## DEFENCE MECHANISMS: REPRESSION, DENIAL, DISPLACEMENT



## Your task

Put each of the following definitions or examples into the correct box:

repression denial displacement

Sue has discovered a lump in her breast but refuses to go to the doctor because she is quite sure that it is simply a cyst like the one her sister had the previous year.

Peter is angry with his parents so he snaps at his mate at school.

Tom hasn't had a girlfriend for ages.

He goes running every day for at least an hour.

Diverting emotions from their original source towards a less dangerous one.

Preventing unacceptable desires, motivations or emotions from becoming conscious.

Refusing to believe events or admit they are experiencing certain emotions that provoke anxiety.

Lucy, a heavy smoker, insists that there is no convincing evidence that smoking impairs health.

During a row with his wife, Bill hits her; this is totally out of character for him. He leaves the house and goes on a drinking binge. The next day he remembers nothing of what happened.

Tasmin forces memories of a very frightening experience into her unconscious mind.