

What Do They Do?

Stimulants: Amphetamines, Cocaine, Crack, Caffeine, Nicotine**AKA - Addys, Speed, Tweak, Uppers, Geek, Coke, Blow, Girl**

May cause paranoia, high blood pressure, suppressed appetite, dilated eyes, hallucinations, coma, confusion, depression and death. May cause damage to the kidneys, nasal passages and stomach. It makes the abuser feel awake and excited. When the drug wears off, the user feels tired and let down. If they can't get more of the drug, they become depressed and desperate. Sometimes the abuser uses other to come down from the stimulant "high". Stimulants are highly addictive, both psychologically and physically.

Depressants: Alcohol, Hypnotics, Opiates**AKA - Herion, Soma, K, Dope, Tar, Hole, Oxy**

May cause tiredness, kidney poisoning and loss of control. Users will feel hopeless. Their speech may be slurred. Feelings of euphoria and relaxation until the drug wears off. High dosage lead to overdose and death. Depressants can slow the central nervous system which can lead to shallow breathing, slowed heart rate and potentially death. Depressants very psychologically addictive and physically addictive and those withdrawing may require medical supervision.

Anxiolytics: Benzodiazepines, Barbituates**AKA - Benzos, Bars, Xannys, Downers, Tranx, Barbs**

May cause tiredness, kidney poisoning and loss of control. Users will feel hopeless. Their speech may be slurred. They will be easily confused and often experience drug induced amnesia. High dosage lead to overdose and death. Anxiolytics make the abuser sleepy, relaxed, and calm. It slows the heart, lungs and other body functions. It is very psychologically addictive and physically addictive and those withdrawing require medical supervision.

Hallucinogens: LSD, Mushrooms, PCP, Angel Dust**AKA - Acid, Caps, Shrooms, Boomers, Dust, Sherm**

The abuser of hallucinogens may not be able to control their actions. An abuser may move slowly or become violent and uncontrollable. They may not feel pain and unknowingly hurt themselves. These drugs cause hallucinations. Many times the abuser will see very negative images. These could be horrible monsters or other things that cause fear and induce paranoia.

Marijuana: AKA - Pot, Grass, Weed, Chronic, Mary Jane

If smoked like tobacco, marijuana contains cancer causing chemicals. Abusers become mentally dependent on the drug. They will need more and more to get the same effect. This may cause pleasant feelings or depression. It can cause a loss of memory even when not high on the drug. It can also cause feelings of panic and confusion about time. It can cause paranoia, withdrawing into self, and loss of interest in school or work.

Why Start?

With your group discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using illegal drugs. Write your answers in the columns below. Be ready to share your answers with the class.



Advantages



Disadvantages