

Part A: Song and Drug History
Purple Haze and White Rabbits: Illicit Drugs in Music

I. Song Lyrics

1) **“I hope you don’t mind, that I wrote down in words...”**: What are my song’s lyrics?

Neatly provide your song’s lyrics

2) **“And if you go chasing rabbits...”**: What is in the lyrics?

What specific references to drug use are found in the lyrics? (if there are many, select 4 or so).
What aspect of drug use is focused on? (i.e. drug experience, addiction, withdrawal, recovery, etc.)

3) **“Chemistry haze all through my brain???”**: What drug(s) is my song about?

Is your song about a particular drug or a general drug type?
Which specific drug are you selecting to analyze? Explain

II. Song and Cultural History

1) **“Was it born in a cross-fire hurricane?”**: How did my song come about?

When was the song written? When released?
Who wrote the song? Who performed it?

2) **“Wanna see my picture on the cover, wanna buy five copies for my mother”**: Popularity?

Was the song popular at the time?
Was/were the performer(s) popular before this song? What about since?

3) **“Really, Bob? Everybody must get stoned?”**: What were the times like?

What were the societal issues of the time that the song was written?
How was drug use (specifically your drug) viewed culturally?
How pervasive was the use of your drug?

3) **“Don’t you know that you are a shooting star?”**: What about the performers / writers?

Briefly describe the performers / song writer’s history.
At what stage in their career did they write the song?
Did the performers / writers struggle with drug abuse / addiction?

Part B: Structure Analysis
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I. Analyze the structural aspects of the drug:

1) “Lookin’ through chemistry-colored glasses”: What does the drug look like?

Give an accurate, neatly drawn (preferably with a program that can draw molecules... ACD/ChemSketch is a freeware example of such a program) structure of the drug.

2) “Ebony and ivory, together in perfect harmony?”: What solubility issues does the drug have?

On still another copy of the drug molecule, circle and label the polar and non-polar regions of your drug.

Given these distributions of polarity, speculate on whether you expect the drug to be soluble in water (i.e. in your stomach?)

What official information can you find about the solubility of the drug?

Does this information make sense, given the distribution of polar / non-polar parts in your molecule? Explain.

3) “Am I too sexy for my functional groups?”: What molecular parts does the drug have?

On another copy of the drug molecule, circle and identify all functional groups present.

List the intermolecular interactions in which each would most likely participate.

II. Analyze the pharmacology of the drug

4) “You say dissolve, and I say absorb”: How does the drug get into the blood stream?

What information can you find about the dissolution (dissolving) of your drug?

What information can you find about the absorption of your drug from the digestive tract into the blood stream?

What is the timeline for bioavailability (how quickly absorbed so it can work?) Does this make sense given what you learned about dissolving/absorbing issues above? Explain

5) “Go on now GO! Excrete out the door!”: How does the body get rid of the drug?

What information can you find on how the drug is metabolized and excreted?

Part C: Drug Mechanism, History and Addiction
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I. Drug Background

1) **“Get back to where it once belonged...”: What is the history of the use of the drug?**

When was the drug first discovered?

Was the drug ever used legally to treat any disorders?

When did it become illegal?

How and from where is the now drug supplied?

II. Drug Mechanism of Action, Side Effects and Overdose

1) **“Left a good job in the kidney...or wherever”: How does your drug work?**

Give detailed information about the chemistry behind the way the drug works?

How well does it work when compared to similar drugs?

2) **“One pill makes you larger, and one pill makes you small” How does the drug cause the effects?**

Describe the major effects that the users of the drug experience. Try to find a few that you can explain with respect to your drug’s mechanism of action.

3) **“Just nod if you can hear me... Is anyone at home?”: What are symptoms of overdose?**

Describe the major symptoms of overdose that the users of the drug would experience. Try to explain these with respect to the drug’s mechanism of action.

III. Addiction and Withdrawal

1) **“You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave” Is the drug addictive?**

Describe what you can find about the addictive nature of your drug: physical and psychological.

How much use is necessary to become addicted?

How does addiction occur physiologically?

What are the withdrawal symptoms? Relate some of these to the mechanism of action.

How long does withdrawal last?

What is the recovery rate for addiction?

Part D: Case Story
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For your drug, develop a novel, creative case story involving a person who (1) uses the drug, (2) has taken an overdose of your drug, *or* (3) who is withdrawing from the drug. The description should be creative and make you care about that person described. It should be written more like an episode of E.R. or CSI than the dry, basic case information found in the vast majority of text books. Try to make the description intriguing so that further investigation is encouraged. The description should include a significant number of symptoms related to the disease/disorder