

Key stage 2

Pupil B – Piece E: a persuasive letter

Context: when reading 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman, pupils studied the letter the family receive from an activist opposed to xenotransplantation. They imagined how the parents of Cameron – the 'pig heart boy' – might react and respond to such a letter, and then wrote their own letters in reply, choosing to write either as the father or mother. Pupil B chose to write in the role of Cameron's mother. The corrections in green are the pupil's own.

Dear Mrs S. Gamble,

I am writing regarding your issues about my son (Cameron). After an exhausting forty eight hours, I was dreading writing this letter, but as you requested I am giving you an opportunity to listen to my side of the story. For the record, I don't agree with the unsuitable words to describe my important decision as it's extremely hurtful.

I understand the personalities of pigs but the main use of pigs is for meat, so we shouldn't have to waste their organs. The key reason for this is so people can live longer, as sadly many people are dying - waiting for human organs. It is true that pigs are exposed to painful ^{experiences}, whilst being slaughtered, as this method is used everyday. There are ^{many} ~~lots~~ of pigs to use while we can now save lives for people like my Cameron. Without a doubt, you might know I'm angry but how dare you describe this method as selfish when it saves lives!

To add onto your concerns, Dr Bryce - my sons life-saver - is a specialist doctor, who saves lives, unlike your wasting time by protesting to ban this life saving method. I am fully aware of the risks and misconceptions of this method, but it saves lives. I am lucky to have Cameron because if this wasn't discovered (Xenotransplantation) Cameron won't have a wedding; have kids; live a life and meet his future sibling - Alex.

We have been running around all day and this has caused me a big amount of stress adding onto my situation. If this was to be a life or death situation in your family, surely you will feel the same way? I don't expect a letter back, so please don't ^{send} one as I will not respond.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Kelsey (Catherine Kelsey)

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