ARDOR**LEARNING**
LANGUAGE FOR LIFE.

HIGH ON LIFE

Scan to review worksheet

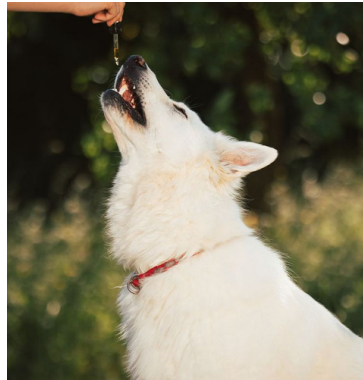**Expemo code:**
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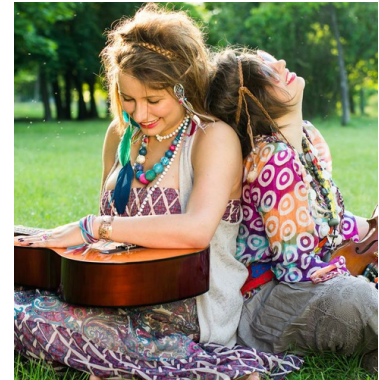
1 Warm up

Look at the photos. Discuss the questions in groups.

picture A

picture B

picture C

1. What is marijuana or cannabis used for?

2. Why do you think some people want to use cannabis recreationally?

3. What are the benefits and drawbacks of using cannabis, either medically or recreationally?

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2 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the vocabulary to the definition.

1. <u>pun</u>ishable (adj.)
2. <u>fact</u>-finding (adj.)
3. <u>miss</u>ion (n)
4. legal<u>isa</u>tion (n)
5. cite (v)
6. im<u>pair</u> (v)
7. boost (v)
8. <u>reg</u>ulate (v)
9. gang (n)

a. the act of making something legal
b. control something through rules, especially legal rules
c. increase something in a way that makes it more successful
d. not work as it should, either temporarily or permanently
e. done in order to find out information about a country, an organisation, a situation, etc.
f. an organised group of criminals
g. an important, official job that one or more people are given to do, especially when they visit another country
h. resulting in making someone suffer for breaking the law
i. mention something as a reason or example to support what you believe

Part B: Now complete the following sentences with a word from Part A. You may need to change the form of the verbs.

1. The government _____ the sale of all drugs for medical purposes, so it is illegal to sell medicine without the proper permission.

2. In the UK, possession of marijuana is _____ by up to five years in prison.

3. Our lawyers have been asked to join a _____ to Canada to see how lawyers there are managing new drug laws.

4. We believe that the _____ of marijuana will reduce illegal activity.

5. At the moment, the marijuana industry is controlled by violent criminal _____ .

6. The purpose of the visit is _____ in nature, so we will want to have access to the managers in order to ask about how things are organised and operated.

7. In order to _____ the income of the government, some politicians want to make cannabis legal.

8. Many people _____ the research on mental illness and its relationship to drug use as a reason to keep cannabis illegal.

9. Drivers who smoke marijuana are _____ in the same way as those who drink alcohol.

3   Listening for specific information

You are going to listen to a new broadcast about the legalisation of cannabis in the UK. Listen for the meaning of a "gateway drug" and choose the correct answer.

1. A "gateway drug" is a drug that...

   a. is smoked and is harmful to one's health.

   b. leads people to try or use other, more harmful drugs.

   c. is currently illegal but should become legal soon.

   d. criminal gangs sell and use in order to convince others to join them.

4   Listening comprehension

Listen to the news report again and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

1. A person who is caught with marijuana in the UK could spend five to ten years in jail. _____

2. Three Members of Parliament are in favour of changing the laws regarding cannabis in the UK. _____

3. Cannabis is illegal in Canada. _____

4. The status of cannabis as a "gateway drug" is the only reason cited by those who are not in favour of legalising it. _____

5. The broadcast states that both cannabis and alcohol use can be problematic. _____

6. The three MPs cite the similarities between cannabis and alcohol as the main reason why cannabis should be legalised in the UK. _____

7. Regulation of cannabis would control how strong the drug could be. _____

8. At the moment, criminal gangs are involved in the cannabis industry in the UK. _____

5 Grammar: a participle clause

Part A: Look at the table below.

- We can show the results of a change with a subordinate participle clause. This connects the result to the preceding sentence.

    Marijuana was legalised. This <u>led to</u> a decrease in criminal gang activity.

    Marijuana was legalised, <u>leading to</u> a decrease in criminal gang activity.

- Notice that the sentences are combined with a comma. The participle clause is not a complete sentence.

Part B: Re-write the sentences using a participle clause.

1. Criminal gangs lost their business. This resulted in fewer people joining the gangs.

    _____

2. Lawmakers went on a fact-finding mission. This gave them ideas about how to change drug laws.

    _____

3. The medical use of marijuana has not created problems. This has made people comfortable with its presence in society.

    _____

4. The legalisation of marijuana has created many jobs. This has boosted the economies of some cities.

    _____

5. Marijuana in Canada is regulated by the government. This means the government can control its strength.

    _____

6 Legal vocabulary

Part A: Complete the chart with the correct forms for the different parts of speech.

verb	noun	adjective
_____ 1	licence	licensed
_____ 2	approach	approachable
integrate	_____ 3	_____ 4
_____ 5	reimbursement	reimbursable
exclude	_____ 6	excluded
_____ 7	indication	_____ 8

Part B: Now use one word from each line in the chart for each sentence. Be sure to use the correct forms of the words.

1. The old software will _____ with the software that our office has bought, so we will be able to file cases as before.

2. There was no _____ that Parliament is ready to change the drug laws for the country, so I think cannabis will remain illegal.

3. We recommend that you only contract with _____ businesses so that you do not have any problems under the law.

4. We will discuss our _____ to the case after you have completed research about the relevant law.

5. The judge will probably not _____ that evidence, so we need to be able to explain it.

6. The costs are _____ under the terms of the contract, but you will need to keep a list of them to receive payment.

7 ## Reading for main idea

Quickly read the article about the legislation of cannabis in Canada (page seven). Choose the sentence that expresses the best main idea.

1. ☐ Cannabis is legal in Canada for both medical and recreational uses, but it is not legal in the United States or the United Kingdom.

2. ☐ Canada has legalised cannabis for medical and recreational uses, and other countries are interested in how Canada was able to do this.

3. ☐ Canadians are happy with the legalisation of cannabis for recreational uses, but in the past, they only supported its use for medical purposes.

4. ☐ Many countries will soon legalise cannabis for both medical and recreational use because of the success Canada has had with it.

The legalisation of cannabis

The Canadian case

1. In 2018, Canada became the first G20 country to legalise the recreational use of cannabis. Legalisation, however, did not happen overnight. The Canadian government first allowed limited use of cannabis, legalising medical cannabis in 2001. It then authorised recreational use of cannabis flower and oil in 2018, and this was followed by legalising other forms in 2019. The goal of the Canadian government was to make legal products available to existing users without encouraging new ones, so these products are not widely advertised, and their packaging is plain.

2. In Canada, medical sales are nationally regulated. Physicians can recommend cannabis treatments, and patients then can grow plants themselves or buy products from licensed producers. This system has worked well for decades, leading lawmakers and the public to become more comfortable with the presence of cannabis in Canadian society.

3. With respect to recreational sales and use of cannabis, provincial governments regulate the sales, and it is illegal for individuals to grow and sell their own cannabis. Provincial governments have different approaches to the sale of cannabis. In some provinces, there are government-run shops while in others, shops are privately-owned. This system lets businesses transport cannabis across provincial borders and integrate their operations nationwide. Businesses can accept credit cards and encourage investment.

4. The laws related to cannabis are quite different across the border in the United States. While some states do allow recreational use, others do not, limiting legal use to those with medical conditions. However, the approach to medical cannabis is also quite different between Canada and the United States. For example, Canada spends millions of dollars every year to reimburse veterans for their medical cannabis expenses. By comparison, the United States Veterans Affairs will not let government physicians prescribe it, resulting in veterans visiting private doctors for treatment.

5. The differences do not end there. Most Canadian government employees, including soldiers, can use cannabis. Meanwhile, cannabis use by White House staff and other government workers in the United States is illegal, resulting in severe penalties, such as loss of employment. Additionally, Canadian cannabis companies received aid from their government during the COVID-19 pandemic, but American businesses dealing in cannabis were mostly excluded from the government's aid packages.

6. Although Canada's legalisation came after careful consideration and thoughtful steps, it has not been without difficulties. Product shortages impaired sales, but once those shortages were resolved, sales grew as quickly as stores could open. Prices were also quite high in the beginning, but they eventually dropped as competition increased. In some parts of the country, retail prices now start below $4 per gram (US$3 per gram), including taxes, reducing the share of the market controlled by criminal gangs and other illegal sellers. And today, legal sales now represent most Canadian usage.

7. The political attitude towards cannabis has also shifted. Cannabis was not widely mentioned during Canada's recent election campaigns, indicating voters have accepted that cannabis is legal.

8. Canada illustrates the benefits of full national legalisation. However, what has worked in Canada might not work in the United States, the UK, or other countries. Cannabis policy is not easy since those in favour of or against its legalisation can cite evidence to support their positions. Canada proceeded in phases and is now experiencing a boost to its economy as well as the reduction of crime related to the drug. While some countries may not be ready to legalise cannabis, many of them are looking to Canada for a way forward to gradually introduce changes to current drug laws.

Source: The Conversation

8   Finding vocabulary

Part A: Scan the article and find words or phrases which mean the same as the following.

1. _____   related to one of the large areas that a country is divided into (adj., Paragraph 3)

2. _____   when a doctor tells someone to take a specific medicine (v, Paragraph 4)

3. _____   money to help businesses, a community or country during a difficult time (n, Paragraph 5)

4. _____   when there is not enough of something (n, Paragraph 6)

5. _____   find a solution or agree on a way to end something that is a problem (v, Paragraph 6)

6. _____   selling something to the public, usually through shops (adj., Paragraph 6)

7. _____   a stage in a process or development (n, Paragraph 8)

8. _____   watch or observe someone or something for the best way to do something (phrasal verb, Paragraph 8)

Part B: Reading comprehension: choose the correct answers.

1. The legalisation of cannabis for recreational use happened...

    a. more than 15 years after its legalisation for medical use.

    b. in only a few of the Canadian provinces.

    c. in the United States before it happened in Canada.

    d. before the Canadian public was in favour of it.

2. People are allowed to grow their own cannabis...

    a. if they are not part of a criminal gang.

    b. if they are using it for medical reasons.

    c. for recreational and medical use.

    d. only if it is legal under provincial law.

3. Government physicians in the United States...

    a. can only prescribe cannabis to veterans.

    b. are not allowed to prescribe cannabis.

    c. are not reimbursed for their expenses.

    d. are in favour of prescribing cannabis.

4. There were shortages of cannabis...

    a. because its cost was about US$3 per gram.

    b. in some provincial cities that did not have enough shops.

    c. because of the activity of criminal gangs.

    d. soon after its legalisation for recreational use.

5. There is evidence that...

    a. supports the positions of those in favour of and against cannabis legalisation.

    b. criminal gangs are still doing a lot of business in the cannabis market in Canada.

    c. the legalisation of cannabis in Canada has made the Canadian public unhappy.

    d. Canada did not carefully consider the legalisation of cannabis in phases.

9 **Talking point**

Discuss the following questions in pairs or small groups.

1. Do you think cannabis should be legal for both medical and recreational use? Why or why not?

2. What do you think is the strongest reason for or against the legalisation of cannabis for recreational use?

3. Do you believe cannabis is a "gateway drug"? Why or why not?

10 **Optional activity/homework**

Choose one question and write a paragraph (200 words). Ensure that you check your grammar, spelling and punctuation.

> Topic 1
>
> *Compare the cannabis laws in Canada with those of a country you know about. How are they similar? How are they different?*

> Topic 2
>
> *Do you think Canada is a good model for other countries to follow if they are thinking about legalising cannabis? Why or why not?*

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