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COURSE CODE : Gst 122

COURSE TITLE : Communication In English MATRIC NUMBER: 19/LAW01/040

QUESTION

You were taught that in writing an academic essay, you should start with the perception of a

problem. Perceive a problem in your present environment, formulate a researchable topic for

it, and await further instructions in our class on Thursday by 10 am.

The Dangers of Drug Abuse

Drug abuse has become a matter of constant discussion on the radio, television and in the daily newspapers recently. The menace of drug abuse in our country has

reached a frightening proportion and it has pervaded every sector of our society. Drugs, which are made from medicinal substance formulated by pharmacist for the cure of people’s ailments, is used wrongly and abused by people across the social strata. A lot of people just walk across to the nearby chemist close to their houses to buy drugs which are not prescribed for them by doctor or physician , thus abusing drugs.

There are lots of dangers in drug abuse. In fact many families have endangered the live of their family members through self medication. There are cases of many small children who lost their lives simply because their parents, out of ignorance, purchased drugs from chemists and even in the common markets without any doctor’s prescription and administered such drugs on their children.

In our society nowadays, it is common to see young children with one deformity or the other. This is so because many pregnant women abuse drugs. They simply buy drugs and use them without doctor’s prescription during pregnancy. The resultant effect of this ignorant act is that most babies are born with one deformity or the other.

Drug abuse also leads to the several psychiatric cases we have around in the country. Several youths take drugs such as heroine, cocaine, Indian hemp which affect their brain. They take these drugs ostensibly because they want to be in fashion and they want to be daring and bold. Consequently, most of them constitute themselves into nuisance to the society and end up in psychiatric hospitals.

In recent years, the prevalence of drug abuse has increased throughout the world.

On an annual basis, drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and so on cause the deaths of

200,000 people worldwide; drug abuse also leads to the disintegration of families.

Furthermore, it imposes heavy economic and social costs through its effects on

human health and increased crime and death in community; thus, it has become a major threat to society .

All national prestige and only 10 speed of the gruesome effects of the social malaise called drug abuse. Many Nigerians traveling abroad are subjected to derogatory search at the points of entry into other countries. . This has destroyed our international image as many Nigerians are found to be carriers on couriers of these hard drugs.

Many crimes in the country can be linked to drug abuse. The high rate of criminal activities is a pointer to the dangers inherent in drug abuse. Armed robbers and the likes operate under the influence of drugs which make them to be so daring and ruthless in their nefarious activities.

Drug abuse is a widespread problem that makes individual drug users the prime victims. But drugs also affect all of us, wherever we live and whatever we do. Drug abuse can cause serious physical and mental deterioration. The problem can tear apart the family structure and make it hard for learning. Difficulties on the job due to drug abuse make it hard for employers to run their businesses. Stealing form employers or from individuals to get money from for drugs causes pain and economic loss to the victims. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) defines drug abuse as, “ It becomes drug abuse when people use illegal drugs or use legal drugs inappropriately.” This may include; the repeated uses of drugs to produce pleasure, alleviates stress, and/or alters or avoids reality. The perception of addiction and substance abuse has been widely known for many years, but the medical community has failed to accept and publicly this issue among it own members.

It is certain that drug abuse has posed a lot of dangers to our society and the government has to do something about it. Our people need to be enlightened about the dangerous consequences of drug abuse. Mass enlightenment campaign should be organised by the government. In addition, the government should promulgate a law which forbids the sale of drugs in the common open market and there should be also be a law which forbids a chemist from selling drugs to the public without prescription paper from a doctor or a pharmacist. Religious bodies also have a role to play in educating the public about the dangers of drug abuse. The mass media should not be left out. Editors of newspapers should talk about this menace. On Air Personals should also help in educating people about the dangers of drug abuse.