

Electricity Safety Activity

Each of the items below describes a situation that might occur backstage working with electricity. If correct safety procedures are being followed, write

“safe” on the line provided; if not, write “unsafe.” Indicate which safety guideline(s) are or are not being followed.

1. Janet is working with an old power sander and receives a mild shock. She shuts off the power immediately and later remarks to her teacher that the sander should probably be replaced, but she doesn't mention the shock.

2. The theatre department at Felicia's school keeps cords, cables, and connectors in an electrical “junk drawer.” It's a mess, but it keeps all the equipment in one place where it's easy to find.

3. During a technical rehearsal a bulb blows in a spotlight. Before Steve changes the bulb, he grabs the plug and unplugs the spotlight.

4. Marisa is using a reel-to-reel tape recorder to produce a show tape. While she works she keeps a soda sitting on top of the machine where she can reach it easily.

5. While Jason is working with lights, a fuse blows. He doesn't know where the circuit breakers are located so he asks another member of the crew.

Using your knowledge of electricity safety, on the lines below write a paragraph like those above describing work backstage that includes at least two unsafe procedures. Then explain which safety guidelines are violated.

Scene Shop Safety Activity

Each of the items below describes a situation that might occur backstage working on scenery. If correct safety procedures are being followed, write

“safe” on the line provided; if not, write “unsafe.” Indicate which safety guideline(s) are or are not being followed.

1. Lisa is working backstage painting some flats. She puts on gloves and a respirator mask. To pass the time she listens to music on her Walkman.

2. Tom has been building a papier-mâché mask for the school’s production of *The Tempest*. His hands are covered with wheat paste. Mike brings over a bag of French fries and Tom digs in.

3. Stan is tearing down a large wooden box built for the fall variety show. The first thing he does is to change from his sneakers into his steel-toed boots. Then he grabs the claw hammer and starts pulling out the nails.

4. Maria needs to use a stepladder to reach some scrap lumber on a high shelf. She calls Anna over to steady the ladder and then climbs up and stands on the top step.

5. Dominique is using a power saw to cut some lumber in the scene shop. The shop is hot and the face shield is making her sweat, so she puts on safety goggles instead.

Using your knowledge of scene shop safety, on the lines below write a paragraph like those above describing work backstage that includes at least two unsafe procedures. Then explain which safety guidelines are violated.
