HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS WITH DR S. CAMILLE PERES

TALKING POINTS

KNOWLEDGE:

1. Can you name the oil spill that is one of the most catastrophic environmental disasters in American history?

2. Can you name two or three high-risk industries where human factors are a consideration?

COMPREHENSION:

3. Why is it important to analyse the systems or procedures a company might have in place?

APPLICATION:

4. What three elements are involved in the Interactive Behaviour Triad?

ANALYSIS:

6. Why might interviewing workers be better than asking them to complete a survey?

7. What has Camille’s research helped to highlight regarding the chances of a procedure being followed?

EVALUATION:

8. Had you ever considered how human behaviour might affect workplace safety? Can you think of any instructions you would give to workers that would encourage them to follow procedures?

9. Camille provides advice to young women thinking of entering the field of human factors. What do you think to this advice? Why do you think this?

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

THE PIANO STAIRCASE

Camille referenced the Piano Staircase in Toronto, Canada, as one of her favourite examples of the Interactive Behaviour Triad. Watch the video and think about some of the things that Camille speaks about within the article. It should help you appreciate why understanding the system people are within can help predict how people might behave.

You can watch the video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6AETFhuc4o

MORE RESOURCES

• Prospects has a page dedicated to profiling an ergonomist. Have a read through to see what is involved, what you can expect to be working on and what the future might hold for you should you gain a qualification in the field.

• The American Psychological Association has a section of their site that speaks about human factors psychology. This is a separate, but related, field of ergonomics and should demonstrate the breadth of the subject that Camille works within. The sky really is the limit with this topic!