

A Safe Trip to the Pump



Photo courtesy of KPBS Public Television

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you think this story is about? Why?

Definitions:

- Gauge – a device that measures the amount of something
- Spark – a tiny piece of fire
- Blast – an explosion

Reading

Ed is on his way to work. The gas gauge in his car is near the empty mark.
19 He needs to get gas soon. He stops at the gas station.
30 Ed reads the sign on the gas pump. It says to turn off the car. Sparks from the
48 motor can cause a fire. Ed wants to be safe. He turns off the motor.
63 The sign also says “No Smoking!” Smoking may cause a fire or blast. Ed
77 wants to be safe. He does not smoke.
85 Ed fills his gas tank with gas and puts the cover back on the tank. He has
102 safely filled his car with gas. The gas gauge has moved from empty to full. Ed is
119 ready to go to work.
124

Understanding

1. Where is Ed going? _____

2. Why does Ed stop at the gas station? _____

3. What does the word **empty** mean? _____

4. What are two things Ed does at the gas station to be safe? _____

5. After Ed gets gas, what does the gas gauge in his car read? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Write about how you get gas for your car.
