English / Animal Testing

Teacher notes - Why we need animal testing



This first activity is designed to be a guided reading task to prepare students for reading longer extracts on their own later.

Each slide has a chunk of text, taken from the handout which will be given out later, and students are presented with a question or task to complete on each. Depending on the ability and needs of the group, these can be discussed together as a class, in pairs or groups or students can be asked to complete them on their own first and then feedback be taken as a class.

Some words are glossed if needed but you may want to try some reading strategies as a class to start: look at root word/prefix/suffix, see if it looks like a word they know, read the word in a sentence/read before and read after, use a dictionary.

Responses the students might come up with:

Slide 1

- Strong positive or negative personal opinions, which may be based on things they have read or seen in the media perhaps
- They may know specific brands that test or don't test on animals e.g. bodyshop
- They may list animals they know to be commonly used in testing: rats, mice, rabbits, monkeys

Slide 2

- Soap
- Arts & craft supplies
- Shampoo
- Household cleaning items
- Toothpaste

Slide 3

- Helps us to know what to do if a person accidentally ingests or puts a product on their skin or in their eyes
- Helps doctors know how to treat accidental exposure

Slide 4

- Animals / family pets
- The environment

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Slide 5

- To know that the products we are using everyday are safe
- To prevent serious illness from using these products
- It is a moral and legal obligation that manufacturers have

Slide 6

 Computer systems just aren't as sophisticated as a human, they can't copy our whole biological system and therefore they can't reliably predict how a product will affect us.

Slide 7

- We have learned a lot about the immune system
- We have learned a lot about the cardiovascular system
- We've discovered a vaccine for parvovirus in dogs
- · We've discovered a vaccine for feline leukemia
- We've discovered methods for bringing some species back from the edge of extinction

Slide 8

- We've discovered a vaccine for polio
- We know how to transplant organs
- · We know how to transfuse blood
- We know how to deal with patients involved in serious trauma
- We know how to prevent cancer and heart attacks simply through nutrition and exercise
- · We've created insulin for diabetics
- We know how to carry out hip replacement surgery
- We know how to carry out kidney dialysis

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Slide 9

- To ensure the product we use in our daily lives are safe to use and won't cause serious harm or illness to us
- To ensure we know how to treat someone who may have been poisoned accidentally
- To help doctors give patients a second chance of life through organ donation
- To help with medical breakthroughs such as discovering vaccinations for deadly diseases
- To help create vaccinations for our beloved pets
- To help prevent harm to the environment