

**SPCA Auckland Education  
Teacher Guide Sheet**



Looking at Labels – ‘The Torture of Hens’ Level 4  
English Year 9

‘Write instructions, explanations, and factual accounts, and express and explain a point of view, in a range of authentic contexts, organising and linking ideas logically and making language choices appropriate to the audience’.

Looking at Labels – ‘The Torture of Hens’ Worksheet  
Year 9

In this activity, the different systems of commercial egg production will be compared.



1. Bring empty egg cartons from home and sort them into 3 groups; ideally, a carton from each egg produce variety - battery, barn, and free-range.
2. Read the text for each kind of carton. Copy the text.
3. Note if there are any pictures on the cartons. Copy them. If there are pictures, comment on the design and the impression each gives.
4. The 3 types of egg production in NZ are:

**Battery** - Each hen is caged and the floor space for each hen is the size of an A4 piece of paper

**Barn** - The hens are kept in a large building. There are perches at different heights and nest boxes. The birds cannot go outside.

**Free-range** - Live the same way as barn eggs but they have access to outdoors.

5. Check some eggs from each situation - Are they different to look at? Crack an egg from each situation. Are they different inside? Write out your findings for each egg.

6. Read the article provided, and then write your own reasoned account comparing the 3 different systems. Make sure you include the advantages and disadvantages of each system.



Finally, give your own opinion as to which system you prefer.