



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## What are Hallucinogens?

**Hallucinogens** are a diverse group of drugs that **alter perception** (awareness of surrounding objects and conditions), thoughts, and feelings. They cause **hallucinations**, or sensations and images that seem real though they are not. Hallucinogens can be found in some plants and mushrooms, or can be human-made. People have used hallucinogens for centuries, mostly for religious rituals.

Common hallucinogens include the following:

- *DMT is a powerful mind-altering chemical found in some Amazonian plants. It can be used to make a tea (Ayahuasca).*
- *D-lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) is a powerful mood-changing chemical.*
- *Peyote is a small, spineless cactus with mescaline as its main ingredient.*
- *Psilocybin comes from certain types of mushrooms found in tropical regions of South America, Mexico and the U.S.*



Some hallucinogens also cause users to feel **out of control** or **disconnected** from their body and environment. Common examples include *Dextromethorphan (DXM)*, *Ketamine*, *Phencyclidine (PCP)* and *Salvia divinorum (salvia)*.



## PREVIEW

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- *responses to the environment*
- *emotion*
- *learning and memory*

Receiving Neuron

synapse. Serotonin receptors are excessively activated.

### Short-Term Effects of Hallucinogens

Effects of hallucinogens begin within 20-90 minutes of taking them and can last as long as 6 to 12 hours.

Short-term effects of hallucinogens include:

- *hallucinations*
- *increased heart rate*
- *nausea*
- *intensified feelings & sensory experiences*
- *changes in sense of time*

### Long-Term Effects of Hallucinogens

**Ketamine** users may develop bladder, kidney problems and poor memory.

Repeated use of **PCP** can result in speech problems, memory loss, weight loss, anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts.

Certain hallucinogens can be **addictive** or people can develop a tolerance to them.





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## What are Hallucinogens?

Common hallucinogens include:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



**PREVIEW**

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