Worksheet 6.3

Answer sheet Drugs – What Do You Know

1. True
2. True More girls than boys smoke cigarettes. Why do you think this is? In the past more boys than girls smoked but this has changed in the last 5 years.
3. True Cannabis is illegal to grow, to give or sell to another person or for a person to possess (this means to have in pocket, bag, bedroom, school locker etc) or smoke.
4. False Both cannabis and tobacco can cause long term health problems such as lung cancer. Cannabis can also affect a person’s mental health because it has a big effect on the brain. Young people who smoke cannabis are more likely to have bad side effects and long term problems from it as their bodies and brains are still growing.
5. True This is because taking too many can cause liver damage and even kill people, so they are only sold in small quantities.
6. False Every year in the UK over 120,000 die from tobacco-related diseases, and over 25,000 people die from alcohol related illnesses. Less than 2,000 people die each year from using heroin. This does not mean it is a safe drug to use: there is no such thing as a “safe drug”, and nicotine and alcohol are both drugs.
7. False an adult who drank 4 pints of beer would be well over the drink driving limit. Alcohol affects different people in different ways and it would also depend on what they had eaten and their body weight, so there is really no safe drink-driving limit.
8. False The cost of alcohol is much cheaper than it was ten years ago, and young people who drink are drinking larger amounts of alcohol.
9. True Squirting butane gas down the throat or sniffing aerosol gas can freeze the airways and users have died of suffocation. There have also been heart failures or users have died from choking on their vomit. Solvents are extremely dangerous, and half the young people who died were first time users.
10. True It is estimated that up to 7 million people in the UK have tried cannabis at least once. Most of these people have never used any other illegal drug. However the number of young people who say they have ever used cannabis is dropping each year, and is now less than 11% of under 16 year olds.