

What Stage of Addiction Is This?

Directions: Match each stage of addiction to one of the case studies. Then answer the questions.

► Stages of Addiction

- 1. First use** The person tries a drug for the first time.
- 2. Continued use** The person keeps using the drug to feel a certain way.
- 3. Tolerance** It takes more of the drug to get high.
- 4. Dependence** The person gets sick without the drug.
- 5. Addiction** The person can't stop using the drug, even when the drug use causes serious problems.

► Case Study: Damian

"Everybody's getting on my case! I asked my best friend if I could borrow some money to get some chewing tobacco and he told me he's not going to hang out with me if I keep using chew. Who cares? I don't need him as a friend! And my mom grounded me because she found a tin in the back pocket of the

jeans I threw in the wash. What's her problem? Then this morning I saw a weird white spot in my mouth. But if I tell anyone, they're just going to hassle me about using tobacco. I'll wait and see if it gets better. It's probably nothing to worry about..."

Stage of Addiction _____

► Case Study: Alex

"I've been having a beer a few times a week. But I don't drink that much—just when I'm stressed about school and stuff. It helps me

relax and calm down. But it's not like I can't go without it..."

Stage of Addiction _____

► Case Study: Jessie

"I've been smoking for a while now, but we went to my grandma's house for the weekend and she's really strict. She won't let anyone smoke—not even outside—since my granddad died of lung cancer a few years ago. I didn't think it was going to be a big deal to not

smoke for a few days. Boy was I wrong. I got a really bad headache and felt dizzy. I was really cranky too and it was hard to sleep at night..."

Stage of Addiction _____

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► Case Study: Keisha

"I've been drinking a few beers whenever I go to a party on the weekend. But lately I don't get the same kind of buzz from it. So this weekend I'm hoping there's something

stronger at the party. I'm going to switch to tequila or some other kind of liquor and see if that makes a difference."

Stage of Addiction _____

► Case Study: Hector

"These guys I skateboard with started using marijuana. I know it's not supposed to be good for you, but they're cool and I like hanging out with them. I wondered what it was like, so one day when they offered me a

joint, I took a drag. I thought I was going to cough my lungs out. But then I got this buzz that felt pretty good..."

Stage of Addiction _____

► Questions:

- ① **What are some reasons teens might choose to use tobacco, alcohol or other drugs? List at least 4 reasons.**

- ② **Why is it dangerous to experiment with tobacco, alcohol or other drugs? Support your answer with at least 1 example.**

- ③ **What are some negative consequences of drug addiction? Describe at least 3 negative consequences.**

Self-Check

- I matched each stage of addiction to the correct case study.
- I listed at least 4 reasons teens might start using drugs.
- I explained why experimenting with drugs is dangerous, and included at least 1 example.
- I described at least 3 negative consequences of drug addiction.