

Hazard Ranking Exercise – Answer Key

For each of the hazards listed below, assign a priority ranking that reflects both the severity and the probability of the injury or damage that could result. Use the National Safety Council categories below and give each hazard both a number and a letter (ie: 3C, 2A).

For severity:

1. **Imminent danger** - (i.e., causing deaths, occupational illness, loss of facilities)
2. **Serious** - (i.e., severe injury, serious illness, property, and equipment damage)
3. **Minor** - (i.e. non-serious injury, illness, or damage)
4. **Negligible/OK** - (i.e. minor injury, requiring first aid or less)
5. **Not applicable**

For probability:

- A. **Probable** - likely to occur immediately or soon
- B. **Reasonably probable** - likely to occur eventually
- C. **Remote** - could occur at some point
- D. **Extremely remote** - unlikely to occur

Classify each of the following hazards:

- 3C** A fire extinguisher with an inspection tag past the expiry date.
- 2A** Ice on a sidewalk in front of a busy entry door.
- 1A** An excavation without proper barricades.
- 2A** A worker who is painting without respiratory protection equipment.
- 2A** A worker grinding without a proper safety guard on the grinder.
- 1C** An attendant fuelling a vehicle that is running.
- 2A** Workers removing asbestos without respiratory protection.
- 3C** A WHMIS MSDS book that is missing from its assigned location.
- 2A** An X-ray site without barricades or warning signs.
- 2A** A worker wearing running shoes while loading pipe.
- 2B** A worker not wearing ballistic nylon leggings while operating a chain saw.

- 2A** An operator working in a noisy area without hearing protection.
- 1A** Excessive toxic fume build-up in a welding area.
- 2B** A worker with no eye protection while operating a table saw.
- 2B** A damaged plank on a scaffold.
- 2A** A 15 ft. scaffold without guard rails.
- 2C** A wooden ladder that has been painted with a solid colour.
- 2B** A metal extension ladder with one foot missing.
- 1A** Workers working on a swing stage without safety lines.
- 2B** Workers without hard hats in an area where a hazard to the head exists.
- 1B** An emergency exit blocked by construction materials.
- 1A** A major piece of electrical equipment that is undergoing maintenance but is not locked/tagged out.
- 2A** Passengers riding in the bucket of a front-end loader.
- 2B** A signaller giving signals, not wearing proper armbands or reflective vest.
- 2A** Materials being unloaded from a truck by a crane without tag lines being used.
- 1B** Operators using electrical equipment with frayed or damaged electrical cords.
- 1C** An operator running a piece of heavy machinery that has a cracked windshield.