



## ***The Lab Safety Disaster at Calamity Middle School***

You are creating a new online blog dealing with the hot topic of safety in schools - including school science labs. Since you are a student at Calamity Middle School, you want to uncover facts about a recent catastrophe in one of your school's shiny new science labs. Mr. Persnickety is a chemistry teacher at Calamity Middle School. During a series of misguided experiments performed by Mr. Persnickety's class, disaster struck. While smoke billowed out of the windows and students ran for safety, it became clear that something terribly wrong had happened in Mr. Persnickety's science lab. Mr. Hardnose, the assistant principal, called four students (Harry Horsearound, Rashida Rulefollower, Erica Electro, and Chao Clumsy) to the principal's office. As Mr. Hardnose and the principal spoke with the four students, the story of what happened slowly became clear.

Your assignment is to write an informational blog entry with details about what Mr. Hardnose uncovered in the principal's office. Describe the basic principles of school science lab safety and one experiment (select one from a list of approved topics by your teacher) and address all safety rules that should have been followed. The challenge is to include in your blog article what should have been done to avoid this dangerous and shocking situation to your fellow teen audience. This is a disaster that proper safety precautions could have prevented. Make sure that your informational blog entry includes how each step in this series of mishaps and mistakes could have been prevented. Include interviews and quotes from the four students above. A successful blog article will add humor and interest to the message of safety – you want to inform your fellow students so that lab disasters similar to this do not occur again!

- What experiments from the "Do Not Mix" list are you using in your article?
- What safety rules that were broken are you going to observe?
- What recommendations will you have to fix and correct the broken science safety rules?
- Compose a brief character study for the students who have a part in your science safety story.