

GROWING APART

Okenoy is having problems with his best friend. Read the story and find out: What is causing the problems?



Kwan is my best friend. I mean, he and I have always been very close. We're the same age, 21. We went to the same high school and now attend the same university. We are both English majors and want to be English teachers after we graduate. When we were growing up, we always did a lot of things together—baseball, music lessons and club activities in high school.

Even more important, we always talked to each other, sharing our highs and our lows, our fears and our secret wishes. I will always remember and treasure that closeness.

But something has changed. Kwan and I are not as close as before; I think we are **slowly growing apart.** I tried to talk to Kwan about it, but he said there was no change. Actually, he really didn't want to talk about it and cut me off.

And it's not just that. **His behavior has changed.** Now he stays out late at night and doesn't get home until 3 or 4 in the morning. Of course, this means that he sleeps late and often misses classes. I know we don't

have much homework, but I don't see him studying at all. And he has missed the last five meetings of the English club.

I'm worried, really worried. A friend of ours hinted last week that Kwan was in trouble. I questioned him about it, but he didn't want to tell me anything. I begged him to tell me, and finally he said that **maybe Kwan is taking drugs.**

I was shocked! I got angry and told my friend he was wrong and that he should stop telling lies about Kwan. But later I cooled down and thought about what he had told me. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized what he said could be true. I mean, Kwan has been acting very strange.

I wish I knew what to do.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What would you do if you were Kwan's friend?
Check the best answer.

I wouldn't worry. Maybe Kwan has a girlfriend who keeps him out late.



I would talk to Kwan again. I would tell him, "I'm really worried about you."



I would ask Kwan if he's taking drugs and see his reaction.



I would not do anything at this point. I would wait and see what happens.



I would talk to my parents and ask them what to do.



Now exchange your ideas with a classmate.

TURN TO PAGE 85 FOR AN INTERACTION TIP.

LOOKING AT THE ISSUE

What can best friends do? Check your answers.

- Lend each other money
- Borrow money from each other
- Lend each other books
- Lend their cars to each other
- Introduce boyfriends or girlfriends to each other
- Invite each other to their homes
- Tell each other secrets
- Talk about sex
- Share a drink from the same glass
- Ask for advice on a serious problem

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your ideas:

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