Reading for understanding

***Education in Chemistry***September 2017<rsc.li/EiC517-know-your-poison>

Read the article ‘Know your poison’ and answer the following questions.

1. Explain, in terms of the separation process, why chromatography is a good method for analysing drugs.

1. Why is chromatography not particularly useful for carrying out analysis at festivals?

1. Give three reasons why the infrared spectrometers used by the Loop were particularly good for use at festivals.

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1. Give one disadvantage of using infrared spectroscopy for analysis of drugs at festivals.

1. Explain how the reagent tests Guy designed can help identify drug samples.

1. List some substances used as cutting agents in the drug samples the teams analyse.

1. Discuss the role of dosage in the dangers posed by legal and illegal drugs.