WATERLOO | CENTRE FOR CAREER ACTION

Interview Activity - The "dexterity" pill

Transcript

The Dean of your Faculty offers to all final year students the opportunity to take a "dexterity" pill. If taken, this pill would dramatically increase your ability to absorb all the educational material being presented to you in all your courses for the year. In fact, this pill would basically guarantee that you would receive an A+ in all your courses with a significantly reduced workload.

From an economic perspective the pros of taking the dexterity pill will save me study time and will allow me to focus on other aspects of my life such as volunteering, working, learning new things, and exercising. Even now, any extra time I get, I try to invest in improving my piano-playing skills. From a social perspective, there are issues with drug abuse for performance, but if monitored properly, the dexterity pill can be useful. Also, only those who are willing to participate should be included in the run. I would want to be thoroughly educated on pros and cons from health and legal perspectives. I acknowledge that wanting to take the pill is riskier; but if no one was willing to try, R&D in medicine would come pretty much to a dead halt. From an ethical standpoint, I would like to believe that due process was followed in making this opportunity available. I would not pass judgment until I understood the issue from all perspectives, and would keep myself open to the possibility of contributing to the advancement of science. I would talk to the Dean about the rationale for providing this opportunity to students and the concerns to get a better understanding of the situation. Given the above, in my opinion, the positives outweigh the drawbacks of taking the pill, and hence I would say yes.

