

# Cloning Around

## Should people be allowed to clone themselves or others?

In 1997, scientists made a lamb named Dolly by cloning an adult sheep. *Cloning* is a process in which cells from the body of one living thing are used to make an exact copy of it. Since Dolly, scientists have cloned cattle, pigs, and other animals.

Some scientists would like to try to make clones of human beings. They could create a new baby from the cells of a person, they say. Someday, just a few of your cells could be used to make a copy of you. You could have a younger identical twin.

Should scientists be allowed to clone humans? All over the world, people are wrestling with that question. Read these arguments. Then decide for yourself.

### **Yes! Scientists Should Clone People.**

Cloning humans would help us learn. We could learn more about how people develop. That could lead to preventing and curing diseases.

Scientists could learn how to clone parts of the human body. People who need new body parts would be able to get them. For example, a person with a bad heart could get a heart from a clone.

Making a clone of a person could be a wonderful thing. Parents whose child dies could use cells to create a new baby. The baby would be like the child they lost.

Some people aren't able to have babies. People who want to be parents could make a clone instead. Then they would have a baby of their own.

Many people have done a lot for peace or science. A clone might be able to continue the good work.

### **No! Scientists Should Not Clone People.**

Making clones of people is wrong. We were not meant to make new humans in the lab.

Experiments on humans are dangerous. We don't know what could happen. Cloned babies might have problems. They might not be able to live full lives.

A person should be made from two parents. A clone would be made from only one parent.

A human clone would not be exactly like the original. Many things affect how a person is. What happens in your life affects who you are. No two babies have the exact same experiences. Cloning a child who died would not mean getting that same child back.

Some people might clone for the wrong reasons. For example, they might want to make thousands of clones of super strong people to use in armies. Cloning is too risky.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What kind of animal was Dolly?

- A human
- B cow
- C pig
- D sheep

2. Which of the following best describes one argument for and one argument against cloning as presented in the passage?

- A One argument for cloning is that cloning could help us learn more about how people develop. One argument against cloning is that cloned babies might have problems.
- B One argument for cloning is that people might make clones for bad reasons. One argument against cloning is that cloning could provide people with new body parts.
- C One argument for cloning is that Dolly the sheep lived a happy life. One argument against cloning is that cloning is too risky.
- D One argument for cloning is that a clone would have one parent instead of two. One argument against cloning is that scientists might not be allowed to clone humans in some countries.

3. It can be inferred from the passage that

- A scientists will certainly clone a human being in the next few years
- B no human being has yet been cloned
- C cloning human beings is wrong and dangerous
- D cloning human beings is something that will never happen

4. Read the following sentence: "They could create a new baby from the cells of a person, they say."

In this sentence the word **create** means

- A make
- B love
- C enjoy
- D teach

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A the science and technology involved in cloning animals and humans
- B reasons why scientists should not be allowed to clone humans
- C a debate about whether scientists should be allowed to clone humans
- D reasons why scientists should be allowed to clone humans