6.8 Drug Misuse in Sport: Types of Performance-Enhancing Drugs and Their Effects: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8582 · Calculators not allowed · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer all questions. Write full sentences for any question worth 3 marks or more. Time guidance 10 minutes.

1 Tick one box. Which of the following is a reason a performer might use a banned substance, given the context of elite sport?

- ☐ A) To improve teamwork in training
- ☐ B) To gain an unfair competitive advantage
- ☐ C) To increase the size of the stadium audience
- ☐ D) To reduce the number of training sessions

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 State one main effect of stimulants when misused by performers, naming the effect in the context of competition such as sprinting or cycling.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

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3 Name one sporting example where β blockers might be misused and state the effect they produce that makes them useful in that sport, using the context of precision tasks such as archery.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

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4 Discuss and evaluate why athletes continue to dope despite the health, legal and reputational risks, using examples from professional sport and making a reasoned judgement.

(Total for Question 4 is 6 marks)

5 State one risk to a performer who is caught doping, beyond health harms, using the context of professional sport and sponsorship.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

6 Describe how narcotic analgesics might be misused by a contact sport athlete, for example a rugby player, and name one immediate effect.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.8 Drug Misuse in Sport: Types of Performance-Enhancing Drugs and Their Effects: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

B **B1**

Answer: B (to gain an unfair competitive advantage)

Question 2

increased alertness/reduced perception of fatigue, oe **B1**

Answer: Increased alertness and reduced perception of fatigue.

Question 3

example: archery or shooting; effect: reduce heart rate and hand tremor/calm nerves, oe **B1**

Answer: Archery or shooting; they reduce heart rate and hand tremor and calm nerves.

Question 4

Level 3 A well developed evaluation that identifies multiple reasons why athletes dope, explains the influence of incentives and pressures, considers the strength of counterarguments about risks and deterrents, and reaches a clear, supported judgement about why doping persists. **5-6**

Level 2 Clear explanation of some reasons why athletes dope and some consideration of risks or deterrents, with limited judgement or balance between arguments. **3-4**

Level 1 Simple statements about why athletes dope or that it is risky, with little development or no judgement. **1-2**

Level 0 No relevant content. **0**

Indicative content:

- High rewards and incentives: financial prizes, sponsorships and fame create strong motivation to win and recover quickly.
- External pressure: coaches, teams, national expectations or fear of losing selection can push athletes toward doping.
- Perceived low detection probability: athletes may judge the chance of being caught as small or believe they can evade tests.
- Short career span and injury risk: the need to perform during a limited career or return quickly from injury can encourage risky choices.
- Counterarguments: health harms, bans, loss of reputation and legal consequences act as deterrents, and improved testing raises detection risk.
- Evaluation/judgement might weigh that while risks are significant, the immediate and large rewards, combined with pressure and belief in evasion, explain why some athletes still choose to dope.

Question 5

disqualification, bans from competition, or loss of sponsorship and reputational damage, oe **B1**

Answer: Disqualification or bans from competition and loss of sponsorship or reputational damage.

Question 6

they mask pain, allowing an injured athlete to continue playing, oe **B1**

immediate effect: reduced perception of pain and temporary increase in ability to play despite injury, oe **B1**

Answer: Narcotic analgesics mask pain, allowing an injured rugby player to continue playing; the immediate effect is a reduced perception of pain and a temporary ability to perform despite injury.

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