

Name:..... Date:.....

Fringe benefits: investigating shampoos

What you do

You are working in a customer care team for a hair research organisation called 'Fringe Benefits'. They have had questions about shampoos from clients. Choose one of the questions then write a consumer report for the client.

- What differences are there between shampoos made by the same manufacturer, eg for 'greasy', 'normal' and 'heat-treated' hair? Do the shampoos 'work' for the hair types?
- Is it true that vitamins in shampoos improve hair?
- Which gives the best results - shampoo and conditioner used separately or combined in one product?
- Compare the cheapest and more expensive brands of shampoo. Does price make a difference to the performance of the product?

Planning

When planning your experiments you will need to think about:-

- types of hair
- types of shampoo
- making sure the test is fair
- how to compare the shampoos
- how you will know if the results are correct.

Report writing

When writing your report include:

- what experiments you did and the results
- the answer to the question
- the chemistry behind the answer.

To help you - you could try writing to companies who make shampoo to ask how they test if their products 'work' as they say. Be prepared for some interesting answers.

