

Answers To Do You Speak Dog?

1. d. Submission

Your dog is expressing that he does not wish to challenge your leadership. He accepts that you are the boss. Submissive dogs never stare at dominant dogs. Don't punish a dog that acts like this—he's already saying, "You're the boss."

2. c. I am afraid and may bite or run.

This is the classic profile of a fear biter. These dogs are the most dangerous, as they feel they must bite to protect themselves. If they can run, they will, but if they feel cornered they will attack. They don't have the confidence of the dominant dog. Give this dog an escape route and don't force yourself on him.

3. c. I smell a dog in heat.

This may be related to a courtship ritual in which the male dog nibbles the hair on the ears of a female. It may also help increase the transfer of scent to the nasal membranes.

4. a. Play with me!

This is a happy, relaxed dog who wants to have some fun.

5. b. I am nervous.

Dogs yawn when they are nervous about something. You often see dogs yawn in obedience classes when an owner is being too harsh with them. Some misled owners correct yawning dogs thinking they are not paying attention.

6. b. Hello!

Believe it or not, this is a friendly gesture. It's equivalent to a human handshake. Dogs will grasp each other's muzzles in the same way.

7. c. I am submissive.

This puppy should not be punished. This behavior is the canine equivalent of saying, "I'm sorry." If you punish this dog, you'll set up a vicious cycle of recurrence.

8. a. He needs a break.

Behaviors like scratching and shaking like a wet dog happen because of sensory overload. The dog needs a break to calm down.