

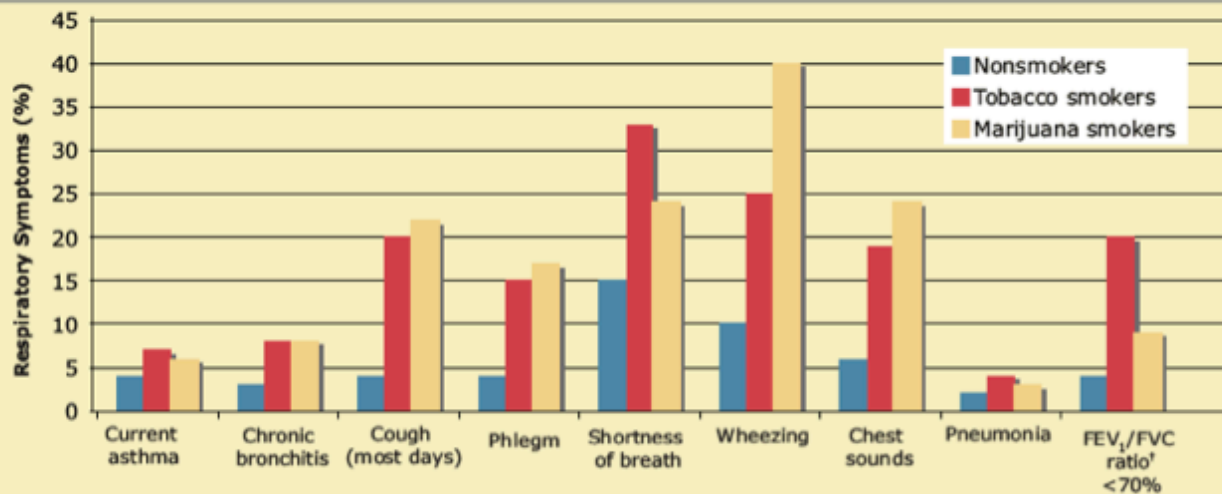
# Marijuana

Obj. 3.7: Identify factors that contribute to the use of marijuana among teenagers



Use the following graph to answer the questions below:

**SURVEY TIES MARIJUANA ABUSE AND RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS** In a nationally representative sample of 6,728 U.S. adults, self-reported marijuana use was associated with chronic bronchitis, coughing on most days, phlegm production, wheezing, and chest sounds without a cold. Medical examinations provided overall chest findings and measures of pulmonary function.

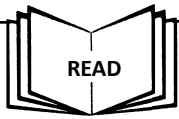


**SOURCE:** National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III)  
\*FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC ratio measures lung obstruction or restriction.

1. What story does this data tell? (Hint: Write out the purpose of collecting this data and the conclusions you take away after analyzing the data).
2. Which symptoms are worse for marijuana smokers than tobacco smokers? Why might this be?

 DISCUSS

With a partner, brainstorm reasons why teens might try or use marijuana.



Read the “Class Notes” on Marijuana from Above the Influence in the PDF handout. Answer the following questions as you read.

Source: [http://www.abovetheinfluence.com/\\_pdfs/drugfacts/ATI\\_DrugFacts\\_MARIJUANA.pdf](http://www.abovetheinfluence.com/_pdfs/drugfacts/ATI_DrugFacts_MARIJUANA.pdf)

1. How does marijuana work in the body?
2. What are some possible long-term effects of marijuana on a young person’s lungs and brains?
3. Has marijuana use among teenagers increasing or decreasing in the past decade?
4. What are the short-term effects of marijuana use?
5. How does smoking marijuana compare to smoking tobacco, in terms of health and potential to cause cancer?



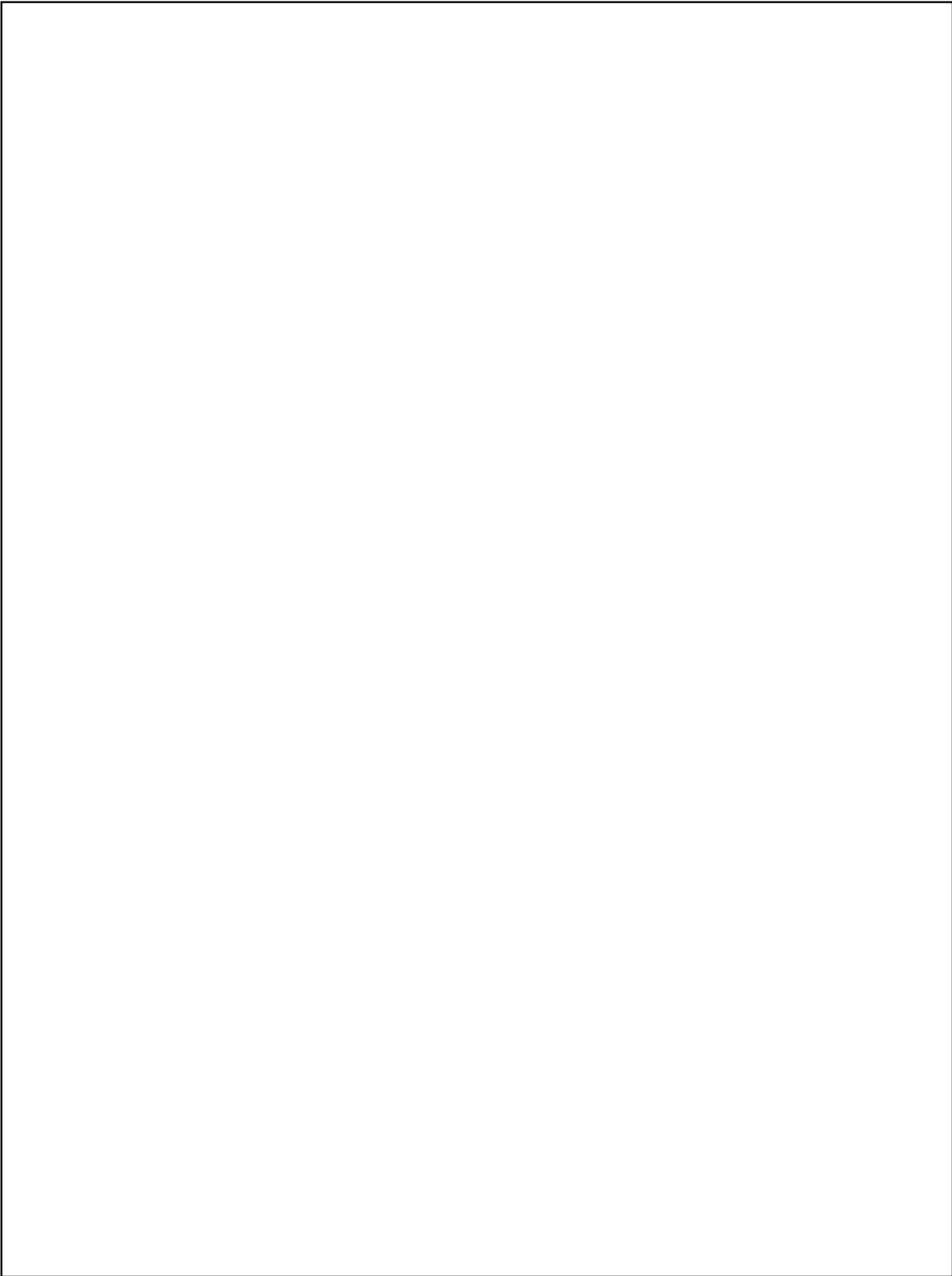
**CHALLENGE:** You are about to create a visual representation of your answers to the objective posed in this lesson: identify factors that contribute to the use of marijuana among teenagers.

**HOW DO I GET STARTED?** Start by determining some of the factors you will include in your visual representation. You can add ideas as you go, but you should have at least a few to get started. Use the brainstorm space you wrote in on the previous page when you discussed this assignment with your partner. You may also go online to do some background research on factors that influence marijuana use.

**WHAT IS A “VISUAL REPRESENTATION?”** There are many ways to brainstorm and create visual representations of ideas and processes. You have probably heard of mind maps, concept webs, or other terms for tools that help document particular thought processes or knowledge.

**SO WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?** This assignment is flexible; there aren't any restrictions on how you accomplish this, but you can go online to find many ideas and examples with a quick google search. Just make your visual tool in your own personal method (or just try one out-- trial and error always teaches valuable lessons!). It may use images and color and be as visually stimulating as you'd like it to be. Or it can be simple and straightforward.

USE THE SPACE BELOW TO BRAINSTORM, SKETCH OUT DIFFERENT METHODS, OR JOT IDEAS DOWN. THEN CREATE YOUR VISUAL TOOL ON THE FOLLOWING BLANK PAGE!





1. Name two possible short-term and two possible long-term effects of using marijuana for teenagers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. List at least three factors (think risk factors!) that would increase a teenagers' likelihood of using marijuana.



Show the visual tool you created to a teenager who is not in this class (a family member, friend, or acquaintance would work!). Explain your objective (identify factors that influence teenagers to use marijuana) and ask them to answer three questions and record their responses below:

1. Which of the factors I have included do you think is MOST influential on marijuana use among teenagers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Which of the factors I have included do you think is LEAST influential on marijuana use among teenagers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Can you think of any other factors that influence marijuana use that I have missed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What part of this visual tool is most effective to you? What part could be most improved?