SAMPLE SCENARIO FOR ITEMS #38 and #40 (DRUGS)

Defendant, Tom MAY, first smoked crystal methamphetamine and marijuana in his sophomore year in high school after his best friend introduced him to drugs. He started with two “hits” of crystal methamphetamine and found that smoking the drug helped him to focus. He also smoked marijuana at parties just to be social. He continued to smoke crystal methamphetamine and marijuana throughout high school and experienced no significant problems.

Tom is currently 20 years of age and continues to use the drug one to two times a week. He reports that his use has increased significantly since high school, but denies that he has a problem with crystal methamphetamine or marijuana because he has a full-time job that pays him well. The income he earns pays for his rent and supports his three children. He reports that he has not experienced any withdrawal symptoms or personality changes from his drug use. A criminal history check reveals that the defendant has had arrests, no convictions, for dangerous drugs, drug paraphernalia, and detrimental drugs within the past five years. Most recently, within the past six months, Tom was arrested for dangerous drugs and drug paraphernalia; however, he was released pending investigation.

Based on Tom’s current and past drug use history, how would you score question #38 and rate/score question # 40?