Unit 202: Changing practices over time (learner)

Worksheet 7: Interdependencies amongst trades

**Task 1:** Answer the following questions about the evolution of the trade interdependencies.

1. How has the construction industry in Wales changed in terms of the interactions and roles of individual trades over time?

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1. How do the evolving interactions and roles of trades contribute to the overall efficiency and competitiveness of the construction industry in Wales?

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1. What factors have contributed to the change in the way trades interact in the construction industry in Wales?

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1. What is Building Information Modelling (BIM) and how does it improve coordination between trades?

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1. What positive impacts have the changes in interactions between trades had on the construction industry in Wales?

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**Task 2:** Read the following statements and decide whether they are true or false. **Circle** the correct option.

1. Interdependencies between trades in construction can lead to increased efficiency and productivity.

**True or False**

1. Problems with one trade can **never** impact the work of other trades in construction.

**True or False**

1. Lack of communication and coordination between trades can lead to delays and cost overruns.

**True or False**

1. Different working practices and standards between trades do not affect project timelines.

**True or False**

1. In the construction industry, individual trades work together in a coordinated manner to carry out construction projects.

**True or False**

1. Each trade in construction specialises in a specific aspect of the construction process.

**True or False**

1. Technological advancements, changes in construction practices and new regulations have not influenced the evolution of interactions and roles between trades.

**True or False**

1. The different trades in construction are independent of each other and do not rely on cooperation for project completion.

**True or False**

**Task 3:** Read the scenario provided, then answer the questions that follow.

John is a Level 2 Building trade construction student who is working on a construction site as part of his training. He has been assigned to assist with the first fix stage of a residential building project.

During the first fix stage, John is responsible for assisting the electricians with running electrical cables and installing junction boxes. However, there is a communication breakdown between John and the electricians. They fail to provide clear instructions and guidance on the specific tasks and safety precautions. Due to the lack of clear instructions and guidance, John is unaware of the potential hazards associated with working around live electrical cables. He fails to use the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and safety glasses, and inadvertently puts himself at risk of electric shocks or other injuries.

The construction site supervisor did not adequately plan the workflow for the first fix stage. As a result, multiple trades, including carpenters and plumbers, are working in the same area simultaneously, creating a crowded and chaotic working environment. This leads to interference and clashes between different trades, causing delays and inefficiencies. The lack of coordination and planning during the first fix stage creates tension and conflict between different trades. Carpenters complain about the electrical cables being in their way and hindering their work, while plumbers struggle to install pipes due to the congested work area. The working relations between the trades become strained, impacting collaboration and productivity.

1. How can John overcome the communication breakdown with the electricians and ensure clear instructions and guidance during the first fix stage?

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1. How can John address the lack of awareness of potential hazards and ensure the use of necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) during the first fix stage?

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1. What actions can be taken to improve coordination and planning during the first fix stage to prevent interference and conflicts between different trades?

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**Task 4:** Read the scenario provided, then answer the questions that follow.

Sarah is a Level 2 Building trade construction student who is working on a construction site as part of her training. She has progressed to the second fix stage of a residential building project.

During the second fix stage, Sarah is responsible for installing doors and door frames. However, there is a lack of clear communication between Sarah and the site supervisor. She is not provided with the necessary specifications for the doors, including their size and type, which hinders her ability to install them correctly. Sarah encounters a health and safety concern while working on the second fix. She notices that the area where she is installing the doors is poorly lit, creating a potential tripping hazard. However, she does not have access to proper lighting equipment or assistance to address this issue, increasing the risk of accidents.

Sarah receives a batch of door frames that are of poor quality. They are warped and do not meet the required standards. Despite her efforts to install them correctly, the doors do not fit properly within the frames, resulting in misaligned and malfunctioning doors. Due to the poor-quality materials, Sarah must communicate the issue to the site supervisor and request replacement door frames. However, the site supervisor dismisses her concerns and refuses to take immediate action, causing frustration and straining working relations between Sarah and the supervisor.

1. What steps can Sarah take to overcome the lack of clear communication regarding the specifications for the doors?

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1. How can Sarah address the health and safety concern related to poor lighting in the area where she is installing the doors?

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1. How should Sarah handle the situation of receiving poor-quality door frames and ensure proper installation despite their defects?

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