Fact or Fiction Answer Sheet

Fictions:
1. Overcoming addiction is only a matter of willpower.
2. Because addiction is a disease, there’s nothing that can be done to stop it.
3. People who are addicted have to hit rock bottom before they can get help.
4. You can’t force someone into treatment. They have to want help.
5. If treatment didn’t work the first time, there’s no point in trying again.
6. Addiction is simply just bad behavior.
7. People with addiction have no moral compass.
8. Drug addiction is a choice.
9. Doctors are solely to blame for the opioid epidemic.
10. Drug abuse only affects certain populations.
11. Opioids affect all users in the same ways.
12. Once a person is addicted, he/she can never stop using.
13. Opioid addiction is only an adult problem.
14. As long as a drug is prescribed it is safe to take.
15. People only use painkillers to get high.

Facts:
1. Opioid addiction and dependency affects ALL demographics.
2. Medication Assisted Treatment with medication such as methadone is an effective method of treatment for opioids.
3. More than 90 Americans die from overdosing on opioids every day. That’s equivalent to 630 people a week.
4. Opioids suppress breathing so increasing the dosage increases the chances the user will stop breathing.
5. Addiction is a disease that physically and chemically changes your brain.
6. Drug abuse is defined as taking someone else’s medication, taking more than what was prescribed, or taking the medication for something it was not prescribed for.
7. Nearly 80% of heroin users report abusing prescription painkillers first.
8. If heroin is laced with another drug, such as fentanyl, the user may need more than one dose of Narcan to come back from an overdose.
9. Relapse does not mean failure. It just indicates a need for more or different treatment.
10. Drug addiction is treatable and can be successfully managed.
11. With proper education, drug use and abuse are preventable.
12. Heroin use is driven by its low cost and high availability.
13. ER visits related to opioid overdoses have more than quadrupled in the last 15 years.
14. In 2015, more than 15,000 people died from overdoses involving prescription opioids.
15. People who are prescribed opioid painkillers may develop a physical dependence on the drug.