**Scientific Method Exercise**

*We invented the scientific method because we are naturally terrible at explaining our own experiences. Without the scientific method, there is no way to know what causes simple, everyday things like thunder. Every explanation is as good as another, and if an explanation becomes culturally bound and passed down, that becomes the official explanation for millennia. Our natural tendency is to confirm our assumptions, but science tries to disconfirm our assumptions one by one until the outline of the truth begins to form. Once we realized that approach generates results, we went from horses and tobacco enemas to mapping DNA and walking on the moon in a few generations.* Henry, Alan. "How to Determine If a Controversial Statement Is Scientifically True." *Lifehacker*. N.p., 2012. Web. 13 Aug. 2016. quote by David McRaney

Go to Chapter 2 on the Honors Chemistry section of my web page and watch the Scientific Method video. You may have been taught in the past that there is an exact number of steps in the method or that the method is an absolute procedure that has to be followed step by step. Neither of these are true. The “scientific method” is a thought process, rather than a procedure. Use it as such for this assignment.

Assignment: I received the following article via e-mail about three years ago and your task is to determine its scientific validity as a whole and all claims specifically made by using the guidance of the “scientific method”. I don’t expect you to conduct experiments; however, you should consider potential experiments when considering claims. This assignment is due upon arrival to class tomorrow.

One Sunday morning I got up very early and went outside to pick up the Sunday paper when I noticed someone had sprayed red paint all around the sides of my neighbors brand new beige truck. I went over and woke him up and gave him the bad news. He was, of course extremely upset and we stood there trying to figure out what we could do about the problem. We decided there wasn't much recourse but to wait until Monday, since nothing was open. Just then another neighbor came out of his house, surveyed the situation and immediately said to get his WD-40 out and clean the red paint off. Guess what! It cleaned up that paint without harming the original paint on the truck! I'm impressed!!

**WD-40 - Water Displacement #40.** The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. WD-40 was created in 1953 by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a "water displacement" compound. They were successful with the *fortieth formulation*, thus WD-40. The Corvair Company bought it in bulk to protect their atlas missile parts.

**WD-40 IS MADE FROM FISH OIL** - Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you.

Here are some of the uses:

1) Protects silver from tarnishing.

2) Removes road tar and grime from cars.

3) Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.

4) Gives floors that `just-waxed` sheen without making it slippery.

5) Keeps flies off cows.

6) Restores and cleans chalkboards.

7) Removes lipstick stains.

8) Loosens stubborn zippers.

9) Untangles jewelry chains.

10) Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.

11) Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.

12) Keeps ceramic/terra cotta garden pots from oxidizing.

13) Removes tomato stains from clothing.

14) Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.

15) Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.

16) Keeps scissors working smoothly.

17) Lubricates noisy door hinges on vehicles and doors in homes.

18) It removes black scuff marks from the kitchen floor!

19) Bug guts will eat away the finish on your car. Remove quickly, with WD-40!

20) Gives a children's play gym slide a shine for a super-fast slide.

21) Lubricates gear shift on lawn mowers.

22) Rids kids rocking chairs and swings of squeaky noises.

23) Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open.

24) Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.

25) Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, well as vinyl bumpers.

26) Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.

27) Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans.

28) Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.

29) Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.

30) Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.

31) Removes splattered grease on the stove.

32) Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.

33) Lubricates prosthetic limbs.

34) Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).

35) Removes all traces of duct tape.

36) Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.

37) Florida's favorite use 'Cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'

38) Protects the Statue of Liberty from the elements.

39) Spray a LITTLE on live bait or lures to attract fish.

40) Ant bites. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.

41) WD-40 removes crayon from walls. Spray on the mark and wipe with a clean rag.

42) Removes lipstick spots from clothing.

43) Spray WD-40 on the distributor cap, it will displace the moisture and allow the car to start.

44) Keep a can in the kitchen. It takes the burned feeling away and heals with NO scarring.

Remember, the basic ingredient is FISH OIL.