

- → although often used as self-medication
 for stress, alcohol is actually often a potent
 source of stress & contributor to depression
- it is the third leading cause of disease burden in developed countries
- most people who have health problems from drinking aren't alcoholics - they're just people who've regularly been drinking more than the NHS advises for some years



intentions for this coming week

- time for personal reflection and writing
- your intentions for stamina & strength
- your intentions for alcohol, weight, fruit & veg, fish, snacks, meat, dairy and so on
- ... and for autogenics the pulse focus, first differential & twelve breath exercises



developing skills in application

formal practice

developing a trigger phrase/focus

first "differential" practice

Ost L-G

Applied relaxation:
description of a coping
technique & review of
controlled studies
Behav Res Ther
1987;25:397-409

second "differential" practice

the reminder dot exercise

stressful real life situations



four aspects of helpful inner focus

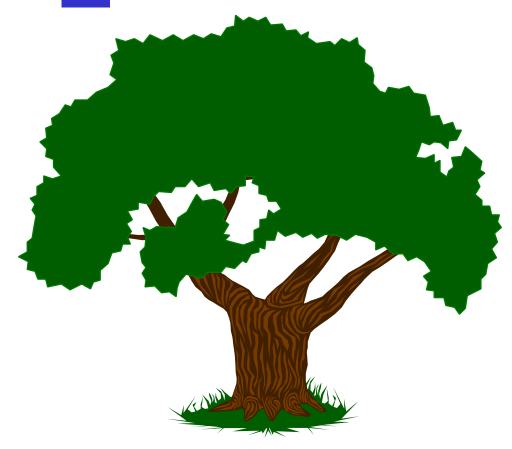
reducing negative states nourishing positive states

exploring & processing

encouraging mindfulness



three levels of being



Antonio Damasio *The feeling of what happens: body, emotion and the making of consciousness* London: Vintage, 2000

- extended consciousnessautobiographical self
- core consciousness & present time core self
- unconscious biological state & the proto self

attention, focus & time

pleasant emotional tone reminiscence (bf) fantasy/creativity (bf) mindfulness (bf) happy memory (nf) problem solving (nf) flow (nf) future past present fight or trauma memories (nf) anticipatory anxiety (nf) flight (nf)

bf = broad attentional focus
nf = narrow attentional focus

rumination (bf)

unpleasant emotional tone

freeze (bf)

worry (bf)