

## Oral Reading Test

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- ▶ If you've ever spent time with cats, you know that sometimes they act in mysterious ways. How do you know when a cat is happy or sad? Pay attention to the sounds that it makes and what it does with its body. That could give you a clue!

First, listen to the noises cats make. The soft rumbling sound that a cat makes is called a purr. If a cat is purring, it usually means that the cat is happy. A loud meow means that it wants something, like food or attention. Cats can also purr when they are upset or hurt, because it makes them feel better. And if a cat hisses, stay away! It is afraid or angry.

You can also look at a cat's tail to see how it is feeling. If a cat is happy, its tail is relaxed. If its tail is sticking straight up, it may be feeling friendly. A dog wags its tail when it is happy, but if a cat wags its tail, it may be annoyed.

Finally, look at the cat's ears. Do they point forward? That means that the cat is feeling curious. Do they point backward or lie flat on the cat's head? The cat may be feeling scared.

To "talk back" to a cat, lie on the floor so that you are at the cat's level. Move slowly and talk quietly so that it feels comfortable with you.