

## Quiz: Marijuana

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**Instructions:** After reviewing **Facts on Drugs: Marijuana** on the *NIDA for Teens* website (<http://teens.drugabuse.gov/>), take this short quiz to test your knowledge.

1. Marijuana is made up of parts of a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) hemp plant
  - b) fern
  - c) ivy plant
2. The chemical in marijuana that causes the user to feel “high” is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) dopamine
  - b) cannabis sativa
  - c) tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
3. Pot, grass, chronic, and Mary Jane are all slang terms for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) the effects of marijuana
  - b) marijuana
  - c) methods of smoking marijuana
4. How many teens smoke marijuana regularly?
  - a) more than half
  - b) fewer than 25%
  - c) fewer than 1%
5. Marijuana users experience short-term memory loss because of the drug’s effect on.
  - a) the heart
  - b) the hippocampus
  - c) the basal ganglia

6. Which of the following is an accurate description of marijuana?
  - a) the dried, shredded leaves, stems, flowers, and seeds of the hemp plant
  - b) juice extracted from the hemp plant
  - c) the roots of the hemp plant
  
7. Tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana, acts on the brain by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) coating the skull
  - b) binding to specific receptors
  - c) causing brain tissue to grow
  
8. While pot, grass, chronic, and Mary Jane are slang terms for marijuana, the term for loose marijuana rolled into a cigarette is a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) joint
  - b) blunt
  - c) bong
  
9. It's easy to see why fewer than 25% of today's teens are choosing to smoke marijuana. In addition to causing trouble in the brain, smoking marijuana may increase the risk of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) amputation and obesity
  - b) kidney stones and ruptured appendix
  - c) heart attacks and lung cancer
  
10. Memory problems associated with marijuana use are due to THC's actions in which part of the brain?
  - a) cerebellum
  - b) hippocampus
  - c) dopamine

## Answer Key: Marijuana Quiz

1. **A:** Marijuana is made up of parts of a hemp plant. It's a mixture of the dried, shredded leaves, seeds, flowers, and stems of this plant.
2. **C:** The chemical in marijuana that causes the user to feel "high" is tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). There are more than 400 chemicals in marijuana, but THC is the active ingredient responsible for increasing dopamine levels, the chemical in the brain which produces feelings of pleasure. It causes problems in parts of the brain that deal with important functions like learning, remembering, concentrating, and moving.
3. **B:** Pot, grass, chronic, and Mary Jane are all slang terms for marijuana. Other street names are reefer, skunk, boom, gangster, and weed.
4. **B:** Fewer than 25% of teens smoke marijuana regularly. It may be the most commonly abused drug, but the majority of your peers aren't smoking marijuana.
5. **B:** Marijuana users experience short-term memory loss because of the drug's effect on the hippocampus. The hippocampus is the part of the brain involved in learning and memory. The basal ganglia, on the other hand, is an area of the brain that helps control movement.
6. **A:** Marijuana is the dried, shredded leaves, stems, flowers, and seeds of the hemp plant. The scientific name for this plant is *cannabis sativa*.

7. **B:** Tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana, acts on the brain by binding to specific receptors. These receptors are called cannabinoid receptors.
  
8. **A:** While pot, grass, chronic, and Mary Jane are slang terms for marijuana, the term for loose marijuana rolled into a cigarette is a joint. These marijuana cigarettes are also called nails. A blunt is a hollowed out cigar filled with marijuana, and a bong is a water pipe.
  
9. **C:** In addition to causing trouble in the brain, smoking marijuana may increase the risk of heart attacks and lung cancer. Marijuana has some of the same cancer-causing substances as tobacco. In fact, puff for puff, smoking marijuana may increase the risk of cancer more than smoking cigarettes does.
  
10. **B:** The hippocampus is a part of the brain involved in memory. When THC interferes with its normal functioning, trouble recalling recent events can be the result. The cerebellum is involved in balance and coordination. Dopamine isn't a section of the brain, it's a chemical that creates good feelings for a short time.