

Grade 9 Substance Webquest

Task 1: Narcotics

Follow the link below to a webpage on the facts about narcotics.

<https://www.dea.gov/factsheets> or Hint: under topics, click on narcotics (opioids)

1. The term narcotic comes from what Greek word?
2. What are 3 street names commonly used in the U.S. for narcotics?
3. Why do doctors prescribe narcotics/opioids?
4. What schedule of drugs are narcotics as regulated by the DEA in the U.S.?
5. What are common overdose effects associated with narcotic overdose?
6. What are 3 different examples of types of narcotics?

Task 2: Nicotine

Use this Nicotine webpage to answer the following questions.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000953.htm>

1. Nicotine is found in the nightshade family of plants. Name two plants in this family.
2. Why is nicotine used in many insecticides?
3. In low doses, nicotine acts like what class of drug?
4. In high doses, nicotine acts like what class of drug?
5. Nicotine is a carcinogen, but it does not promote the development of cancer in healthy cells. What does it do?

Grade 9 Substance Webquest

6. What effect does nicotine have on heart rate and blood pressure?
7. How much nicotine is considered a lethal dose for humans?
8. Nicotine is physically addictive. What are its withdrawal symptoms?
9. How long do the withdrawal symptoms last?
10. Why does chewing tobacco release much more nicotine in the body than smoking tobacco?
11. How many seconds after entering the body does nicotine reach the brain?

Task 3: Alcohol

Use this Effects of Alcohol webpage to answer the following questions.

<http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/alcohol-use.htm>

1. Alcohol has a "biphasic" effect on the body. What does that mean?
2. What percent of alcohol in the blood will kill most people?
3. Generally, at what blood alcohol percentage does a person appear to be "drunk"?
4. What is the most significant health problem for alcoholics?
5. Alcohol does actually cause the death of brain cells. An increase in the concentration of what element in the intracellular space causes this?
6. What two metabolic characteristics of women cause them to become drunk faster than men?
7. Why are people of East Asian descent less susceptible to alcoholism?
8. Why does someone drinking numerous alcoholic beverages become dehydrated?

Grade 9 Substance Webquest

Task 4: Methamphetamine

Use this Methamphetamine webpage to answer the following questions.

<http://www.methproject.org/>

1. What class of drug is methamphetamine?
2. Name a prescribed drug that is pure methamphetamine?
3. Methamphetamine was first synthesized from ephedrine using what two chemicals?
4. Methamphetamine was prescribed to the American public in the 1950s for what disorders?
5. What is "meth mouth"?
6. Why does use of meth cause long-term cognitive impairment?
7. What does meth use do to the immune system?
8. What side effect does meth use have on the cardiovascular system of the body?
9. What side effect does meth use have on the endocrinal system of the body?

Task 5: Cocaine

Use this Cocaine webpage to answer the following questions.

<https://www.dea.gov/factsheets/cocaine>

1. What plant does cocaine come from?
2. What class of drug is cocaine?
3. What does cocaine do to the appetite?

Grade 9 Substance Webquest

4. What soft drink, in its original 1886 recipe, had a "pinch of coca leaves"?
5. What caused the company to begin using "decocanized" leaves in 1906?
6. What U.S. company sold cocaine cigarettes in 1885?
7. Cocaine is the second most popular illegal recreational drug in the U.S. What drug is first?

Task 6: Laws on Your Island:

Please use the information from the websites you researched above to help you make knowledgeable decisions for this task.

◆ **You have been given an island and you are in charge of the new government. Your first duties include the following:**

1. What type of drug laws would you have?
2. How would you deal with drug abuse, misuse and dependence problems?
3. What would penalties be for crimes committed for drugs or under the influence of them?
4. Would there be an age limit or minimum for drug use? If so, what would be the penalties and punishment for underage usage, possession or selling of them?
5. What are some problems that may arise?