This writing sample was developed as an email about a unique cat parenting tip.

Subject: Your Cat Deserves a Side Salad

Dear [Potential Employer],

We've all been there—about to dig in to a delicious dinner or a tasty snack, when a fuzzy head tries to get between us and our food. We sigh, pull them away from our plates, and plop them in front of the same old cat food they always eat. But what if we could, occasionally, give them a little healthy variety? No, we're not talking cat treats: get ready to raid the fridge and make your cat a salad.

When one of our cats became obsessed with our salads, my partner and I did a little digging. We know cats are obligate carnivores, but it turns out that our favorite leafy green is actually perfectly safe for our furry friends—when given in moderation. According to Purina (and our vet), cats can eat lettuce, and its high water content may even help your cat stay hydrated! Keeping your cat well-hydrated is important for their overall health, and with one of our cats already suffering from Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD), we were excited to have a new tool to add more water into their diets. Whether you want some bonus hydration for your beasties or you're just tired of their attempts at lettuce larceny, a salad could be the solution.

Making a salad for your cat is super simple—it's as easy as making one for yourself! First, you just need your favorite kind of lettuce. Our lettuce-loving cats prefer the thinner, softer varieties over the thicker, crunchier ones, but your cats may feel differently. Next, prepare a cat-sized serving by thoroughly washing one or two small leaves and cutting them into even smaller pieces. Then just plate it up and serve! It's important to make sure that your cat's salad doesn't disrupt their normal diet, so only offer them a small amount—a side salad, if you will. Too much lettuce can cause stomach upset and diarrhea, so portion control is important. Never, ever add any oils, dressings, or seasonings to anything you offer your cat. Unfortunately for our feline salad fanatics, some things must be forever out of reach. When in doubt, always check with your vet about adding any new foods to your cat's diet.

Finally, your cats may not jump for joy at the sight of a salad, and that's okay! They are carnivores, after all, and may be perfectly content with a snack of chicken or salmon. If your cats do develop a lifelong love of lettuce, though, *lettuce* know! Send us an email at catslovelettuce@pm.me (yes, that's a real email!) with pictures of your cat enjoying their favorite side salad. Carlile, Dionysus, and Pumpernickel would all love to hear from you.

Warmly,

Wil Waring