Farmer was getting Goat ready for the country show. Farmer brought him a thick blanket. He brushed Goat’s coat until it was shiny. He fed him spinach.

“I would like some spinach,” moaned Cow.

“I would like my coat brushed,” groaned Horse.

“I would like a thick blanket,” grumbled Chicken.

“I’ve had enough of your complaining!” said Cat, early one morning. “It’s impossible to get any sleep around here.”

—The animals looked at Cat in surprise.

“Instead of moaning,” said Cat, “why don’t you do something about it?”

“What can we do?” asked the animals.

Cat sighed.

“Talk to Farmer,” he continued, “and make him understand why you are unhappy.”
Teamwork is Key

Alaska has a famous dogsled race every year.

Sled drivers, called mushers, race from Anchorage to Nome, a distance of about 1,049 miles. It is not easy to find the right dogs for a dogsled team. Not only must the dogs be strong and healthy, they must also obey orders. Each dog must be willing to share the work. They must get along and work together as a team.

The lead dog or dogs must be smart because leaders often have to make decisions on their own. Being in front, lead dogs usually see problems before anyone else.

The dogs behind the leaders are called swing dogs.

Swing dogs are very strong. Their job is to help move the whole team around turns or curves.

The dogs right in front of the sled are called wheel dogs.

These dogs must pull the sled out and around corners or trees. All of the other dogs in the team are called team dogs. In dogsled racing, teamwork is key.

1. What is the article mostly about?

2. Why should the lead dog be the smartest dog of all?