

Lesson 3

Reporting Unsafe Workplace Conditions and Calling L&I

Intermediate/Advanced

Learning

Objective: Eighty five percent of students will be able to express a concern to their boss regarding unsafe conditions on the job site. Students will learn how to call L&I to report unsafe work conditions.

Language

Objectives: This is unsafe.
This is dangerous.
I don't feel safe.
I can't work unless you _____.
I need safety equipment.

Materials: Picture story: large version* (pg 6 – 12)
Picture story: small students sets (pg 13 – 15)
Picture story text (pg 5)
Student dialog worksheet (pg 16)
Note cards
"Board game" blank papers
Sentence strips
Small cards with L & I's phone number

Notes for the instructor

- Employers must follow Washington State rules protecting all workers on the job. It is the employer's responsibility to maintain a safe workplace.
 - Workers have the right to file a complaint if they believe an unsafe condition exists and their employer is not responding.
 - A worker can file a complaint anonymously.
 - Immigration status does not affect a worker's right to a safe job site.
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Warm-up

Do a ball toss and have students tell the class their name and do an action to represent the kind of work they do. The rest of the class guesses the name of the work.

Thinking about unsafe work sites- Our stories and experiences

Show a large version of the 2nd frame of the picture story, where we see Javier working below where workers are throwing shingles. Using the question hierarchy format, ask the following questions:

1. Is this a man? Is he working? Is he resting?
2. Is he on the roof or on the ground? Is this work hard or easy?
3. What is the man below doing? What are the men above doing?
4. Have you ever worked in construction? Is it dangerous? Why or why not?
5. What do you think this story is about? What will happen? Have you ever worked in unsafe conditions? What did you do?

Study and Learn

As a whole class, go through story frame by frame using question hierarchy. Teacher then reads story aloud. Students listen.

Once story is complete, discuss story and check for comprehension. Was Javier's worksite safe? Why or why not? What happened to Javier? Who has the responsibility to keep the work site safe? What does his boss say? Is that true? Has anyone called L&I before? What is L&I's number? What did the L&I official do?

Talk it out

Pass out small versions of the picture story. In groups of 2-3, students talk through story in English and put the story in order.

Additional activity for advanced students: Pass out written version of the story. Have students read aloud with teacher. Go over new vocabulary, pronunciation questions, etc.

Practicing the essentials

Show frame number five to the students again, in which Javier is reporting to his boss the unsafe conditions. Ask students, "What did Javier say to his boss?" Write the answer on the board. Ask, "What else can you say to your employer if the workplace is unsafe?"

Have students form groups and make a list of what else Javier could say to his boss. Pass out blank sentence strips and have students choose one statement to write on the paper.

Have groups report back. Students can come to the front of class and tape their sentence strip to the board and read aloud. Class repeat. Examples include:

- This is unsafe.
- This is dangerous.
- I don't feel safe.
- I can't work unless you _____. (Fix the problem, provide a harness, clean up the site, etc.)
- I need safety equipment.

Group Practice: Mingle

Ss choose a statement from the board that they would like practice and write it down on a note card. Students walk around and mingle with one another, practicing the sentence with each student in the class. Students should walk throughout the whole space, practicing with as many students as possible.

Act it out!

Students come back to seats. Teacher asks a high level student to help model the following dialog:

Worker: Boss, the workers are throwing shingles on the work site. It is dangerous. I don't feel safe working there.

Boss: Oh?

Worker: I don't feel safe. I can't work unless they stop throwing shingles..

Boss: Okay, thanks for telling me. I will talk with them.

Students should break in to pairs to create or practice a dialog. Pass out dialog worksheets. Partners will choose an unsafe situation and then create the dialog to address it. Lower level students may use the provided dialog to practice and present.

When completed, pairs should act out skits for classmates. If time permits, teacher can ask clarification questions to the student audience, i.e. "Was the worksite safe?" "Why not?" "What did the worker say to his boss?" "What can the worker do if the boss doesn't fix the problem?" etc.

Review

Review key phrases chorally. Review L&I's phone number. 206-515-2800

Post Lesson Evaluation

Have students work in pairs to write down one thing they learned in class that day. Do a ball toss and share. Teacher can collect papers at the end of class as a record of student improvement.

Additional practice for advanced students

Students break in to small groups. Teacher hands out large folders to act as game boards, and three blank papers to each student. Each student writes or draws an experience they have had with an unsafe work situation, and places them on the folder so that it makes a square (emulating a game board). Choose a starting point. Student rolls the dice, moves a game piece (this can be a penny or bean, etc) and lands on a spot. The student whose spot it is shares with the group their experience. The rest of the group can help the person think of what the student could have said to report the unsafe condition. A student in the group wanting more writing practice should take notes on what the students say. Report back.

*Picture story illustrations accredited to Rachael Desouza.

Picture Story Text

Javier worked for a construction company.

One day on the job, workers were throwing shingles to the ground from the roof.

A shingle almost hit Javier on the head. He was scared and did not want to work anymore.

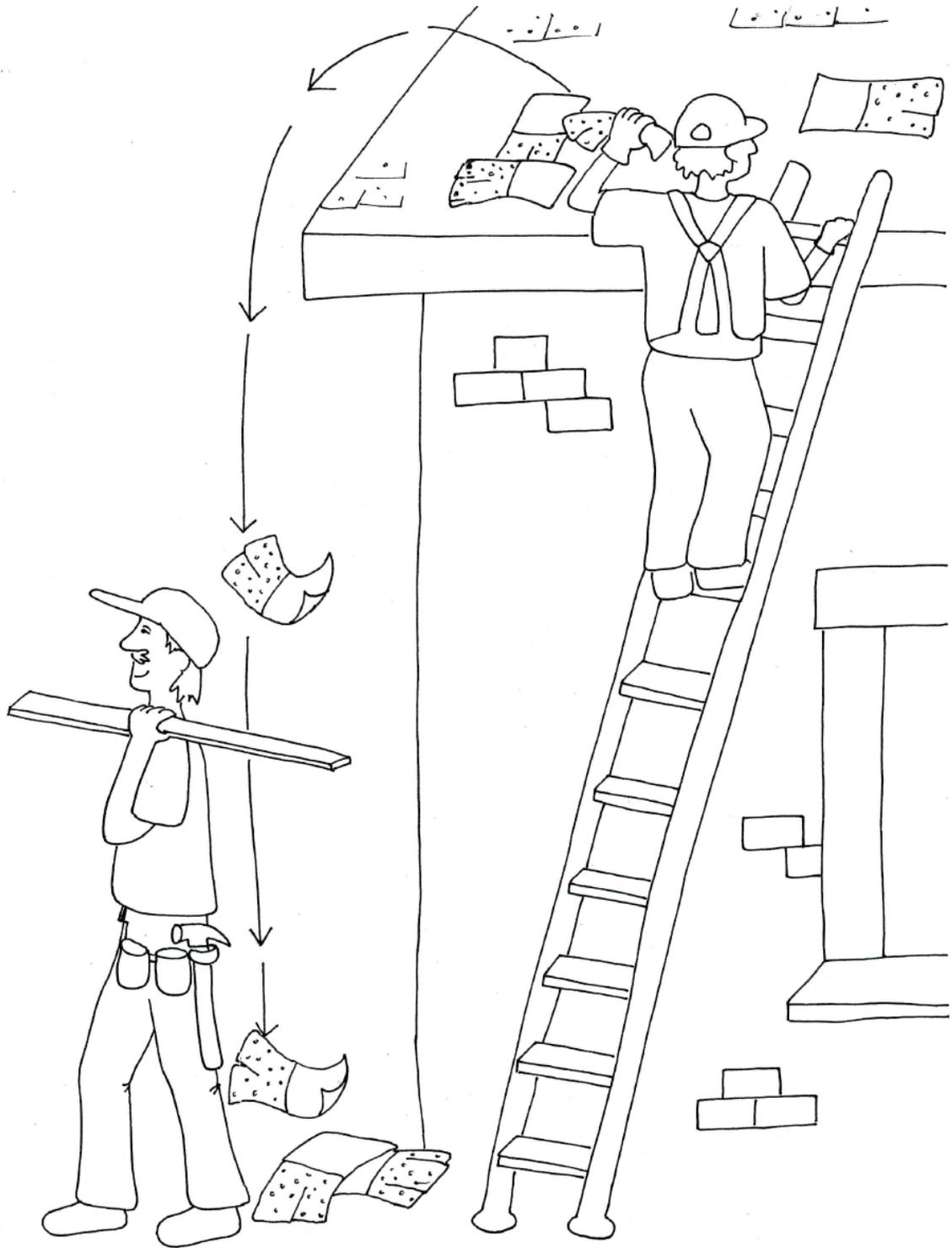
He told his boss, "This is dangerous. I don't feel safe working in these conditions."

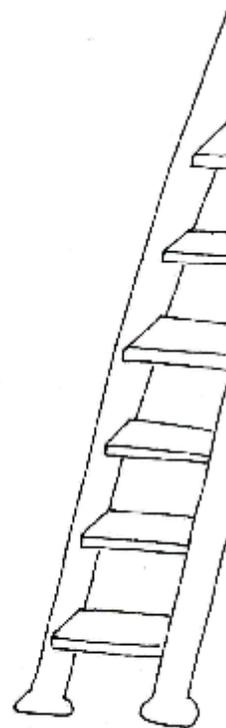
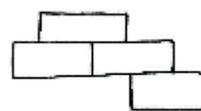
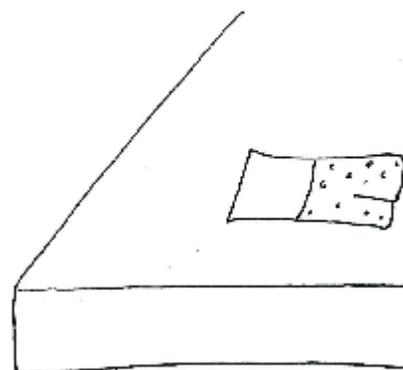
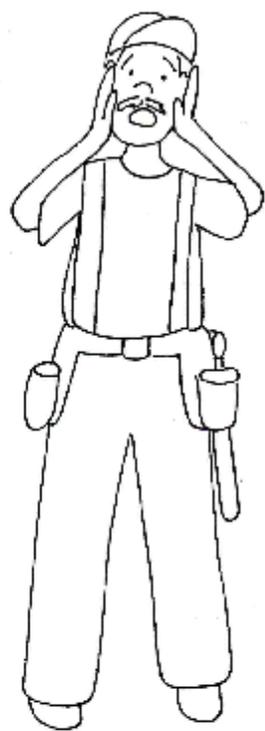
The boss said, "That's your problem."

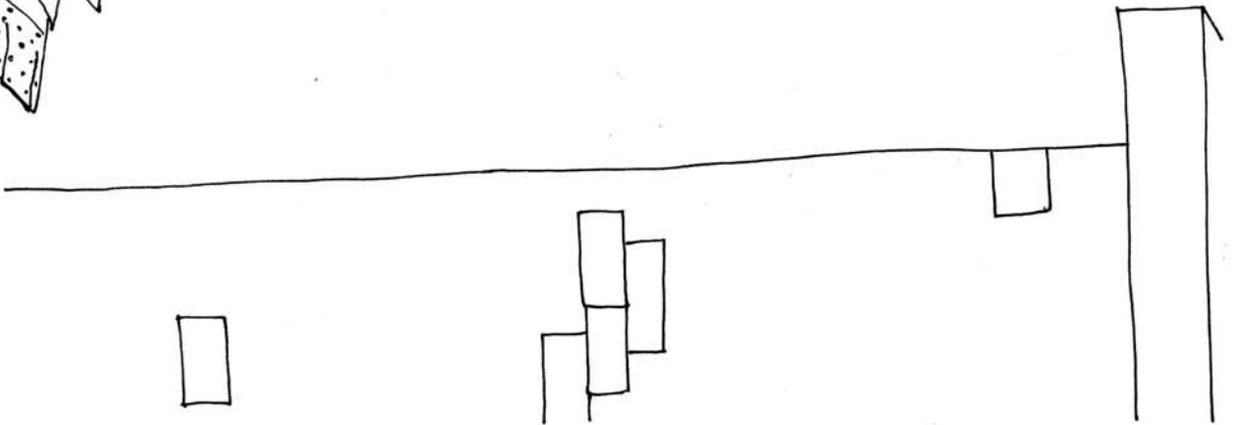
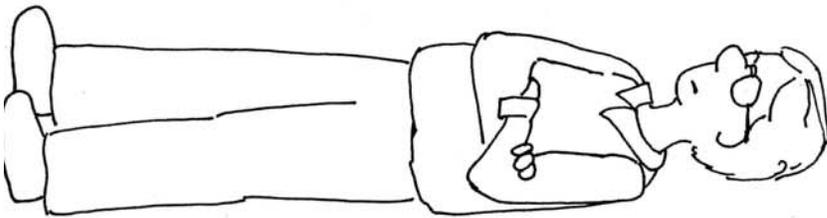
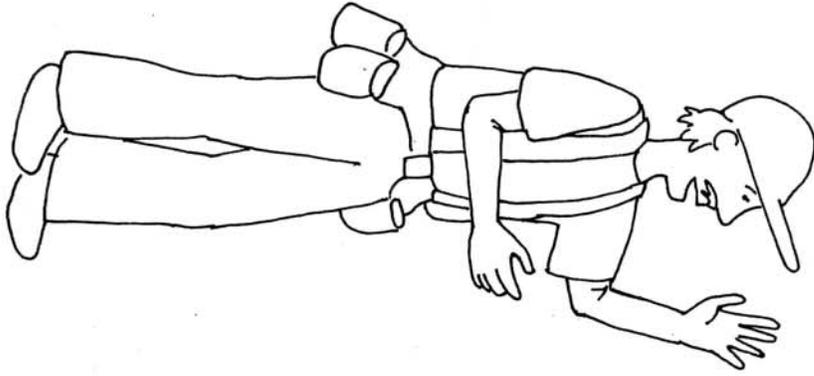
Javier called L & I. He dialed 206-515-2800 and reported the unsafe conditions.

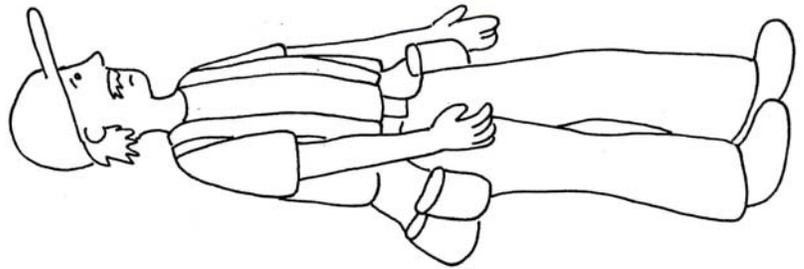
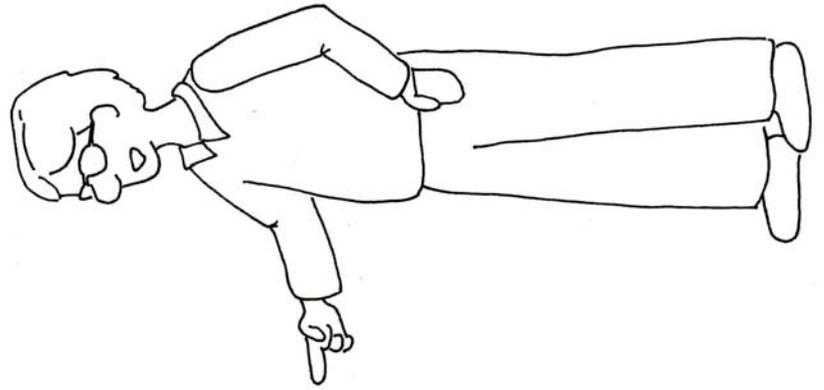
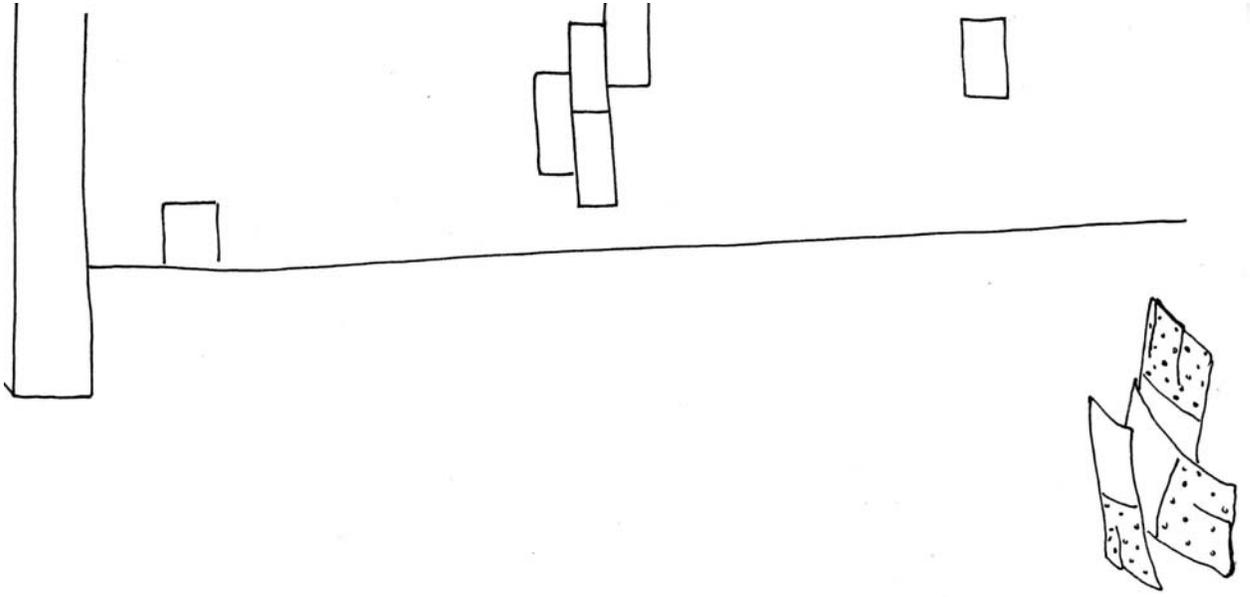
The next day, an L & I official came to inspect the job site. The official fined the boss for not keeping his workers safe.





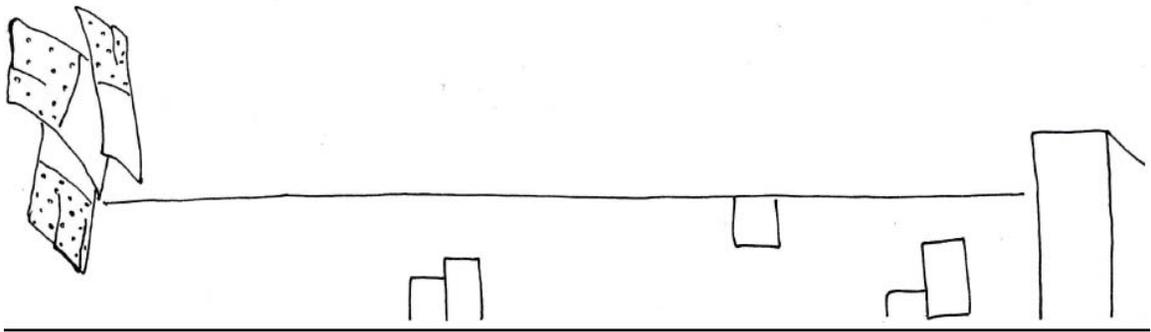
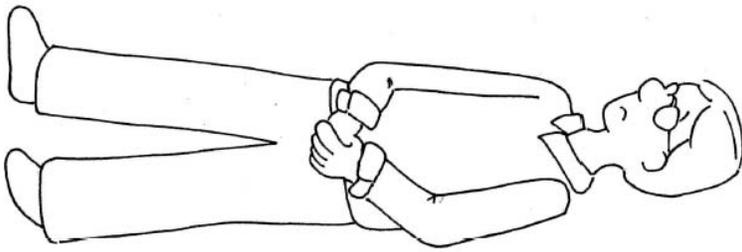
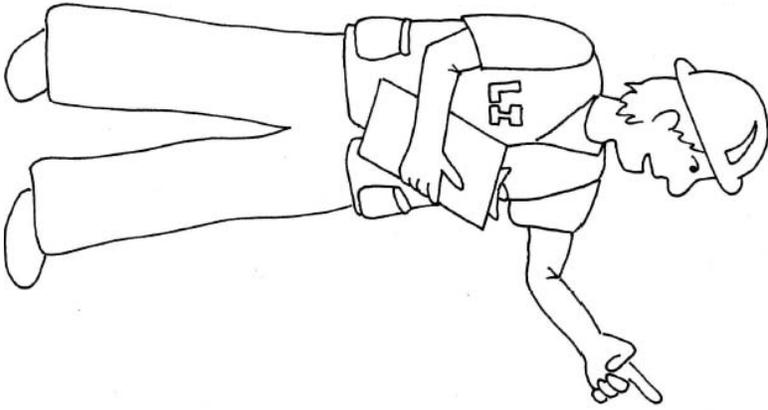


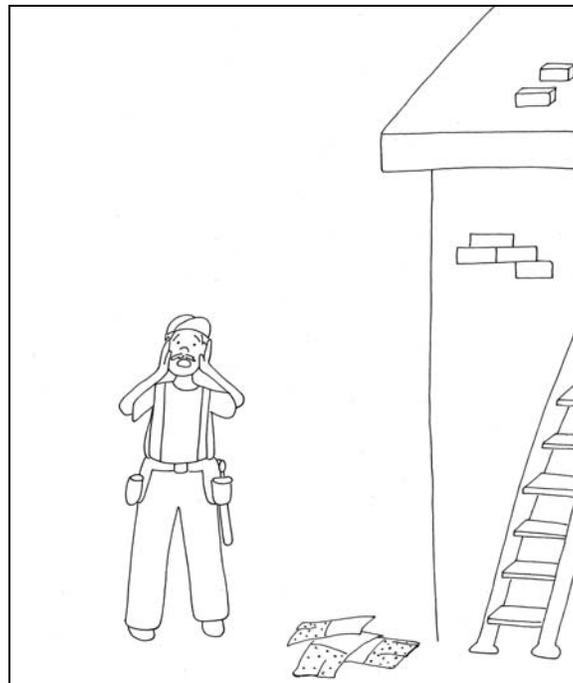
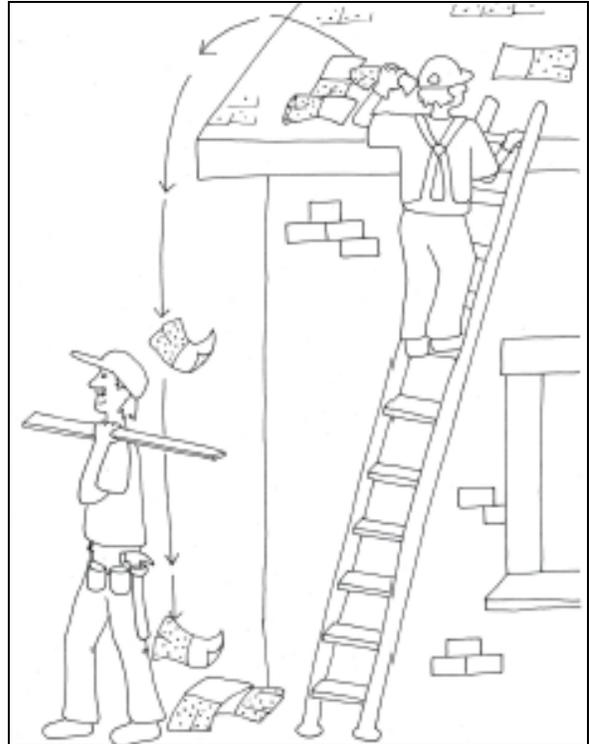


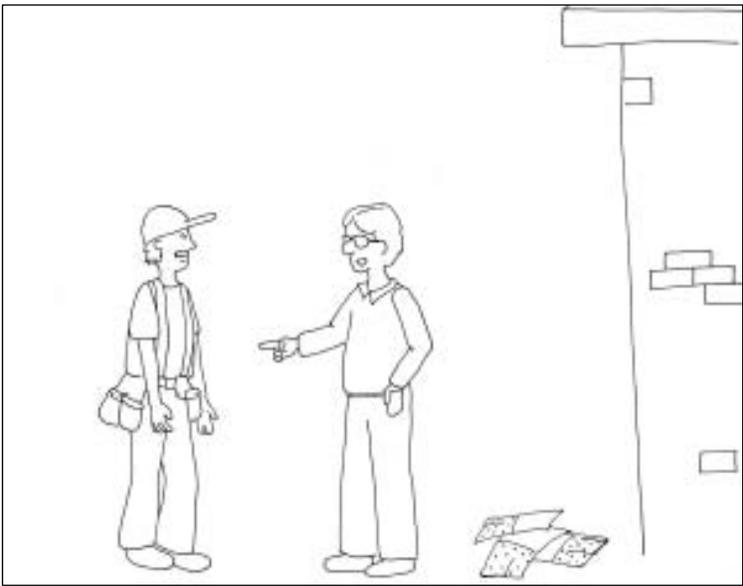


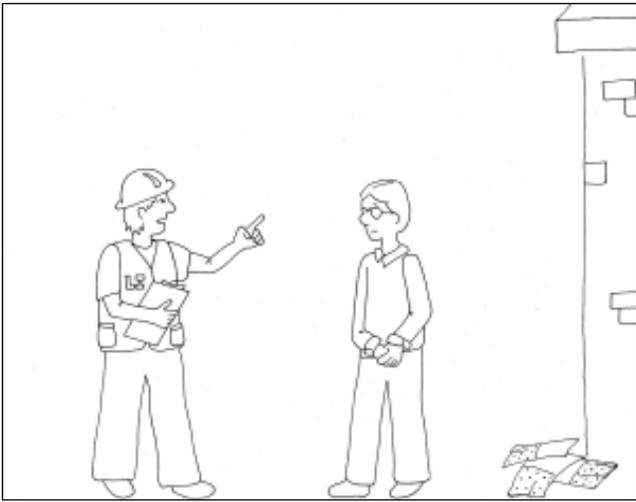


OSHA: 206-515-2800







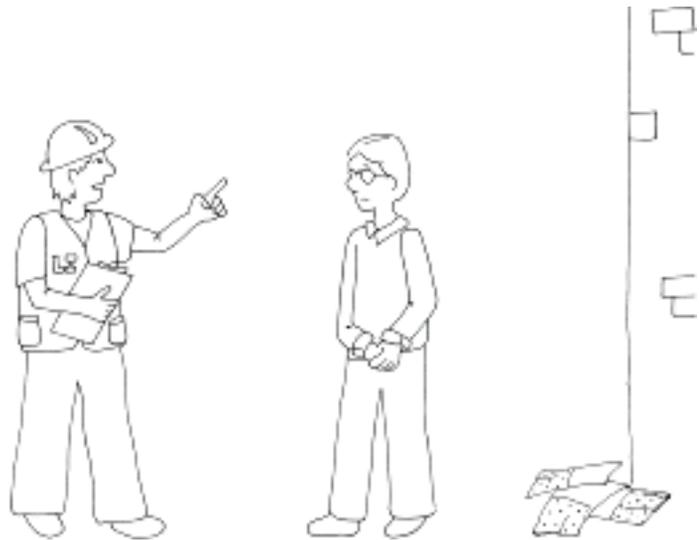


Worker: *Boss, the workers are throwing bricks on the work site. It is dangerous. I don't feel safe working there.*

Boss: *Oh?*

Worker: *I don't feel safe. I can't work unless they stop throwing bricks.*

Boss: *Okay, thanks for telling me. I will talk with them.*



Now write your own dialog:

Worker: _____

Boss: _____

Worker: _____
