

## DOCUMENT 2C

### Lance Armstrong admits doping in Oprah Winfrey interview

*The Guardian, 2013*

[Lance Armstrong](#) has admitted for the first time that he doped to win all seven of his Tour de France titles, turning his back on years of denials and confessing that his storied career at the top of competitive cycling was fuelled by drugs, lies and bullying.

In a television interview with [Oprah Winfrey](#) broadcast on Thursday night, Armstrong said it would not have been possible to win the titles without cheating, such was the prevalence of performance-enhancing drugs in the sport at the time. (...)

Winfrey opened the interview with a series of questions, to which she requested "yes or no" answers from Armstrong. Asked if he used drugs to win his Tour titles he replied: "Yes." Asked if they included steroids, EPO and PED, he said: "Yes." Asked if it was humanly possible to win the Tour seven consecutive times, as he did from 1999-2005, he said in his opinion it was not. "I view this situation as one big lie that I repeated a lot of times," he said.

The confession, even if widely deemed partial, was a dramatic turnaround for a man who has spent two decades defying and threatening those who challenged his record. (...)

He said he "lost himself" in the fairytale narrative of an athlete who battled back from testicular cancer to triumph in cycling's most gruelling race, raise a beautiful family and launch a cancer charity, Livestrong. "The truth isn't what I said. And now it's gone ... this story was so perfect for so long." At times slipping into the second person, he said: "You won the disease ... it was this mythic perfect story. And it just wasn't true."