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 plant called _________________.
   a) cannabis sativa
   b) fern
   c) ivy

2. The chemical in marijuana that causes the user to feel “high” is ____________.
   a) dopamine
   b) norepinephrine
   c) delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)

3. “Pot,” “grass,” “chronic,” and “Mary Jane” are all slang terms for _____________.
   a) cocaine
   b) marijuana
   c) tobacco

4. Marijuana users experience short-term memory loss because of the drug’s effect on _____________.
   a) the heart
   b) the hippocampus
   c) the basal ganglia
5. Which of the following is an accurate description of marijuana?
   a) the dried, shredded leaves, stems, flowers, and seeds of the plant cannabis sativa
   b) juice extracted from the plant cannabis sativa
   c) the roots of the plant cannabis sativa

6. Delta-9-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

7. 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

8. 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 respiratory illnesses

9. Drivers on marijuana have an increased risk of getting into a car accident because of ________?
   a) slowed reaction time
   b) impaired judgment
   c) both A and B
Answer Key: Marijuana Quiz

1. A: Marijuana is made up of parts of the cannabis sativa 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 delta-9-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 that produces feelings of pleasure.

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: 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.

5. A: Marijuana is the dried, shredded leaves, stems, flowers, and seeds of the cannabis sativa plant.

6. B: Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana, acts on the brain by binding to specific receptors. These receptors are called cannabinoid receptors.

7. 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.
8. C: In addition to causing trouble in the brain, smoking marijuana may increase the risk of heart attacks and respiratory illnesses.

9. C: Research shows that driving while under the influence of marijuana slows reaction times, impairs judgment, and causes problems with responding to signals and sounds.