

Lesson 3

■ **Mandatory Graded Assignment**



Directions: Be sure to make a copy of your answer before submitting it to Ashworth College for grading. Unless otherwise stated, answer in complete sentences, and be sure to use correct English spelling and grammar. Sources must be cited in APA format. Your response should be a minimum of one (1) single spaced page to a maximum of two (2) pages in length.

To increase your knowledge of the field, find a project near you that is in the sitework phase of construction. Make sure that this project can be observed without entering the job site. However, if you cannot see the project area from a safe distance, you can explain that you are a student studying sitework and ask for permission to enter the site. Identify what types of excavation are being performed and what equipment is being used. Is general excavation and grading work being performed? Are they using scrapers, dozers, front end loaders, backhoes, excavators, and/or trucks? Do they have support equipment, such as fuel trucks or a mechanic's truck? Are they sloping back the cut, using a support of excavation system, or a trench box? How are they cutting the roads? Do they have a stockpile of topsoil? Are they performing any backfill operations? What type of equipment are they using to compact the soil? Write an essay that describes what you have learned and observed.

This assignment must be a neat, professional presentation on this subject. It should be two double-spaced typed pages long. Proper punctuation, spelling, and usage of grammar are imperative.

Alternate Writing Assignment

If you are unable to find a project with sitework that you can observe, then complete this alternate assignment. Research sitework on the Internet or in newspapers or trade journals. Focus on sitework "disasters" such as cave-ins or collapses. Obtain as much information as possible about the project at each site. Summarize each incident. Next, explain what you think went wrong and caused each disaster. Also, describe what you think could have been done to prevent each disaster.

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IMPORTANT: The original project **OR** the alternate project is required. You must complete either the original project or the alternate project. Please send your completed project to the school for grading. Complete and attach a *Submission and Evaluation Form* provided with this Learning Guide. If you fail to attach the form to your assignment, your work will not be accepted.

Lesson 8

■ **Mandatory Graded Assignment**



Directions: Be sure to make a copy of your answer before submitting it to Ashworth College for grading. Unless otherwise stated, answer in complete sentences, and be sure to use correct English spelling and grammar. Sources must be cited in APA format. Your response should be a minimum of one (1) single spaced page to a maximum of two (2) pages in length.

To increase your knowledge of the building cost estimating field, reflect on the work you have done in this course and in particular, on Chapter 19—Profit. There is little available information published on how to calculate profit for a project or what a reasonable profit is, so there will be no single right answer to this writing assignment. Your response will be based upon your experiences. Describe in a written essay how you would calculate the profit to be added to a project. If you have a project in mind, use that as an example, but if not, make up one. You do not have to prepare an estimate for this exercise, but you must consider many of the different types of work we have learned about, and each will likely have labor, materials, equipment, and subcontractor costs. Identify the type of project you have selected. What considerations would you make and why? Why is your method fair and reasonable?

This assignment must be a neat, professional presentation on this subject. Proper punctuation, spelling, and usage of grammar are imperative.

IMPORTANT: This project is required. You must complete this project. Please send this project to the school for grading. Complete and attach a *Submission and Evaluation Form* provided with this Learning Guide. If you fail to attach the form to your assignment, your work will not be accepted.