



1 It's National Safety Week and a local newspaper has been interviewing the town's residents. Read what some of the residents said. Pay attention to the words in colour. Which facts do you find the most surprising?

The Daily Town

## SPEAK UP!

It's National Safety Week and we want to hear your thoughts on safety.

I'm taking a first-aid course and I was surprised to find out that 41% of accidents happen at home. **Tripping** over objects, **slipping** on wet floors and **choking** are common types of accidents. *Kaya*

I've been a **lifeguard** for a year, and I can tell you that a lot of people **drown** because they don't know that the **strength** of the waves can **knock** them **over**. *Jaimie*

I heard that being **distracted** by your phone is the cause of one in four car **crashes**. *Tanya*

Our neighbour's house **burnt down** a few days ago because of **faulty** electrical wiring. Apparently, 25% of fires in the UK are caused by electrical problems. *Dave*

As a coach, I know that football is the sport most likely to cause injury. **Sprains**, which are quite common, are caused mostly when players **collide**. In order to **ensure** sufficient protection, all players should agree to wear helmets. *Jeff*



### LOOKING AT LANGUAGE

A gerund (a verb + *-ing*) often functions as the subject of the sentence. Which words in the text are gerunds?



2 Choose the sentence that logically follows the first sentence. Pay attention to the words in colour.

- I have a terrible **burn** on my arm.
  - The neighbour's dog bit me.
  - I got too close to a fire.
- That curtain might **catch fire!**
  - You shouldn't smoke so near it.
  - You shouldn't wash it in such hot water.
- The water here is quite **shallow**.
  - It comes up to my knees.
  - It's over my head.
- I'm **concerned** about my sister.
  - I'm sure she'll be fine.
  - Her work is dangerous.
- This oven has excellent **safety features**.
  - The doors don't get hot.
  - It heats up very quickly.

3 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb below.  
slip | collide | ensure | distract | knock over  
**burn down**

- We do our best to ... that all passengers are safe.
- There's water on the floor. Be careful not to ...
- This house is made of stone, so it's not likely to ...
- Please don't ... me. I'm trying to concentrate on driving.
- Meteors sometimes ... with each other in space.
- Hurricanes can ... trees.

4 Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Pay attention to the words in bold.

- Car **crashes** often occur because of fast driving.
- A **lifeguard** only works outdoors.
- You can **drown** in a bathtub.
- People can **trip** when they are driving.
- It's safe to dive in **shallow** water.
- Choking** can be caused by food.



5 What other words do you know connected to safety? Think of protective equipment and safety devices.