian.com)

## Writing

Is it right that a pet can inherit millions of dollars? Give reasons for and against.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

legendary / fashion / designer / inherit / millions / pet / global / feline / cash / brand / admit / owner / friend / return / fat / diet / crab / salmon / lifestyle / sophisticated

## True / False

- a) Lagerfeld's cat is a Siamese. T / F
- b) Lagerfeld said his cat is the richest cat in the world. T / F
- c) Lagerfeld's cat made \$3 million in two jobs as a model. T / F
- d) Lagerfeld's cat did some modeling for a Japanese confectionary brand. T / F
- e) Lagerfeld said he "stole" the cat from its previous owner. T / F
- f) Choupette ate regular cat food every day. T / F
- g) Choupette is looked after by three maids. T / F
- h) Lagerfeld said his cat wasn't very sophisticated. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>following</b>      | a. fantasize          |
| 2. <b>emerging</b>       | b. roughly calculated |
| 3. <b>icon</b>           | c. worldly            |
| 4. <b>estimated</b>      | d. label              |
| 5. <b>brand</b>          | e. becoming known     |
| 6. <b>admits</b>         | f. opulent            |
| 7. <b>pampering</b>      | g. star               |
| 8. <b>luxurious</b>      | h. confesses          |
| 9. <b>dream</b>          | i. after              |
| 10. <b>sophisticated</b> | j. spoiling           |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of Karl Lagerfeld?
- b) Should pets be allowed to inherit millions of dollars?
- c) What do you think of cats as pets?
- d) What would you do if you inherited \$150 million?
- e) Are you ever short of cash?
- f) Would you leave money to animals in your will?
- g) Why do people keep pets?
- h) Is it right that a cat can earn \$3 million as a model?

## Phrase Match

- news is
- a global, feline
- part of his estimated
- The cat is not exactly short
- a Japanese cosmetics
- Lagerfeld spent years pampering
- He fed her on a diet
- She enjoyed a luxurious
- She is looked after
- She's far too
- icon
- lifestyle
- brand
- by two maids
- sophisticated
- emerging
- his pet
- of cash
- of king crab
- \$150 million fortune

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How will the millions of dollars be spent on Choupette?
- How would your life change if you inherited millions?
- Why does a cat need two maids?
- Would you like to have luxurious food every day?
- Are there too many posts of cats on YouTube and Facebook?
- How sophisticated are you?
- What questions would you like to ask Choupette the cat?

## Spelling

- news is egnremgi
- His ylfffu, white Birman cat
- became a global, eefnil icon
- his estimated \$150 million frtnoeu
- The cat is not lxacyet short of cash
- a Japanese sosmtcice brand
- Lagerfeld dhauanlseym admits that
- her roferm owner
- Lagerfeld spent years mgenrppai his pet
- smoked salmon and acvari
- She enjoyed a lxurousiu lifestyle
- She's far too scthdeosatipi

### Answers – Synonym Match

|      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. i | 2. e | 3. g | 4. b | 5. d  |
| 6. h | 7. j | 8. f | 9. a | 10. c |

## Role Play

### Role A – Cats

You think cats make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): goldfish, elephants or snakes.

### Role B – Goldfish

You think goldfish make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): cats, elephants or snakes.

### Role C – Elephants

You think elephants make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): goldfish, cats or snakes.

### Role D – Snakes

You think snakes make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): goldfish, elephants or cats.

## Speaking – Pets

Rank these with your partner. Put the best pets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- cats
- snakes
- dogs
- cows
- goldfish
- elephants
- tortoises
- crocodiles

### Answers – True False

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | F | b | T | c | T | d | F | e | T | f | F | g | F | h | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.