

Homework 14

Due Wednesday, November 2 at 11am (in class)

1. One thing that people feel compelled to do is generically gender different animals, which one can notice by how an unknown pet is referred to using a pronoun (*he* or *she*, rarely *it*). Besides noticing that it is very difficult for humans to conceive of an animate being without gender, we can also use this fact to discover ways in which people organize gender categories. Using the chart below, poll 10 friends about the generic gender of each animal. We will combine these in class, and then generate hypotheses about why each animal is classified the way it is (referring to gender ideologies of course). Ask your friends something like: “*If you meet someone who has this animal, and you know nothing about the animal, what pronoun do you use to refer to the animal? In other words, how would you ask something like ‘When did you get it/her/him?’*”

<i>Animal</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Masculine</i>
Cat			
Dog			
Fish			
Snake			
Guinea Pig			
Pig			
Lizard			
Penguin			
Mouse			
Parrot			