

# CANNABIS

HOW MUCH DO *YOU* KNOW?



[www.egertonhighschool.co.uk](http://www.egertonhighschool.co.uk)

Cannabis is one of the most common drugs used in the UK today. But does anyone really know what's in it, or what it does to our bodies?



Let's take a look at the **effects, risks and dangers** of cannabis...



But no matter what you call it, if it contains **THC**, it's going to have some pretty nasty effects on you and your body!

THC is the chemical in cannabis that causes a high... along with other disturbances in your brain!



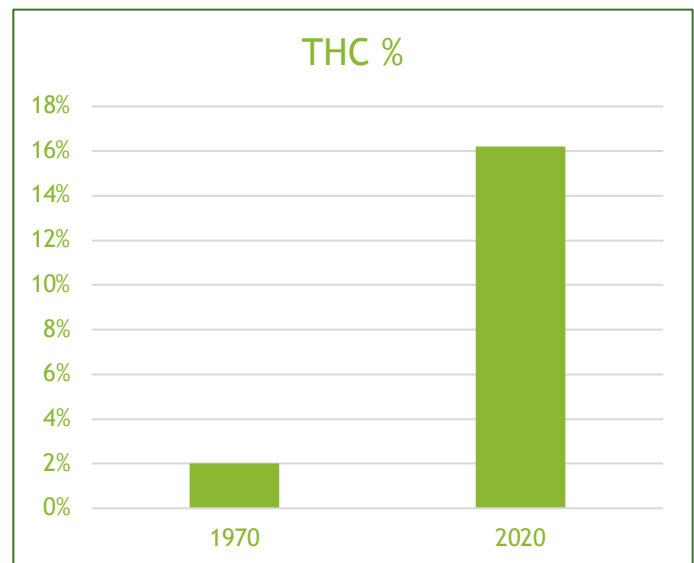
# UNDERSTANDING THC

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the scary ingredient in cannabis that causes the feeling of being 'high'. THC mimics how your brain works and takes over, leading to very severe changes in personality. This often results in violence and aggression!

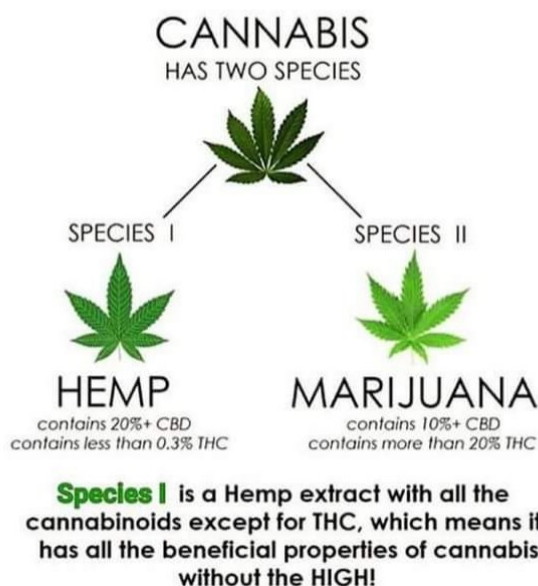
The seriousness of cannabis use has been raised by researchers in recent years due to the potency of THC.

New variants of cannabis such as 'skunk' (80-90% of the UK Market) have been found to contain 16.2% THC.

In comparison, herbal cannabis in the 60s/70s contained a mere 1-2%.



## The Confusion



### DON'T LET THE MEDIA FOOL YOU!

The new age of using Hemp to treat illness due to its CBD properties can be seen everywhere!

But don't be fooled into thinking the same benefits come from regular cannabis use!

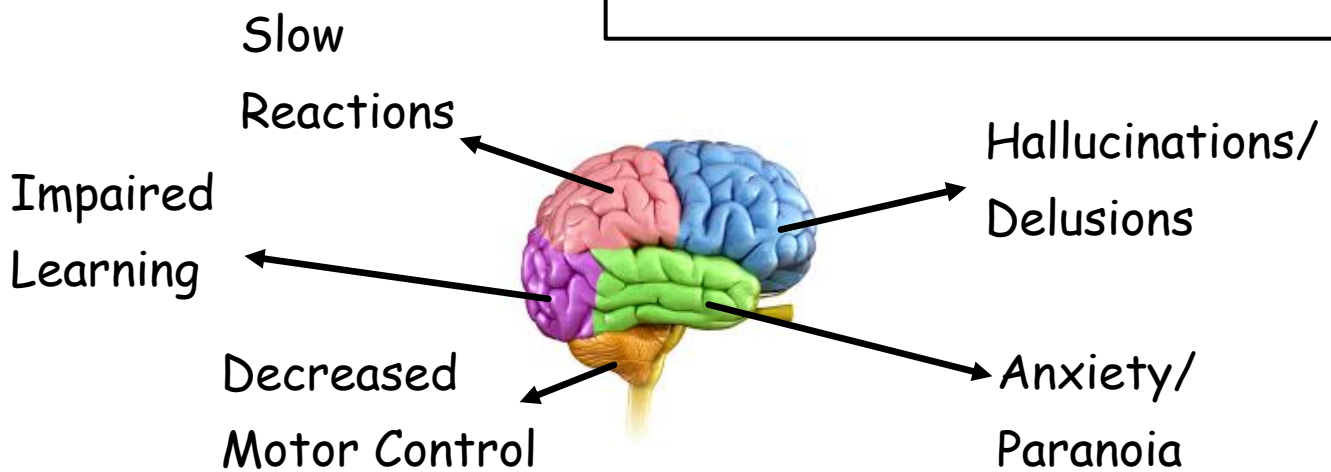
Unlike Hemp, Marijuana is a different species of Cannabis, and contains damaging levels of THC!

So this begs the question, what is THC really doing to our bodies?

# FOCUSING ON THE BRAIN!



The brain is the organ most affected by cannabis use. It contains lots of tiny pathways which struggle to function properly under the influence of the chemical THC:



## PERCEPTUAL REASONING

This allows us to understand the world around us.

Without this, you would struggle to understand and organize information in your head!



## WORKING MEMORY

This is important for completing tasks.

Without this, it's almost impossible to complete things such as school work or video games!

## INHIBITION CONTROL

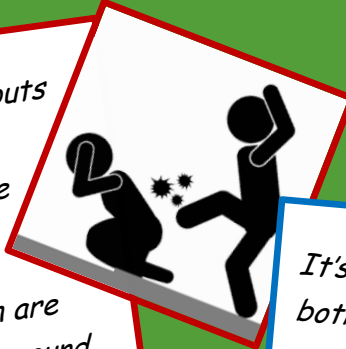
This is important for learning how to resist harmful impulses.

Without this, behaviour can be inappropriate or even hurt you!

Take a look at the 3 main areas in which cannabis affects your brain's ability to function!

# THE FACTS!

Ever noticed those sudden and unexplained bouts of aggression and violence? Or perhaps some seriously fixed ideas and a tendency to blame others?



Cannabis can cause horrific outbursts which are uncontrollable to both the user and people around them. Users become stupefied, causing them to be unable to think or feel properly.



It's true that cannabis can effect both men and women equally. But did you know, men are more likely to try cannabis (and other drugs) because their hormones stimulate risky behavior, leading to more severe symptoms and antisocial behaviour! Meanwhile, women are more likely to develop a habit due to more intense withdrawal symptoms.

Cannabis can literally restructure the brain!! All the useful little parts of your brain that control everything you do are severely damaged! This means that while teachers are trying to encourage learning, your brain will be unable to actually do it!  
No brain cells = No learning = No Qualifications!!



Prolonged cannabis use not only has effects on health, it could be irreversibly damaging to life. Dealers in the UK are more severe than they have ever been, and when consumption outweighs financial ability, debt will occur and matters will be taken into their own hands!

# LETS GET SERIOUS!

- ⇒ Incidence of schizophrenia is doubled in cannabis users!
- ⇒ You may know cannabis by many different names, for example: Weed, Skunk or Pot
- ⇒ THC is the chemical in cannabis that causes the 'high'...along with other disturbances in your brain. It is strongest in Skunk!
- ⇒ Cannabis doubles risk of infertility in men!
- ⇒ Depression can often occur, sometimes leading to suicide!
- ⇒ Effects on personality can be so striking, users may become aggressive, violent and unable to control their behavior!



## !!WARNING!!



### SERIOUS HEALTH CONCERNS

- ! Cannabis can seriously affect your normal functioning and ANYONE can become psychotic!
- ! Effects on the heart can cause strokes and even heart attacks!
- ! Defense, immune and reproductive cells are all adversely affected!
- ! Personality, learning and memory are all the most severely affected. And these consequences can be irreversible!

The choices YOU make about cannabis today, WILL have effects on the rest of YOUR life! Start the conversation, TODAY!

WANT  
TO  
KNOW  
MORE?

HERE ARE SOME USEFUL WEBSITES  
FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY:

[WWW.CANNABISSKUNKSENSE.CO.UK](http://WWW.CANNABISSKUNKSENSE.CO.UK)

[WWW.TALKTOFRANK.COM/DRUGS/CANNABIS](http://WWW.TALKTOFRANK.COM/DRUGS/CANNABIS)

[WWW.DRUGWISE.ORG.UK/CANNABIS](http://WWW.DRUGWISE.ORG.UK/CANNABIS)



CLEAR FACTS ON EFFECTS AND  
SYMPTOMS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON  
THE NHS WEBSITE BY SEARCHING  
CANNABIS FACTS!

This leaflet, and other resources relating to the topics covered here, can be found on the school website:



[www.egertonhighschool.co.uk](http://www.egertonhighschool.co.uk)

# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

## True OR False?

THC is the chemical in cannabis that causes the 'high'.

True/False

THC was stronger in cannabis in the 70s.

True/False



Cannabis helps you to learn and understand the world around you.

True/False

Cannabis doubles the risk of infertility in men.

True/False

List as many ways as you can that cannabis effects the body!



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Using one of the websites provided in the booklet, write a new fact that you have learnt about cannabis!



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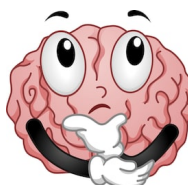
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Can you describe what 'Working Memory' is important for and how cannabis effects it?

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