

Attention is other people thinking about you.

Aggressive or punitive attention is better than no attention at all.

I was young and unable to feed or protect myself.

All I did was cry and hope for help.

Attention is a game and may be used as power play.

One of the most common complaints about cats is their excessive vocalization:
loud meowing or whining, sometimes accompanied by other attention-seeking behavior.

Or look at the dogs:

Barking

Chasing lights and shadows

Snapping at imaginary flies

Contorting their bodies

Posturing

If I paw at your leg to solicit your attention, respond.

If you want to use me, offer attention as a reward for doing as you say.

How grateful you'll be afterwards.

