

Task 1. Read the first paragraph. What is unusual about Andi?

a Before birth, he was genetically identical to a human embryo.
b His DNA was genetically engineered to make him immune to certain diseases.
c His DNA includes a gene from another creature.

Meet Andi



Although it is illegal in most countries for scientists to alter the DNA of human eggs or embryos, experiments on animals are allowed. In April 2001 the first genetically-modified monkey was born – he was called Andi (representing 'Inserted DNA' backwards). Andi developed from an egg into which scientists had inserted a jellyfish gene; as a result of which Andi glowed green in ultraviolet light.

Task 2. Read the second part: who do you agree with?

Dave King, a campaigner against human genetic engineering, said yesterday: 'It is science out of control and at its most irresponsible. People should wake up to the fact that genetic engineering of people could be just around the corner.'

Simon Fishel from the Park Hospital, Nottingham, responded: 'We've been striving for hundreds of thousands of years to eliminate human diseases. If we get to the stage in human development where the only way to do that is to attack the errors in our DNA, then we have to try to attack those errors. I see this as positive research.'

Task 3. A man and a woman are discussing genetic experiments. Listen and answer:

a Who is in favour and who is against?
b At what point does the woman think the man is not being serious?

Task 4. Who is making these points – the man ок the woman?

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1 It's _____ indefensible to use animals in experiments.
2 If scientists are allowed to create designer babies, then one day, people who haven't been _____ modified will be seen as inferior.
3 By altering our DNA, scientists will _____ be able to eliminate the most serious diseases.
4 There's no reason why parents shouldn't be able to choose _____ whether they have a baby girl or boy.
5 Artificial alterations to our genes may have _____ unforeseen side effects.
6 _____, scientists will never find a cure for cancer unless experiments on animals are permitted.
7 If this kind of experiment is _____ permitted, scientists will go on to create monsters by mixing human and animal DNA.
8 We have to embrace scientific progress, since it's _____ impossible to hold it back.

Task 5. Complete the expressions

1 I don't really _____ with that.
2 That's just an opinion – there's no evidence to _____ it.
3 But where will it _____ ?
4 That's a fair point, I _____ . But in my view ...
5 That argument doesn't _____ sense.
6 You don't _____ to _____ things to such an extreme.
7 I _____ what you mean. But ...
8 You can't _____ serious.