

ARE YOU SAFE AT WORK?

Are you safe at work? It goes without saying that employers are required to ensure a safe place of work for their employees but employees also have a responsibility to guarantee the safety of their working environment. Statistics show that young workers are more likely to suffer an injury at work because they often lack information or are not very careful about their safety at work. On-the-job safety is everyone's business and you must take responsibility for ensuring your safety at work! Below are some reasons which indicate why it is important to be well informed, to be able to recognize dangerous situations and to know how to react when faced with an unsafe situation.



It is now time to get informed about safety at work. Go to www.ywap.ca and read the welcome message for the Young Workers Awareness Program. Next, read about the 7 things you should know as a young worker. Now answer the following questions, which are designed to make you think about the information you have just read.

1) *What is a young worker?*

2) *On average, how many young workers are injured, made ill, or killed on the job every day?*

3) *What does YWA stand for?*

4) *How many things should you know to get to the next payday? List them in the space provided below*

5) *What were the top five causes of injury to young workers from 1996 to 1999?*

6) Name two types of ergonomic dangers.

7) What are the three basic rights granted by the Occupational Health and Safety Act?

8) Name two duties/responsibilities of workers, under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

9) What are two types of training that you are required to receive each time you start a new job?

10) What is the first thing you should do if you suffer an injury at work?

11) *Why do some jobs require the use of hygienic facilities such as handwashing equipment and disinfectant soap?*

12) *Why was Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Act created?*

13) *Who is the first person you should speak to if you have questions or concerns about work?*

14) *What question should you ask your supervisor when you start a new job?*

REMEMBER THAT AN INFORMED PERSON IS A SAFE PERSON!!!

Next, on the same web site (www.ywap.ca), go to the section on **True Tales of Health and Safety** and then read the testimonials which are featured there.

Choose the testimonial which had the greatest impact on you and then, in one paragraph, describe what the danger in question was and explain what the young worker involved should have done to prevent the accident.

Form groups of four and discuss a dangerous situation at work where it would be necessary to refuse a task. Roleplay the situation, involving an employee, a colleague, an employer, and a supervisor. During the roleplay, make sure that you addressed the following elements:

- Did the supervisor receive any notice about the danger?
- How did the employer react to this situation?
- How did the colleague react to having to work with the same danger?
- Was there collaboration between the employee and his/her colleague?
- What was the final result?

Present your roleplay in front of the class and then discuss the final result.

Reflect on the knowledge you have acquired by completing this activity.

In this activity, you demonstrated the following essential skills and skill levels: Reading Text (3), Writing (1 and 2), Computer Use (2), Oral Communication (1 and 2). You also demonstrated the following work habits: Working Safely and Teamwork.

ARE YOU SAFE AT WORK?

ANSWER KEY

1. *What is a young worker?*

A young worker is someone between the ages of 15 and 24 who works full time or part time.

2. *On average, how many young workers are injured, made ill, or killed on the job every day? On average, 36 young workers are injured, made ill or killed at work every day.*

3. *What does YWA stand for? Young Worker Awareness.*

4. *How many things should you know to get to the next payday? List them in the space provided below. You should know 7 things to get to the next pay day:*

- ***What you don't know can hurt you...***
- ***What you do know can save your life...***
- ***The law protects...***
- ***The law expects...***
- ***You can expect...***
- ***You must report ...***
- ***Don't gamble with your health and safety...***
- ***Tell me more...***

5. *What were the top five causes of injury to young workers from 1996 to 1999? Struck against, struck by an object, overexertion, falls, bodily reaction excluding overexertion and repetitive motion, caught in or compressed by equipment or objects*

6. Name two types of ergonomic dangers.

Poor lighting and bad posture are two types of ergonomic dangers.

7. What are the three basic rights granted by the Occupational Health and Safety Act?

The rights are the right to be informed, the right to participate and the right to refuse unsafe work.

8. Name two duties/responsibilities of workers under the Occupational Health and Safety Act?

Workers must comply with the Act, all applicable regulations and the company's rules concerning health and safety and they should always work safely and in a way that will prevent accidents... responses provided by students may vary.

9. What are two types of training that you are required to receive each time you start a new job?

The two types of training are: General workplace safety information or training and specific safety training for your place of work

10. What is the first thing you should do if you suffer an injury at work?

You must always report it to your supervisor.

11. Why do some jobs require the use of hygienic facilities such as handwashing equipment and disinfectant soap?

Some jobs require hygienic facilities to reduce the risk of absorbing or ingesting harmful substances. This could also help to prevent dangerous substances from being transferred outside the work place.

12. Why was Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Act created?

To encourage the maintenance of healthy and safe work sites, to help workers involved in an accident to return to work quickly and to provide benefits for the most serious cases.

13. *Who is the first person you should speak to if you have questions or concerns about work? **You must talk to your supervisor (boss).***

14. *What question should you ask your supervisor when you start a new job? **Responses will vary but the intention is for the learner to mention a desire to obtain information on and training in health and safety issues related to his/her place of work.***

**REMEMBER THAT AN INFORMED PERSON IS A SAFE
PERSON!!!**

Rubric: GLC2O (Are You Safe at Work?)

Subject: Career Studies (GLC2O)	Course : Exploration of Opportunities	Grade: 10	Student :	Level:	Date:
Evaluation Task: Formative					
Overall Expectations: E1 – Use a research process to locate and select relevant career information from a variety of sources for inclusion in a portfolio			Comments (strengths, areas for improvement, next steps) :		
Specific Expectations: (1.4) – Explain the importance of safety in the workplace and related employee and employer rights and responsibilities			Strengths:	You must:	
Categories	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Knowledge and understanding	The student :				
Knowledge and understanding of the importance of being safe at work, being able to recognize the possible dangers, being able to avoid dangerous situations and knowing how to react when faced with unsafe situations.	Demonstrates limited knowledge of the content.	Demonstrates some knowledge of the content.	Demonstrates considerable knowledge of the content.	Demonstrates thorough knowledge of the content.	
	Demonstrates limited understanding of the content	Demonstrates some understanding of the content.	Demonstrates considerable understanding of the content	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the content	
Thinking	The student :				
Use of information processing skills in order to analyze testimonials and produce an analysis describing areas for improvement in order to prevent the types of accidents described in the testimonials. Role play to demonstrate an unsafe situation and how to react when faced with the danger in question.	– analyzes the data with limited effectiveness.	– analyzes the data with some effectiveness.	– analyzes the data with effectiveness.	– analyzes the data with a high degree of effectiveness.	
Communication	The student :				
Expression and organization of ideas and information: Good presentation of information for the reflective questions and good use of appropriate vocabulary for the subject.	– expresses and organizes ideas and information with limited effectiveness.	– expresses and organizes ideas and information with some effectiveness.	– expresses and organizes ideas and information with effectiveness.	– expresses and organizes ideas and information with a high degree of effectiveness.	
Oral communication between peers, active participation within the team and constructive criticism of the work of others and the work of other teams during the role play activity.	– uses appropriate conventions and terminology for the content with limited effectiveness.	– uses appropriate conventions and terminology for the content with some effectiveness.	– uses appropriate conventions and terminology for the content with effectiveness.	– uses appropriate conventions and terminology for the content with a high degree of effectiveness.	
Application	The student :				
Application of the information on the prescribed web site when responding to the reflective questions and during the role play activity.	– applies knowledge of the content in familiar contexts with limited effectiveness.	– applies knowledge of the content in familiar contexts with some effectiveness.	– applies knowledge of the content in familiar contexts with effectiveness.	– applies knowledge of the content in familiar contexts with a high degree of effectiveness.	

Students whose performance is below level 1 do not satisfy the requirements for this task.