

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Using Substances at Work and School

### Scenario 1: Using Substances at School

**Name:** Marcus**Age:** 16**Setting:** High School (During School Hours)**Substance Involved:** Alcohol (in a water bottle)

Marcus has been going through a tough time lately. Things at home have been stressful. His guardians argue a lot, and it's been affecting how he feels. His schoolwork is starting to slip, and he feels like no one really understands what he's dealing with.

To cope, Marcus started drinking alcohol on the weekends. At first, it helped him feel more relaxed. But over time, he began drinking more often, even on school nights. Recently, he started bringing a water bottle filled with vodka to school, thinking it would help him get through the day.

Since then, Marcus has been acting differently in class. He's louder than usual, sometimes slurs his words, and has trouble focusing. One day, his teacher notices something is off and talks to Marcus. The teacher smells alcohol on his breath, but Marcus denies drinking.

His guardians are called in for a meeting. During the conversation, they ask to see his water bottle and realize it contains vodka. According to school policy, Marcus receives a warning: if it happens again, he may face a suspension and will be required to participate in a drug education program.

#### Consider the following questions:

1. Was the response (warning and possible suspension) appropriate?



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## Scenario 2: Substance Use at Work

**Name:** Jordan

**Age:** 17

**Job:** Line Cook at a Busy Restaurant

**Substance Involved:** Weed (cannabis) (edible)

Jordan recently started a job at a busy local restaurant. The work environment is fast-paced, and things can get pretty intense during peak hours. A while ago, Jordan had tried a weed (cannabis) edible and found it helped them feel less stressed. So before one of their shifts, they decided to take another edible that a friend gave them, thinking it would help them stay calm and get through the night.

At first, everything seemed fine. But as the shift went on, Jordan started moving more slowly, made several mistakes with orders, and even burned a dish. Both a coworker and the manager noticed that Jordan was not acting how they normally would. When the manager spoke with Jordan, they denied anything was wrong.

Because the restaurant has a drug-free workplace policy, Jordan was required to take a drug test. When the results came back positive for cannabis, Jordan was contacted by Human Resources. They were informed that the company has a zero-tolerance policy for being under the influence while working, and as a result, Jordan was fired from their position.

### Consider the following questions:

1. What is the purpose of a zero-tolerance policy in a workplace, especially one involving food service or safety?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are the risks of working while under the influence of substances, even if you feel fine at first?

