

International Conversation Cafe

Lifestyle Topic: Alcohol

A Definition

An intoxicating beverage.

A liquor or brew containing alcohol as the active agent; "alcohol (or drink) ruined him"

Cultural Perspective

1. What are the most popular alcoholic beverages in your country?
2. What are the laws about the age of drinking? Are the laws observed?
3. What are the common attitudes towards alcoholism and when is alcohol used; in families, at work, in college?
4. What has been your experience with alcohol on the college campus?
5. Have you ever known an alcoholic? Explain how alcoholism affected their life and those around them.

Quotations: Read and explain the meanings

"Candy is dandy, but liquor is quicker." --*Ogden Nash*

"I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning that's as good as they're going to feel all day." ~ *Frank Sinatra*

The problem with drinking and driving is the mourning after. ~*Author Unknown*

Drinking and driving: there are stupider things, but it's a very short list. ~*Author Unknown*

Discussion

What are the benefits of drinking alcohol?

What are the dangers?

What is your perspective on drinking?

A USA Story

In 1980, two women started the organization, Mothers Against Drunk Driving after drunk drivers killed their young daughters. The organization has a two-pronged effort. One focus is on education, teaching children, teens, and adults the dangers of drunk driving. The other focus is on legislation ensuring that our laws are tough enough to keep drunk drivers off the road and the legal age for drinking at twenty-one.

Every day in America, another 28 people die as a result of drunk driving crashes.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration FARS data, 2013.

Drunk driving costs the United States \$132 billion a year.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration FARS data, 2010

- See more at: <http://www.madd.org>

What makes you mad about drunk driving?

What do you think can be done about it?

Words Associated with Alcohol found in thefreedictionary.com

Use each word in a sentence.

abstinence-a voluntary and habitual self-deprivation, especially from alcoholic beverages. — **abstinent**, *adj*

alcoholism

1. an addiction to alcohol, especially involving compulsive, excessive consumption.
2. the pathological effects of such overindulgence. — **alcoholic**, *n*.

alcoholphilia- an excessive liking for alcoholic beverages. — **alcoholophile**, *n*.

drunkometer- a device for measuring the amount of alcohol in the bloodstream, usually from the breath. Also called **breathalyzer**

fermentology- a science that deals with ferments and fermentation, especially those concerned with the production of alcoholic beverages. — **fermentologist**, *n*.

teetotalism- the principle or conscious practice of complete abstinence from alcoholic beverages. Also called **total abstinence**. — **teetotaler**, *n*.