

Caution! Dangers 4 bound.

Text Type: Notice

Suggested finishing time: 15 mins

Let's think!



1. What do you think university life will be like?
2. Have you ever stayed out elsewhere than home?

More to Take Away

Halls of residence are dormitories where students of boarding schools, high schools, colleges or universities live, usually with a shared pantry, bathroom, and possibly a lounge.

STEAM

Flour is highly explosive because it is made up of tiny particles. The smaller the particles, the larger the collective surface area in contact with oxygen and flame, and consequently, the more easily and quickly it results in a shock pressure wave that leads to explosion. The explosion can be even more vigorous in an enclosed area because of the constant volume and higher pressure.

Looking into Grammar



The past perfect tense is used to refer to an action that happened before another action in the past.

- ✗ The train left before I arrived.
- ✓ The train had left before I arrived.

? Circle a verb used in the past perfect tense in the notice.



SPRINGFIELD UNIVERSITY
HALLS OF RESIDENCE (STARK HALL)

19th November, 20XX

NOTICE

Due to the recent dust explosion accident at one of our university residential halls, Stark Hall would like to remind students of the utmost importance of safety within the hall premises. We do not wish to see students get injured from accidents born of similar recklessness.

A dust explosion occurs when a mass of small particles in the air are ignited, combusted, and turned into balls of flame. Examples of things containing such small particles include flour of all types and corn starch, which can be commonly found in hall pantries. Students are advised to take additional care when handling them. A dust explosion is instant and violent. It may lead to fire hazards if what is near the blast catches on fire. In more adverse scenarios, second or third degree burns could be inflicted in seconds. Not only may the skin be left with permanent scars, it may also lose the ability to regenerate. Moreover, burns can even damage vital organs, and bring permanent lesion or even death.

Given the dangers of dust explosions, Stark Hall would like to remind students of the magnitude of fire safety. It is crucial that they do not expose substances with fine particles, like flour, to open flames, especially while in the kitchen. All floors are equipped with fire extinguishers, sand cans and fire blankets. On 26th November, 20XX, at 7 pm, a briefing about fire precautions and the correct usage of the firefighting equipment will be held in STH 501, given by a representative of the Fire Department. Students are highly encouraged to attend it so as to equip themselves with essential knowledge about fire safety.

In the light of what the accident has revealed, Stark Hall would also like to reaffirm the school's stance on gambling. There were signs that some students had engaged in it. Poker cards and chips were found in the venue. It is the duty of Stark Hall, as part of the university, to reiterate that since gambling is strictly prohibited on campus, it would not be allowed or tolerated under any conditions. Should students be found doing so within hall premises, they could face expulsion from the hall and disciplinary action from the university.

Stark Hall is a community within the campus that embraces continuous personal growth. Students are provided with every opportunity to acquire academic knowledge and learn proper etiquette freely in a caring and disciplined environment. Please respect yourselves as university students, make good judgments and act appropriately.

~420 words

Part A Multiple Choice Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the notice. Choose the best answer by blackening the appropriate circle.

1. In line 8, the word 'recklessness' means _____.

- A. selflessness
- B. carelessness
- C. annoyance
- D. rudeness

2. According to the notice, a dust explosion can be _____ by _____.

- A. worsened...dry ingredients
- B. triggered...fine powder
- C. accelerated...coarse substances
- D. catalysed...hot items



3. Which of the following may NOT be the damage caused by a dust explosion?

- A. skin burns
- B. scars on legs
- C. students' possessions burnt down
- D. skin regeneration

4. In line 30, the word 'chips' means _____.

- A. (n.) long, thin pieces of fried potatoes
- B. (n.) tiny pieces of semiconductor in computers with electronic circuits
- C. (n.) small pieces broken off a larger object
- D. (n.) small plastic discs that represent particular amounts of money in games

4 Pay attention to the context in which this word is used.

5. _____ is one of Stark Hall's precautionary fire safety measures.

- A. Educating students through talks
- B. Placing fire blankets at all floors
- C. Recruiting staff from the Fire Department
- D. Restricting cooking at the kitchens

6. Students risk _____ if they behave poorly at Stark Hall.

- A. being fined by the hall
- B. losing their place in the hall
- C. being arrested by the police
- D. getting disqualified from exams



7. _____ in Stark Hall.

- A. There was a dust explosion
- B. Card games are forbidden
- C. Students' discipline is highly valued
- D. Students are not allowed to cook

8. The purpose of this notice is _____.

- A. to inform students about the dust explosion accident
- B. to warn students not to cook or bet in the hall
- C. to criticise students who store flour and corn starch in the pantries
- D. to remind students about fire safety and ask them not to engage in prohibited conduct

8 A notice usually announces pieces of information or instructions.




Self-evaluation Checklist

Please scan the QR code on P.6 to access the checklist for evaluating your own reading progress.

Part B Pre-HKDSE Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the notice. For questions 1 and 4, answer in complete sentences.

1 What caused Stark Hall to hold the briefing?

 1. What does Stark Hall hope to achieve through the briefing from the Fire Department?

2. Look at the following pronouns and answer who/what they refer to in the notice.

Pronoun	Line	Reference
them	line 13	(i)
they	line 34	(ii)

3. Determine whether each of the following statements is true, false, or undecidable because not enough information is given.

Statement	True	False	Not Given
(i) Dust explosions are common in universities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) Injuries from dust explosions can be fatal.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) Stark Hall lacks fire-fighting equipment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Why does Stark Hall consider itself a caring and disciplined environment?

 5. Complete the summary about dust explosions by filling in ONE word in each blank.

Dust explosions occur when groups of small particles are (i) _____ to flames. The particles are (ii) _____ by the flames. These explosions can be highly dangerous as they can lead to second or third degree burns.

5(ii) Find two verbs in paragraph 2 which mean 'to start to burn'. One of them is an intransitive verb, which cannot be passivised.

DSE Level Up

Q4 To answer this question, you need to think about the following questions.

Does the hall pay attention to only students' academic performance?

What does the hall provide students with?

What attitude does the hall demonstrate towards students' conduct?

Part C Vocabulary Bank

Match the words for describing some types of misbehaviour in school in the left column with the descriptions in the right column. Write the correct letters in the boxes.

A. skiving

B. gambling

C. dishonesty

D. verbal insult

E. napping

F. bullying

G. theft

H. lateness

1. cheating, the act of not telling the truth

2. abuse and mistreatment of someone vulnerable over a period of time, often by forcing them to do something that they do not want to do

3. the act of unlawfully taking something that belongs to someone else and keeping it

4. the act of criticising someone, usually in an offensive way

5. the fact of arriving after the planned or necessary time

6. the activity of betting money, for example in a game or on a horse race

7. the act of avoiding school without permission

8. having a short sleep

Word Craft

Lateness (Refer to the same page.)

Abstract nouns are words that usually name qualities, states or concepts rather than material objects, which can be perceived or felt physically.

Qualities	States	Concepts
dedication	misery	perseverance
brilliance	luxury	motivation

Let's Discuss!

1. If you were a university student, would you like to live in halls of residence? Why or why not?
2. What do you think about the fire safety measures at your school?