

## STEP Introductory Level Quiz Answers

Each year there are approximately 11,000 serious (or major) slipping accidents at work, what do the majority of these accidents result in?

- a. Serious burns – **No**, some slips result in nasty burns but the majority result in broken bones
- b. Workplace deaths – **No**, there are a small number of deaths each year following slips but the majority (approx 90%) of serious slips result in workers suffering broken bones
- c. Broken bones – **Yes**, approximately 90% of serious slips result in broken bones

What is the main cause of slipping accidents at work?

- a. Poor choice of footwear – **No**, a good choice of slip-resistant footwear can help stop slips but the main cause of slips is water or other contamination on the floor
- b. No real cause, they are part of everyday life and just happen – **No**, this is a common belief but isn't true. The main cause of slips is water or other contamination on the floor
- c. Water or other contamination on floors – **Yes**, water, oil, dust etc can all make a floor more slippery and are the main cause of slipping accidents

You slip at work but manage to recover your balance before falling, what do you do?

- a. Breathe a sigh of relief that you didn't hurt yourself and tell your supervisor at tea break – **No**, you should report the 'near miss' immediately. Other workers may slip as well if you don't take action straight away. Statistics tell us that there are lots of 'near misses' before actual accidents occur so if you report them immediately it will help to identify areas where you need to take action
- b. Report it as a 'near miss' immediately – **Yes**, statistics tell us that there are lots of 'near misses' before actual accidents occur so if you report them immediately it will help to identify areas where you need to take action
- c. Feel embarrassed in case somebody saw you and forget about it – **No**, you should report 'near misses' immediately. Other workers may slip as well if you don't take action straight away. Statistics tell us that there are lots of 'near misses' before actual accidents occur so if you report them immediately it will help to identify areas where you need to take action

You see a drinks spillage at work, what do you do?

- a. Ignore it because it's not your job to clear it up – **No**, everyone has a role to play in stopping accidents.
- b. Clean it up yourself and leave the floor dry – **Yes**, this is the best option. Even if you sort out the problem yourself it's a good idea to report it as well.
- c. Put a barrier around the spill and report it to a cleaner or supervisor – **Yes**, if you are not responsible for cleaning up spills yourself then the barrier will help to stop others walking on the wet floor until the problem can be sorted out

How can cleaning, using a mop and bucket, cause slips and trips on smooth shiny floors?

- a. It can't – **No**, many slip accidents happen when people are allowed to walk on smooth floors that have just been cleaned. A tiny amount of water, for example from a wrung-out mop, can make a smooth floor slippery
- b. People can trip over the mop and bucket – **Yes**, if people are allowed into the area being cleaned trips may occur. It's a good idea to clean when other people aren't around (e.g. out of hours) or put up a barrier to stop access to areas being cleaned
- c. People are allowed to walk on the floor before it is properly dry – **Yes**, many slip accidents happen when people are allowed to walk on smooth floors that have just been cleaned. A tiny amount of water, for example from a wrung-out mop, can make a smooth floor slippery. Keep people off smooth floors until they are completely dry.

Which of the following do you think are sensible shoes?

- a. Flip flops – **No**, this is a poor choice of footwear in most workplaces as they are unlikely to be secure on the foot and the feet will be vulnerable to dropped items or harmful spills
- b. Trainers – **Yes**, a good choice as long as they fit well and are in good condition
- c. High heels – **No**, a poor choice as the heel may increase the chance of twisting an ankle. It may also be more difficult to recover balance if a slip or trip happens

Which of the following activities may make you more likely to slip or trip?

- a. Talking on your mobile – **Yes**, talking on your mobile means that you are distracted and less likely to spot a slip hazard.
- b. Carrying a tray in the canteen – **Yes**, when carrying a tray in front of you, you are less likely to spot a hazard, and may have more difficulty in keeping your balance.
- c. Rushing – **Yes**, when you walk more quickly you need more grip and are therefore more likely to slip.

Which of these is **not** a good way of keeping people off a wet floor during cleaning?

- a. Cleaning out of hours – **No**, cleaning out of hours is a good way to keep people off a wet floor. Remember that the cleaner will still need to access the floor while it is wet
- b. A caution wet floor sign – **Yes**, a sign will not prevent people from accessing the wet floor
- c. Cleaning in sections - **No**, cleaning in sections is a good way to keep people off a wet floor. Remember that the cleaner will still need to access the floor while it is wet
- d. Using a barrier - **No**, using a physical barrier is a good way to keep people off a wet floor. Remember that the cleaner will still need to access the floor while it is wet

Which of the following slip and trip hazards **cannot** be fixed by good maintenance?

- a. Water leaking from a pipe – **No**, good maintenance can solve this problem
- b. A slippery floor in the entrance – **Yes**, maintenance can help to prevent contamination getting on this surface but the floor will remain slippery when wet
- c. Peeling carpet - **No**, good maintenance can solve this problem
- d. A corridor which is dark because the bulbs have blown - **No**, good maintenance can solve this problem

Look at this workplace, can you identify why workers were having tripping accidents?



- a. The quality of the flooring – **No**, the flooring is level, in good condition and isn't a trip hazard
- b. The cluttered walkway – **Yes**, the walkway is marked and should be kept clear but is cluttered with trip hazards such as trolleys, low benches and containers
- c. Workers couldn't see the trip hazards on the black floor – **No**, the lighting is good