CHOOSING THE RIGHT DRILL FOR THE JOB

Most jobs can be done using a simple **rotary drill**. It can be used for **wood** and **plywood**. It can also be used for **drywall**, **plaster**, **copper** and **steel**. Of course, you need to have the right drill bits too.

What about for harder materials like **brick** and **concrete**? A hammer drill works well for **blocks**, **brick**, **mortar** and **stone**. A **rotary hammer** works best for materials like concrete and **cement**.

Sometimes the terms hammer drill and rotary hammer are used to mean the same tool. However, a hammer drill chips away at the material. A rotary hammer pounds away at it to make a hole.

Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

1 What are some materials electricians work with on the job?
2 What are some tools electricians might need to work with those materials?

Reading

2 Read the trade magazine article. Then, complete the table using information from the article.

Drill Type	Material
Rotary drill	1 _____
Hammer drill	2 _____
Rotary hammer	3 _____

Vocabulary

3 Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1 The <u>substance that comes from trees</u> was rotting.
_ o _ d
2 <u>Reddish brown metal</u> pipes are often found in old homes.
_ _ p _ e _
3 The ceiling was covered in a thin coat of a <u>mixture of lime, sand and water</u>.
p _ _ s _ _ r
4 I tried drilling the <u>mixture used to hold bricks or stones together</u> but the drill bit broke.
_ _ r _ _ r
5 The workers used <u>a mixture of ground limestone and clay</u> for the outside of the building.
c _ _ _ n _

4 Match the words (1-7) with the definitions (A-G).

1 __ block
2 __ stone
3 __ steel
4 __ brick
5 __ plywood
6 __ drywall
7 __ concrete

A a board made of plaster and covered in paper
B a metal that is made from combining iron and carbon
C a piece of material that is solid with flat surfaces on each side
D a board made of thin layers of wood glued together
E a hard material made with cement, small stones, sand and water
F a block of clay that is baked until it is hard
G the hard substance rocks are made from

5 Listen and read the trade magazine article again. What is the difference between a rotary hammer and a hammer drill?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between an experienced and a new electrician. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

1 __ The floor is made of cement.
2 __ The man needs a rotary hammer.
3 __ The woman lends the man a tool.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Experienced Electrician: You **1** _____ _____ _____ through this concrete floor.
New Electrician: I'm not sure what to use, though. Can you help me **2** _____ _____ _____?
Experienced Electrician: Well, you don't want to use a regular **3** _____ _____ on concrete.
New Electrician: So, I need a **4** _____ _____ or rotary hammer, then.
Experienced Electrician: You're on the right track.
New Electrician: Hammer drills are better for **5** _____ _____ _____, right?
Experienced Electrician: Yes. So, what do you need?
New Electrician: I need to use a rotary hammer. But I don't have one in my **6** _____.
Experienced Electrician: You can borrow mine.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:
I'm not sure ...
You don't want to use ...
Hammer drills are better for ...

Student A: You are a new electrician. Talk to Student B about:
- what you need to drill through
- which drill you should use
- whether you have the right drill

Student B: You are an experienced electrician. Talk to Student A about what he or she needs to do.

Writing

9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the electrician's notes about what to use to drill through the floor.

Electrician's Notes

Type of Material to be Drilled: _____
_____
Possible Drills to Use: _____
_____
Which Drill to Use and Why: _____
_____
_____