



# Practice Worksheet on Drugs of Abuse

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Subject: Forensic Science

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## Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the effects of narcotic drugs on the human body and their potential for dependence.
2. Describe the effects of depressants and provide examples of substances that fall into this category.
3. Discuss the effects of stimulants, differentiating between amphetamines and cocaine.
4. Explain the effects of hallucinogens, focusing on marijuana and other significant examples.
5. Describe the Controlled Substances Act and how it classifies drugs based on their potential for abuse and medical use.

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the psychological dependence potential of heroin according to Table 12-1?

- a) Low
- b) High
- c) Moderate
- d) No potential

2. Does regular use of morphine lead to physical dependence according to Table 12-1?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Moderate
- d) Unknown

3. Which techniques are typically used for confirmatory determination in forensic drug analysis?

- a) Gas chromatography
- b) Mass spectrometry
- c) Both gas chromatography and mass spectrometry
- d) Thin-layer chromatography

4. What is the potential for abuse for Schedule I drugs?

- a) Low
- b) Moderate
- c) High
- d) No potential

5. What type of test is used to reduce the number of possibilities when identifying an unknown drug?

- a) Color tests
- b) Screening tests
- c) Confirmatory tests

## d) Microcrystalline tests

# Answer Key

## Long Answer Questions - Expected Responses

1. Explain the effects of narcotic drugs on the human body and their potential for dependence.

Expected Answer: Narcotics are analgesics that relieve pain by depressing the central nervous system, impacting blood pressure, pulse rate, and breathing rate. Regular use leads to physical dependence, with opium being the most common source.

2. Describe the effects of depressants and provide examples of substances that fall into this category.

Expected Answer: Depressants affect the central nervous system, reducing irritability and anxiety and inducing sleep. They include alcohol, barbiturates, anti-anxiety drugs, and inhalants.

3. Discuss the effects of stimulants, differentiating between amphetamines and cocaine.

Expected Answer: Stimulants increase alertness, activity, and decrease fatigue and appetite. Amphetamines cause an initial "rush" followed by exhaustion. Cocaine, including crack, increases alertness and vigor.

4. Explain the effects of hallucinogens, focusing on marijuana and other significant examples.

Expected Answer: Hallucinogens such as marijuana cause significant changes in thoughts, perceptions, and moods. Marijuana's long-term effects are still largely unknown. Other hallucinogens include LSD and PCP.

5. Describe the Controlled Substances Act and how it classifies drugs based on their potential for abuse and medical use.

Expected Answer: The Controlled Substances Act classifies drugs into five schedules based on their potential for abuse, dependence, and medical value. Schedule I drugs have no accepted medical use and high abuse potential (heroin, LSD). Schedule V has low abuse potential and accepted medical use.

## Multiple Choice Questions – Correct Answers

1. What is the psychological dependence potential of heroin according to Table 12-1?

Correct Answer: High

2. Does regular use of morphine lead to physical dependence according to Table 12-1?

Correct Answer: Yes

3. Which techniques are typically used for confirmatory determination in forensic drug analysis?

Correct Answer: Both gas chromatography and mass spectrometry

4. What is the potential for abuse for Schedule I drugs?

Correct Answer: High

5. What type of test is used to reduce the number of possibilities when identifying an unknown drug?

Correct Answer: Screening tests