

Are You Living Dangerously on the Job? Training Quiz

How safe are you *really* around electricity and natural gas?

Take this quiz and find out. For each question, circle the answer that best describes how you would typically respond to each situation on the job.

- 1. For tools and equipment other than cranes or derricks used in construction, what is the minimum safe clearance from overhead power lines?
 - A. 6 inches
 - B. 100 feet
 - C. 10 feet
 - D. 5 feet
- 2. If you suspect a natural gas leak, you should:
 - A. Bury your excavation
 - B. Use your cell phone or radio
 - C. Attempt to shut off the gas supply
 - D. None of the above
- 3. If you must work closer than the safe clearance distance from overhead power lines, which of the following should you do?
 - A. Attempt to disconnect electrical service
 - B. Call the local electric utility in advance
 - C. Evacuate nearby homes
 - D. Both A and C
- 4. What does state law require that you do to determine the location of underground utility lines before digging on a job site?
 - A. Look for right-of-way markers
 - B. Check your maps
 - C. Call your local electric and natural gas utility
 - D. Notify the 811 service

5. How should you assist a coworker who contacts a power line while operating heavy equipment?

- A. Call 911 and the local electric utility
- B. Encourage them to stay on the equipment until utility personnel arrive
- C. If there is danger from fire or another hazard, tell them to jump clear of the equipment without touching the ground and the equipment at the same time
- D. All of the above

6. True or false? Before digging, you should ask the property owner about any private underground lines that may not be marked by the locator.

- A. True
- B. False

7. What is the job of a spotter?

- A. To stabilize a load
- B. To prevent equipment from contacting power lines
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of the above

8. Which of the following is a warning sign of a natural gas leak?

- A. A distinctive, sulfur-like odor
- B. Dirt blowing into the air
- C. A hissing or roaring sound
- D. All of the above

9. The path of underground utilities has been marked. Your boss asks you to hand dig to expose the utilities and confirm their depth. What do you do?

- A. Use a blunt trenching tool and carefully pry away dirt to expose utilities and confirm their depth before beginning excavation
- B. Use a pick to hand dig and expose the utilities
- C. Borrow an electric post-hole digger to expose utilities
- D. None of the above

10. True or false? A service drop wire can shock you.

- A. True
- B. False

Are you living dangerously on the job? **Answers**

- 1. C
- 2. D
- 3. B
- 4. D
- 5. D
- 6. A
- 7. B
- 8. D
- 9. A
- 10. A