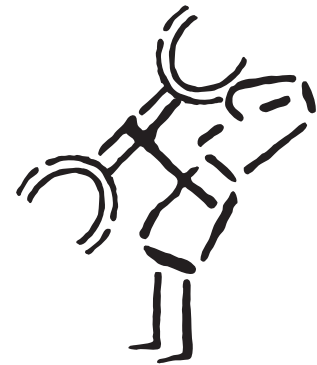


Mechanic Panic

Jake has started work as a trainee mechanic with a local garage that services a fleet of container lorries. He is happy working in the garage as he had been unemployed since leaving school six months before.

For the past month Jake has noticed that several of the lorries are leaving the garage without having their brakes checked, though he knows that some of them had problems with their braking systems when they came in.

He mentions his concern to a senior mechanic who tells him to keep quiet - a quick turnaround means more profit for the garage and bonuses for the staff.



What are the issues for Jake?

Do you think he should tell someone else? If so, who? What things might prevent him speaking up?

Or should he keep quiet? What could happen if he does?

If your dad was the driver of one of the lorries, what would you want Jake to do?



A Recipe for Disaster!

Sue has just got a job preparing meals for a charity which runs a care home for the elderly. There is not much work available in the area where she lives and she feels lucky to have the job.

One day she notices that meals which are several days past their “use-by-date” are being reheated and supplied to residents. She tells the person doing it that it’s wrong but he says it’s crazy to waste the food and most of the residents don’t eat much anyway even when it’s fresh. He adds that the other staff have no time for troublemakers, so she’d better keep her mouth shut.



What are the issues for Sue?

Do you think she should tell someone else? If so, who? What things might prevent her speaking up?

Or should she keep quiet? What could happen if she does?

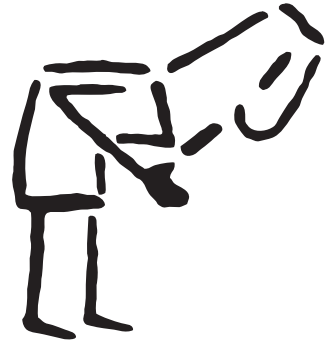
If your grandmother was a resident in the care home, what would you want Sue to do?



Come on in - the Water's Wicked!

Jane works in a factory making paint which involves using toxic chemicals. One day she discovers that some of these chemicals are being flushed down a pipe which, because it leads into the nearby river, is only supposed to be used for waste-water.

She tells her colleague, who has been there longer than her, but he says not to worry about it. He says that because other factories along the river flush their waste-water through the same drains no-one would know it was their factory causing any pollution. He also says that he's heard the factory is not doing very well and has to save money and that getting toxic chemicals taken away by tanker is very expensive.



What are the issues for Jane?

**Do you think she should tell someone else? If so, who?
What things might prevent her speaking up?**

**Or should she keep quiet?
What could happen if she does?**

If you lived near the river and enjoyed swimming in it, what would you want Jane to do?



Death Defying Ride!

Matthew works as a mechanic at an amusement park, checking and fixing some of the rides. He enjoys his work though he doesn't get on very well with his boss.

One day he is asked to check the big rollercoaster because one of the mechanics who usually does it, a good friend of his, is away. He's never worked on this ride before, and he notices that some of the pins which keep the cars in place are loose.

He points this out to another mechanic who says the pins have been like that for ages and it hasn't been a problem and anyway, as the park is about to open, it's too late to do anything about it. He says the boss would be furious if they caused the most popular ride in the park to be closed.



What are the issues for Matthew?

Do you think he should tell someone else? If so, who? What things might prevent him speaking up?

Or should he keep quiet? What could happen if he does?

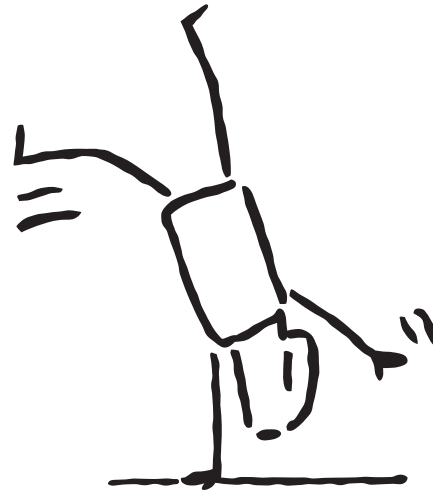
If you were going to a birthday party at the amusement park that day, what would you want Matthew to do?



Risky Sports

Tom has a holiday job working for a construction firm which is building a new sports hall for a school. His dad is the owner of the company and Tom knows he gave a lower quote for the costs than other builders to make sure he got the job.

One day Tom notices that, while the bricks used low down on the walls are of good quality, the ones being used at the top are crumbly and some have holes. He mentions this to the foreman on the site who says the bricks were cheap and to get on with his work. Tom knows that the walls are going to be painted and that no-one will notice the poor quality of the bricks but is worried that they could cause the walls to collapse.



What are the issues for Tom?

Do you think he should tell someone else? If so, who? What things might prevent him speaking up?

Or should he keep quiet? What could happen if he does?

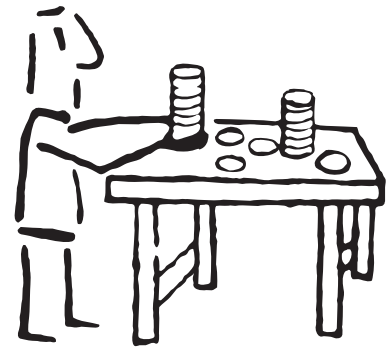
If Tom was working on the new sports hall for your school, what would you want him to do?



A Thief in the House

Ahmed is an accountant and has just started work in a bank - his first job since leaving university. He got good grades, but he feels he still has a lot to learn. His boss has been really helpful and shown him how things are done. His new colleagues are all very friendly and everyone seems to get on well.

After a few weeks, he becomes suspicious that someone in the bank is taking small amounts of money from random customers' accounts and putting them into an account with a false name, adding up to thousands of euros. Because he knows a bit about computers, he does some investigating and discovers that the person carrying out the fraud is his boss.



What are the issues for Ahmed?

Do you think he should tell someone? If so, who? What things might prevent him speaking up?

Or should he keep quiet? What could happen if he does?

If your family's money was invested in that bank, what would you want Ahmed to do?



Teeth of a Dilemma

Pam has just qualified as a dental nurse and has found a job with her local NHS dentist. There is one other dental nurse at the practice, Kenny, who has been there for twenty years.

One day, when working with Kenny, Pam sees that he does not put all the instruments into the steriliser after use. She tells him she thought all used instruments should be sterilised to avoid the risk of cross-infection, but he tells her he does it only if a patient says they've got an infection. He says it's a hassle and expensive to sterilise all the instruments and no-one's ever complained. He says that what Pam has been taught is aimed at students, but in the real world things are different and she should grow up.



What are the issues for Pam?

Do you think she should tell someone else? If so, who? What things might prevent her speaking up?

Or should she keep quiet? What could happen if she does?

If you were one of the patients at this surgery, what would you want Pam to do?

