

2

Worksite safety

scaffold

trench safety

ladder

Worksite Safety

NOTICE

Follow the guidelines below at all times. In the event of an **accident**, notify a supervisor and call emergency services.

- When working on **ladders**, follow the **4:1 rule**. Avoid **falls** from **scaffolds** and **pump jacks** by wearing a safety harness. Pay attention to the platform's weight limit. Exceeding that limit can cause a collapse.
- Ensure proper **ventilation** when working with **toxic** chemicals in **closed spaces**. Read the **Material Safety Data Sheets** (MSDS) thoroughly and take all recommended precautions.
- Know the causes of each **class** of fire and the correct type of extinguisher to use on each type. Keep fire extinguishers on hand for Class A and B fires.
- Never take water near an **electrical ground**. Wear **rubber-soled** boots to protect against electric shock.
- Practice good **trench safety**. Never stack equipment or pile dirt near trench edges.

Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What equipment allows workers to climb higher on a building?
- 2 What is an accident that can happen to a worker when using a ladder?

Reading

2 Read the poster on worksite safety. Then, mark the statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 — Not following the 4:1 rule can cause a scaffold to collapse.
- 2 — Different classes of fire need different types of fire extinguishers.
- 3 — Not wearing rubber-soled boots violates trench safety.

Vocabulary

3 Fill in the blanks with the correct words and phrases from the word bank.

word BANK

toxic trench safety 4:1 rule
pump jack Material Safety Data Sheet

- 1 According to the _____, you should wash your eyes thoroughly if the chemical gets in your eyes.
- 2 Position the ladder according to the _____.
- 3 Most deaths occur when the walls cave in, so it is important to follow _____ guidelines.
- 4 When he finished installing the windows, Tim lowered the _____ to the ground.
- 5 This substance is _____ and will cause illnesses if inhaled.

4 Read the sentence pair. Choose where the words best fit the blanks.

1 class / accident

- A The _____ A fire occurred when a piece of paper got too close to a stove.
B An employee broke his leg in the _____ at the construction site.

2 scaffold / fall

- A Avoid a _____ by wearing a safety harness.
B John stood on a _____ that was fifteen feet off the ground.

3 ground / ladder

- A The _____ was a metal rod installed into the foundation of the building.
B Use a _____ to repair the gutter on the roof.

4 closed space / ventilation

- A Keep the window open to ensure proper _____.
B Never use a toxic chemical in a _____.