

WHY PEOPLE ABUSE DRUGS (SA-46)

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the missing letters to give reasons why some people abuse drugs.

1. HEY... HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THERE WOULD BE A KEG THERE?



A _____ B _____

2. THERE'S NOTHING TO DO AROUND THIS PLACE!



O _____ D _____

3. AM I THE ONLY ONE NOT GETTING HIGH?



C _____ F _____

4. I WONDER WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HALLUCINATE. I BET IT FEELS WEIRD...



C _____ T _____

5. NOBODY IS GOING TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO! I'LL DO WHAT I WANT....



R _____ L _____

6. I'M GETTING SICK AND TIRED OF MY MOM AND DAD FIGHTING!



S _____ E _____

7. YOU ARE SO FUNNY WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK!



U _____

Word Find

S S A Z X O P R X A G L W O D T Y E Q F
B Y O O V I Q B N R O J O R N C U C X J
I V N K P P Y A M O Z Y O E N Q R N B G
P S E D N C U J A N N M M E I M I N O R
F A X K R J A T D O U D U N Q Q S W O O
P Y X R I O N R I T R Q H L R I T T O D
X C K R A E M T C A N C S O R U E U H G
C O A R C I A E B I E T N V T R R R J H
W M F A O M G M L T N A X J D X E A N R
S C L X R N O E W K E O O A D U O W B Y
I P Q I G B D J F M M A G B F N T A K N
H A F C J L J F E W V K D E Y Q Y Y I W
Y F I C P U T D O W N V B D N X P Z X Z
A D M I N I S T R A T I O N I I E M E T
H J Z H L I F A C T O R G I R C C S C T
F U G A M V X R E L I A B I L I T Y N F
F I T W K L E U K O P L A K I A P I O Z
H E B X Y Q E I L D R O J T M D O O V E
F R Q M J L K S O W B X D S E J P P L E
X A Y U R M U U Q N S A X R V S A F B O

There are 22 words here. Can you find them?

Here are the words to look for:

Addictive
Affirmation
Carcinogenic
Factor
High
Leukoplakia
Minor
Placenta
Reliability
Stereotype
Technique

Administration
Bombardment
Delinquency
Fetal
Joint
Marijuana
Misdemeanor
Putdown
Spoof
Syndrome
Tumor



Alcohol's Effects on the Body

Alcohol is a depressant drug. It has wide-ranging effects on the body.

Brain/Central Nervous System

Alcohol is a depressant that also acts as an anesthetic in the central nervous system. Although a depressant, alcohol has a unique action that initially creates a feeling of mild and pleasant stimulation. Alcohol affects the thinking, judgment, and reasoning abilities first. More alcohol intake means that breathing and reflexes will also be impaired. Heavy social drinking may also cause brain atrophy. Over time, the brain and nervous system become less sensitive to alcohol's effects.

Stomach

Some of the alcohol consumed is absorbed quickly from the stomach into the bloodstream. The amount of food in the stomach helps determine the effect alcohol has on a person. Alcohol stimulates the stomach to secrete more stomach acid. Prolonged heavy drinking is related to ulcers and even cancer of the stomach, mouth, tongue, and esophagus.

Lungs

Some alcohol is exhaled through the breathing process, which is why alcohol can be smelled on the breath of a person who has been drinking. Extremely high alcohol levels result in unconsciousness, coma, and even death, through the suppression of the brain's breathing center, the cerebellum.

Liver

Almost all the alcohol consumed is metabolized or oxidized in the liver at the rate of one-quarter to one-half ounce of pure alcohol per hour. Since each typical drink of beer, wine, wine cooler, or distilled spirit contains about one-half ounce of pure alcohol, it takes about two hours for the body to fully oxidize one typical alcoholic drink. Prolonged heavy drinking can cause fat, which will eventually become non-functional scar tissue or cirrhosis, to accumulate in the liver. Cirrhosis is the sixth leading cause of adult deaths in the United States.

Kidneys

Alcohol is a diuretic, so it increases the production of urine from the kidneys. Drinking alcohol on a hot day greatly increases the risk of dehydration.

Small Intestine

Almost all alcohol consumed is absorbed from the small intestines into the bloodstream.

Cardiovascular System/Circulatory System

Alcohol is a vasodilator, which means it opens up blood vessels, especially those near the surface of the skin. This gives drinkers a feeling of warmth, even though their body temperature may actually go down. This phenomenon is often observed at football games played in very cold weather. Some fans will drink so much alcohol they will take their jackets off to “cool off.” Unfortunately, they often find themselves in bed days later with upper respiratory infections.

Reproductive System

Alcohol decreases production of the male sex hormone testosterone. Women who drink during pregnancy risk giving birth to an infant with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), a disorder that causes heart malformation, joint problems, growth deficiencies, and mental retardation. Less obvious but more common is Fetal Alcohol Effect, which includes all of the conditions of FAS, but to a lesser degree.

NAME _____

STUDENT PAGE _____

Effects of Alcohol

Directions: Use this page to take notes about alcohol's effects on different parts of the body.

1. Brain/Central Nervous System



2. Stomach

3. Lungs

4. Liver

5. Kidneys

6. Small Intestine

7. Cardiovascular System

8. Reproductive System

9. What seven factors influence how alcohol affects the body?

1. _____	5. _____
2. _____	6. _____
3. _____	7. _____
4. _____	

Marijuana Facts

Marijuana is produced from the dried leaves and flowers of the *cannabis* plant. The active ingredient is THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), a fat-soluble drug, which produces marijuana's psychoactive effects. Fat-soluble means that the drug will be distributed to those areas of the body with high fat content, such as the brain, lungs, and reproductive system. It also means that THC will stay in the body for several weeks. Unlike alcohol, THC is not water-soluble and cannot leave the body quickly. A person who uses marijuana may be under its effects several days later, even though the "high" has worn off.

How It's Used

Marijuana can be smoked, ingested, or taken as a pill. When smoked, much more THC enters the bloodstream. It is used to achieve a state of calmness or euphoria, although other short-term effects include increase in heart rate, reddening of the eyes, talkativeness, and giddiness. Marijuana causes some users to become quiet and reflective. Almost all users report a change in how they perceive time. Larger doses may produce anxiety and feelings of paranoia.

Medical Uses of THC

When made synthetically and given orally, THC may lessen the nausea associated with chemotherapy. Synthetic THC may also help people with AIDS to regain their appetite. Synthetic THC can also be used to treat glaucoma, which is the build-up of pressure on the eyeball. Synthetic THC produces very little euphoria.

Effects of Marijuana Use

The Brain

THC works by binding to specific receptors in the brain called "cannabinoid receptors," which are located throughout the following brain structures:

- a. **Cerebellum:** By binding with the cannabinoid receptors, THC interferes with the normal function of the cerebellum, which controls balance, posture, and coordination.
- b. **Hippocampus:** THC activates cannabinoid receptors in the hippocampus. This affects memory by decreasing nerve cell activity in this area. Short-term memory is the first to be affected. Studies on lab animals show conclusive long-term memory damage.

- c. **Cerebral Cortex:** THC affects areas in the cerebral cortex that are responsible for sensory perception. As a result of marijuana use, sense of taste, sight, smell, hearing, and touch may be altered.
- d. **Limbic System:** Recent studies in animals suggest that THC produces changes in the limbic system, which governs our emotions. These changes, which are most evident during withdrawal from THC, are similar to those observed after long-term use of cocaine, heroin, and alcohol.

The Lungs

Marijuana leaves contain more coal tar than tobacco leaves, which increases the potential for chest colds, bronchitis, and lung cancer. Because they are smoked farther down and the smoke is held in the lungs longer, two marijuana cigarettes are estimated to have the same carcinogenic potential as a pack of regular cigarettes.

The Reproductive System

Because it is fat soluble, THC binds to areas of the body with high fat content, such as the testes and ovaries. In males, marijuana may decrease testosterone production to the point that female secondary characteristics, such as breast tissue, may be observed.

Personality

A lack of motivation appears among many chronic users of marijuana. Called the "amotivational syndrome," this symptom is marked by lethargy, lack of focus, and an inability to concentrate on future goals. Some chronic marijuana users become aggressive when questioned about their use. When threatened with loss of their drug, some marijuana users become violent, suggesting dependency.

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Marijuana Fact Sheet

1. Source

2. How Used

3. Medical Uses

4. Effects on the Brain

a. Cerebellum

b. Hippocampus

c. Cerebral Cortex

d. Limbic System

5. Effects on the Lungs

6. Effects on the Reproductive System

7. Effects on Personality



