

## EU bans sale of all animal-tested cosmetics

13<sup>th</sup> March, 2013



People in Europe will no longer be able to buy cosmetics that were tested on animals. The European Union has banned all cosmetics that

were developed using animal testing. The EU is also asking other countries to do the same. The total ban follows an earlier one from 2009, when companies could test on animals for serious human health issues. Tonio Borg, the EU's commissioner for health, said the ban, "gives an important signal on the value that Europe attaches to animal welfare". Mr Borg said the EU would help the industry find different ways of developing new cosmetics. He said this would, "set an example of responsible innovation in cosmetics without any compromise on consumer safety".

Animal rights campaigners say the ban is an important victory. They have campaigned for decades against animal testing. A spokesman from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals charity said: "Animal testing in the name of beauty has never been acceptable." He added the work for animal rights activists was not over. "This is a great day for animals but...there are still many animals being used across the world to develop cosmetics," he said. Cosmetics companies were very angry over the new law. A Cosmetics Europe spokesman said European companies would fall behind in developing new products. He added that, "consumers in Europe won't have access to new products".

Sources: BBC / NY Times / Metro

### Writing

*Testing anything on animals is wrong. Scientists should find other ways to test cosmetics. Discuss.*

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*cosmetics / animal testing / total ban / health issues / animal welfare / innovation / campaigners / important victory / a great day / very angry / developing new products*

### True / False

- Cosmetics tested on animals will be banned in Europe from next year. T / F
- A ban was introduced in 2009 but it wasn't a total ban. T / F
- An EU spokesperson said Europe thinks animal welfare is important. T / F
- The EU will not help cosmetics companies develop different methods. T / F
- Animal rights campaigners were not happy with the ban. T / F
- A charity spokesperson said there was more work to be done. T / F
- Cosmetics companies were not happy with the situation on animal testing. T / F
- An industry spokesperson suggested customers would have less choice. T / F

### Synonym Match

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. banned      | a. OK          |
| 2. attaches    | b. new methods |
| 3. welfare     | c. activists   |
| 4. innovation  | d. mad         |
| 5. consumer    | e. stopped     |
| 6. campaigners | f. brutality   |
| 7. cruelty     | g. links       |
| 8. acceptable  | h. customer    |
| 9. angry       | i. goods       |
| 10. products   | j. health      |

### Discussion – Student A

- Why don't scientists use computers to test cosmetics instead of animals?
- Would you work in a lab that tested things on animals?
- What rights do animals have?
- Would you take a job that meant cosmetics were tested on you?
- Are cosmetics harmful to the skin?
- What cosmetics do you like?
- Do we really need cosmetics?
- What questions would you like to ask an animal rights campaigner?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. cosmetics that were                   | a. issues            |
| 2. The EU is also asking other countries | b. an example        |
| 3. health                                | c. behind            |
| 4. set                                   | d. to new products   |
| 5. consumer                              | e. tested on animals |
| 6. the ban is an important               | f. to do the same    |
| 7. campaigned                            | g. of beauty         |
| 8. testing in the name                   | h. safety            |
| 9. European companies would fall         | i. victory           |
| 10. access                               | j. for decades       |

## Discussion – Student B

- What springs to mind when you hear the word 'cosmetics'?
- What are cosmetics for?
- Do you think cosmetics always make people look better?
- What do you think of the EU ban on cosmetics tested on animals?
- What questions would you like to ask a cosmetics company boss?
- What do you think of testing cosmetics on animals?
- What do you think of testing medicines on animals?
- Do you think cosmetics might be more dangerous from now?

## Spelling

- bedann all cosmetics
- serious human health ssseiu
- the ban gives an important lsinga
- the EU would help the idusnytr
- set an xelmaep
- without any compromise on erusconm safety
- animal rights sgireanmacp
- an important itovryc
- They have campaigned for asddece
- animal rights acvisitst
- A Cosmetics Europe msnokesap
- access to new rtpcdsuo

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. g	3. j	4. b	5. h
6. c	7. e	8. a	9. d	10. i

## Role Play

**Cosmetics company boss** - You are angry that the EU will not let anyone sell cosmetics tested on animals. Tell the others three reasons why. You may have to close some of your factories. People will lose their jobs. The image of your company will also be damaged.

**Animal rights campaigner** - You are happy that the EU will not let anyone sell cosmetics tested on animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Testing on animals is something from the last century, not this one. New jobs will be made for new ways of testing chemicals.

**Cosmetics store owner** - You are angry that the EU will not let anyone sell cosmetics tested on animals. Tell the others three reasons why. You may go out of business just because of animal rights. You think human rights and jobs are more important.

**Fluffy white rabbit** - You are happy that the EU will not let anyone sell cosmetics tested on animals. Tell the others three reasons why. You are shocked so many of your friends disappeared in testing labs. Animals have rights too.

## Speaking

Which cosmetics are unnecessary? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most unnecessary at the top. Change partners often.

- mascara
- foundation
- lipstick
- blusher
- eye liner
- nail polish
- moisturizer
- face masks

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.