Name _____   Date _____

Strong and Supportive Details in Opinion Texts: Pets 🐱

> **Great writers include facts and evidence to support ideas in an opinion text.**
> - A **fact** is a piece of information that can be proven.
>   Facts are the strongest type of supporting details.
> - **Evidence** is any detail used to support a main idea or opinion.

Part 1: Read the text. (Circle) the two main opinion statements.
Then, underline three or more details that support each opinion.

🐕 🐢 🦦 🐰 🦎 🐈 **Pets** 🐍 🦜 🐹 🦔 🦎 🐠

    Pets are special animals that humans keep for companionship. Some of the most common types of pets are dogs, cats, and fish. Other popular pets include birds, small mammals, and reptiles.

    Many people have strong opinions about which animal makes the best pet. (Some argue that dogs are better companions.) Dogs are often called "man's best friend." They help people to get more exercise and fresh air because dogs need to be walked every day. Dogs can be trained to do tricks more easily than other types of pets. They also tend to be loving and friendly, which can help their owners feel happier and make new human friends.

    (On the other hand, many people believe that cats make better pets.) Cats can be sweet and cuddly with their owners just like dogs can. A cat's purr can help lower their owner's stress levels, making them feel calmer and more content. Additionally, cats don't need as much training as dogs do. Cats don't need to be walked outside, but can instead play inside. Cats are also usually cleaner than dogs because cats groom themselves often.

    Of course, there are people who prefer other types of pets. Small mammals and reptiles might be better for people who don't have much space in their homes for larger pets. Birds and fish can make better pets for people who may have allergies to animals with fur. No matter what type of animal, pets are an important part of life for many people.

Part 2: Imagine you are writing an opinion paragraph. Choose whether you think dogs or cats make the best pets. Fill in the blanks below with supporting details from the text above. Be sure to rewrite them in your own words!

Main Idea/Opinion: _____ make the best pets.

Supporting Detail: _____

Supporting Detail: _____

Supporting Detail: _____

Supporting Detail: _____