

# *DRUG USE*



# *Definition of drugs*

- from Dutch „droog“ =dry
  - chemical/natural substances
  - treatment, cure, prevention, or diagnosis of disease
  - enhance physical or mental well-being
- 
-

# *Types of drugs*

- medical drugs (e.g. Aspirin, Paracetamol)
  - legal drugs (e.g. beer, cigarettes, coffee)
  - illegal drugs (e.g. Cannabis, Cocaine)
- 
-

# *Advantages and disadvantages of drugs*

advantages:

- cure diseases
- help you to relax/forget problems (☐ → Soma)

disadvantages:

- addictive
- most drugs unhealthy
- social problems

# *Meaning of Soma*

- Greek for “body“
  - intoxicating drink of the early Indo-Iranians with energizing qualities
  - trade name for carisoprodol, a muscle relaxant drug
- 
-

# *Soma in the novel*

- rationed by the government
- different forms: ice-cream, pills
- taken to escape pain and bad memories
- no short-term side effects, but long-term abuse leads to respiratory failure<sup>1</sup>
- Lenina is addicted (p. 99, l. 24 “Oh, I wish I had my soma“)
- Bernard doesn't like soma
- Benito Hoover hasn't ever taken it (p. 52, l. 26-29)
- Solidarity Services: people consume large quantities of soma and sing hymns to become one unified body

1 Atemstörung

---

---