

DRUGS

WHAT ARE THEY?

A drug is any substance, except food and water, which, when taken into the body, changes the way the body works.

(World Health Organisation)

Drugs which affect someone's central nervous system (CNS) and alter their thinking or way they behave, are called **psychoactive drugs**. These drugs can be put into four groups.

- 1 **Depressant**
- 2 **Stimulant**
- 3 **Hallucinogen**
- 4 **Multi-action**

Write down one example for each category

1 Depressants
Slow down messages that pass to and from the brain and body via the CNS

2 Stimulants
Speed up messages that pass to and from the brain and body via the CNS

3 Hallucinogens
The user may see, hear or smell things in a strange way

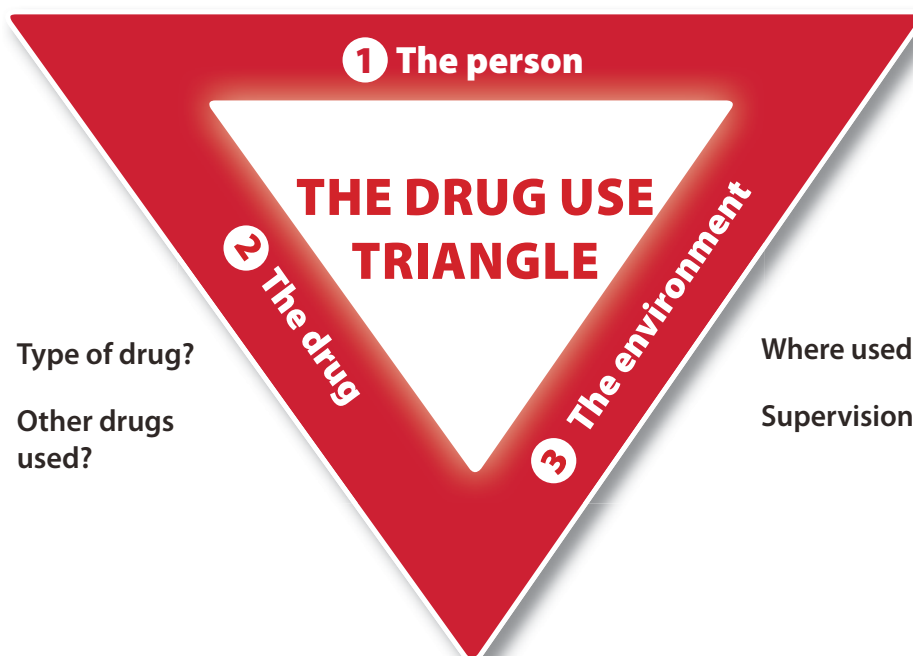
4 Multi-action
These may have several effects on the body

THE DRUG USE TRIANGLE

The drug use triangle helps to show the possible risks involved in using alcohol or other drugs. It shows how the effects and harms of drug use rely on the combination of three factors.

- 1 **The person**
- 2 **The drug**
- 3 **The environment**

Age? Body size?



Every drug use experience is different.

Any drug has the potential to cause harm.

Want some more information about drugs?

Drug Aware
www.drugaware.com.au

Australian Drug Foundation
www.adf.org.au

Alcohol and Drug Support Line
94425000 or 1800 198 024