**Grade 5**

**Persuasive formal letter**

Address

The Editor,

The Western Times,

39, Haverford Street,

Cardiff.

22nd November 2015

Dear Sir,

I am a member of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry and I have recently read a leaflet that you published written by an organisation that called themselves "Animal Help". The leaflet argued against vivisection and totally rejected the idea of animal research without taking into account the facts about the testing and the benefits that the research provides. It is for this reason that I am writing to you a letter of complaint.

The leaflet argued that thousands of pounds are spent each year on animal testing that is yet to produce any cures for illness. I admit that scientists who use animals for research purposes are yet to find cures for diseases such as cancer, for example. However, the testing so far has produced us with treatments for many of these illnesses and now allows millions of people who suffer with them to lead normal, everyday lives. I regret that animals often die as a result of this testing, but I also believe that the fact that we have not yet found cures for these deadly diseases gives all the more reason to continue with the testing.

The "Animal Help" advertisement also said that the drugs produced with the help of animal research produce side effects that often cause more people to become ill. I would like to point out that very often those people in hospital with illnesses triggered by the side effects of drugs have often been taking the drugs for many years and in doing so have lengthened their lives. I would also like to mention that there is only usually a small amount of people who suffer the side effects of treatments. Many do not react at all to the drugs.

The advertisement also suggested that scientists and researchers are only interested in money and profits. They argued that no conclusions have been made and still the government and huge tobacco companies are employing scientists to do nothing but con the public into believing that they care about people's health. They said, "If they really care, they would not make cigarettes!" I believe that this is a very unfair judgement that is coming from people who have no idea of what is involved in research. It is not the tobacco companies’ fault if the public want to weaken their health by smoking. Warnings are clearly printed on cigarette packets and it is entirely the choice of the purchaser whether to smoke cigarettes. It is not only lung cancer, which is mainly caused by those who indulge themselves in smoking, which is researched. Scientists do not waste their time and money finding a cure for nothing. They are working to provide cures for those who are ill, through no choice of their own, with things such as breast cancer, diabetes and asthma not those who pathetically indulge in cigarettes.

I think that organisations such as "Animal Help" have no right to argue on matters that they do not have facts to back up their arguments with. If there were any alternatives to animal testing they would be used. Scientists do not enjoy using animals for research but they have no other choice if they want to succeed in finding cures for deadly diseases that will save millions of lives.

Yours faithfully,

Miss ……….