

Alcohol and drugs

Pre-task:

Watch a film clip from a well-known TV series about drugs and/or alcohol, e.g. [Breaking Bad](#). Then answer these 5 questions: Who is involved, what happens, how does it happen, where and when?



Image 1

Task 1:

Describe your experience with illegal drugs in your home or university town and ask your partner about his/hers.

How widespread is the use of illegal drugs in your town?
Are there any problems with drugs in your town?
Do you know anyone, who has taken illegal? How did they describe it?
Which drugs are legal, if used for medical purposes in your country? (Cannabis? Marijuana? Opium?)

Task 2:

Discuss: Should drugs like cannabis be legalised?
Should the tax on legal drugs such as alcohol and cigarettes be increased?
What do you think about deterrence measure such as shock images on cigarette packages?
What is your view on psychiatric medicines? Should their prescription be more strictly controlled?

Comparison between alcohol consumption and illegal drug use:

Statistics show alcohol to be more harmful than illegal drugs. Compare the attitude towards illegal drugs in your home country with that towards alcohol and tell your partner about it. When, where and how much do people drink? How problematic is this? What do people think about it?

Is alcohol abuse more or less accepted than illegal drug use?

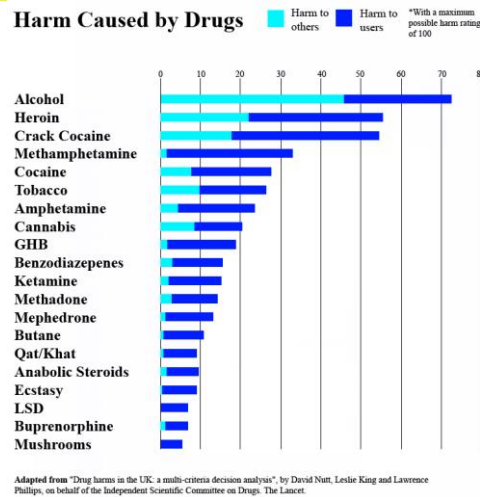


Image 2

Compared to drug use, alcohol consumption is ...
 In contrast to illegal drugs, alcohol can be ...
 Whilst drugs are ..., alcohol is ...
 Alcohol consumption is (exactly) as ... as drug use

If you find cultural differences in the attitude towards alcohol and drugs between your country and that of your partner, try to give a historical, customs or environmental explanation.

In ... Germany/France/ ... we have a lot of ... (e.g. vineyards)
 Xy is world famous for ...

Follow-up activity:

Discuss: Do TV series like „Breaking Bad“ create too much interest in drugs? Do they trivialise the effects of drugs? Are addicts shown? How often? Are they realistically presented? Compare the clip with images of actual addicts:



Image 3

Sources

- Video 1 <https://youtu.be/bUjORDny2-w>
Image 1 <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:HarmCausedByDrugsTable.jpg>
Image 2 <http://nigz.eu/die-verdrehte-relation/>
Image 3 <http://www.facesofmeth.us/main.htm>