Safety Gear

Pre-reading

Questions:
- What kind of special clothing do you wear for safety at work?

Definitions:
- Gear – equipment, clothes, or tools used for a special purpose or activity
- Apron – a covering for all or part of the front of the body

Reading

Staying safe and healthy at work is very important. Your employer does not want you to get hurt on the job. It is important to always use the right gear on the job. Many people need special gear at work.

Maria and Carlos clean industrial fabrics. They wash the fabrics with liquid chemicals. Sometimes these chemicals spill. Their rubber boots protect Maria and Carlos from slipping on wet floors. Maria and Carlos must wear rubber boots at work. They must wear rubber gloves to protect their hands from the chemicals.

Rubber boots and gloves are required for workers’ safety.

Mary is a cook at a restaurant. She is required to wear a hairnet at work. She does not like wearing her hairnet, but she does understand why it’s important. Hairnets keep hair out of the food. Hairnets also keep long hair from getting caught in the blenders and mixers cooks use. Mary wears an apron to protect her clothing.

Juan is a nurse’s aid at a nursing home. He must wear special gloves when he works with blood. The gloves protect him from getting diseases.

Always use the right safety gear on the job. The gear will protect you from getting hurt. If your gear is broken, tell your supervisor right away. Your supervisor will help you get new gear.
Understanding

1. What safety gear does Juan wear at work? ____________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

2. Why does he wear it? __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

3. What does the word **protect** mean in this story? _______________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

4. What safety gear does Maria wear at work? ___________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

5. Why does she wear it? __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

6. What should you do if your gear breaks? ____________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

7. What does the word **required** mean in this story? _____________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A:  Retell the story in your words.

Choice B:  What kind of safety gear do you wear at your work? Why do you wear it?