

LESSON ONE

FIREFIGHTER I

Fire Control

DOMAIN: PSYCHOMOTOR

LEVEL OF LEARNING: APPLICATION

MATERIALS

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition or Jones and Bartlett Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills 2nd Edition or Delmar Firefighter's Handbook 3rd Edition; overhead projector or laptop computer and multimedia projector; projection screen; fire department pumping apparatus, water supply, and pallets; foam for Class B fires; fuel oil, straw, any other additional Class A materials; a Burn Pan or Pit; salvaged automobiles and a dumpster or trash bin.

NFPA 1001 JPRs, 2008 edition

- 5.3.7 Attack a passenger vehicle fire
- 5.3.8 Extinguish fires in exterior Class A materials
- 5.3.10 Attack an interior structure fire
- 5.3.19 Combat a ground cover fire

Junior Member Statement:

Junior Member training activities should be supervised by qualified instructors to assure that the cognitive and psychomotor skills are completed in a safe and non-evasive manner. While it is critical that instructors be constantly aware of the capabilities of all students both mentally and physically to complete certain tasks safely and successfully, the instructor should take every opportunity to discuss with departmental leaders and students the maturity and job awareness each participant has for the hazards associated with fire and rescue training.

TERMINAL OBJECTIVE

The Firefighter I candidate, participating as a functional member of an attack team, shall successfully control and extinguish:

- a) An exterior and an interior Class A fire.
- b) An open pan of combustible liquids.
- c) A vehicle fire.
- d) A dumpster \ trash bin fire.
- e) A ground cover fire.

ENABLING OBJECTIVES

1. The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control and suppression of Class A fires.
2. The firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of Class B fires.
3. The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of vehicle fires.
4. The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of trash pile and dumpster fires.
5. The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of ground cover fires.

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MOTIVATION

When the time comes to actually extinguish a fire, all the learned skills of the firefighter are put to the test. The success or failure that is demonstrated will largely depend on the quality of training that the firefighter has received. In order to insure the success and safety of any fire suppression operation, the learned skills should first be tested in a controlled, low risk environment. This will allow the Firefighter I candidate and the instructor to ascertain if any flaws exist in the firefighter's training. A flaw that manifests itself on an actual incident could lead to catastrophic results.

NOTE: This lesson deals primarily with displaying skills or applying knowledge that has been delivered in other subject areas. Where it is deemed applicable, a review of that material can be incorporated into this lesson plan. The Information covered in this lesson plan is that which has not been specifically covered previously.

The Intent of the practical exercises is to build confidence in the candidate. The fires should be straightforward and indicative of the experience level of the class. The more challenging fires will be covered in Firefighter II.

Many of the delivery agencies require that the instructor be qualified as a Live Fire Burn Specialist, and that all live burns follow NFPA 1403 and NFPA 1142. Since this lesson requires that interior attacks be performed, whether or not in a burn lab, it is suggested that the instructor verify this requirement prior to the start of class.

There is to be a designated safety officer at all fire control practicals.

PRESENTATION

ENABLING OBJECTIVE #1

The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control and suppression of Class A fires.

1. Define and list common Class A materials.
2. Explain the various safety guidelines used by attack crews concerning hose line advancement, ventilation requirements, fire fighting equipment / tools, and working in teams.
3. Discuss offensive and defensive types of attack and review the methods of attack.
 - a) Direct.
 - b) Indirect.
 - c) Combination.
4. Discuss the basics of determining the origin and cause of a Class A fire.
5. Briefly discuss the techniques for the preservation of fire cause evidence.

Reference:

Delmar Handbook 3rd edition, pages 215, 693-698

J&B Fundamentals 2nd edition, pages 134 & 182

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition, pages 110-111, 762-769

PRESENTATION

ENABLING OBJECTIVE #2

The firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of Class B fires.

1. Define and list common Class B materials.
2. Explain the various safety guidelines used for the control of Class "B" fires concerning personal protective equipment, elimination of ignition sources, eliminating

flow of product, keeping personnel out of the product, and the potential for a B.L.E.V.E.

3. Discuss in detail the methods of control for Class "B" fires.
 - a) Using portable fire extinguishers.
 - b) Using water.
 - c) Using foam for extinguishing.
 - d) What about run-off and its confinement.

Reference:

Delmar Handbook 3rd edition, pages 215, 668-689, 717-718, 890-893

J&B Fundamentals 2nd edition, pages 134, 142, 182, 189, 196, & 521

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition, pages 110-111, 773-776

PRESENTATION

ENABLING OBJECTIVE #3

The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of vehicle fires.

1. Discuss toxic smoke production in relation to the materials used in the construction of modern automobiles.
2. Stress the need to wear SCBA.
3. Point out the fact that some of the new features installed on vehicles will present serious problems for the attack crew.
 - a) Shock absorbing bumpers.
 - b) Airbags.
 - c) LNG and LPG fueled vehicles.
 - d) Saddle tanks.
 - e) Hazardous materials.
4. Discuss the tactical considerations for controlling vehicle fires.
 - a) Use minimum 1 1/2" hose line.
 - b) Approach upwind.
 - c) Park uphill from involved vehicle.
 - d) Chock wheels.

- e) Methods for opening passenger trunk and engine compartments.

Reference:

Delmar Handbook 3rd edition, pages 713-717

J&B Fundamentals 2nd edition, page 630 - 632

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition, pages 796-799

PRESENTATION

ENABLING OBJECTIVE #4

The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of trash pile and dumpster fires.

1. Emphasize the point that trash piles and dumpsters can be used for items other than common trash.
2. Discuss the types of items that may be found in trash piles / dumpsters that produce toxic smoke and might be classified as hazardous materials.
 - a) Plastic products.
 - b) Aerosol cans.
 - c) Batteries.
3. Stress the need to wear SCBA.
4. Discuss the tactical considerations and the appropriate equipment for extinguishing trash piles and dumpster fires.

Reference:

Delmar Handbook 3rd edition, pages 687-688, 718-719

J&B Fundamentals 2nd edition, page 629

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition, page 799

PRESENTATION

ENABLING OBJECTIVE #5

The Firefighter I candidate shall correctly describe in writing the appropriate procedures and associated hazards for the control of ground cover fires.

1. Define a ground cover fire.

2. Discuss the impact of weather conditions on ground cover fires.
3. Point out how the topography plays a significant role in controlling a ground cover fire.
4. Explain each part of a ground cover fire.
5. Discuss the tactical considerations for combating a ground cover fire.

Reference:

Delmar Handbook 3rd edition, pages 682-687

J&B Fundamentals 2nd edition, page 604

IFSTA Essentials 5th edition, pages 800-806

APPLICATION

Set up actual training evolutions associated with each of the above enabling objectives. Have all candidates rotate through each exercise until proficient.

NOTE: The performance objectives as stated by NFPA do allow for simulation of the required fires. For example, it may be difficult to obtain automobiles in sufficient numbers to allow all candidates to actively participate in dousing a vehicle fire. In this event, documentation should be made relative to the situation including the method used to meet the objectives under simulated conditions.

The same obstacle shall most likely occur when attempting to acquire a dumpster. If so, follow the course of action as stated above.

Prior to performing any live fire exercises, insure that there are a sufficient number of instructors for the planned evolutions. Every attempt should be made to allow each candidate the opportunity to work at each fire attack position.

At the conclusion of each group's rotation, a critique should be performed. Point out the positive aspects of each candidate's performance and correct any of their mistakes in a supportive and constructive manner.

There is to be a designated safety officer at all fire control practicals.

SUMMARY

Review the extinguishing and control methods for Class A fires and highlight the appropriate safety measures.

Review the extinguishing and control methods for Class B fires and emphasize the hazards associated with these types of incidents.

Reiterate the procedures for extinguishing vehicle fires and briefly review the fire fighting hazards imposed by the new safety features that have been developed for automobiles.

Re-emphasize the hazards associated with trash pile and dumpster fires and review the appropriate methods for controlling these types of fires.

Review in detail the extinguishing and control methods used for ground cover fires and re-emphasize the need for a continuous size-up.