Finding Food Safety Mistakes

**Directions:** Read the following story and list, underline, circle, or highlight

all of the food safety mistakes. Discuss the mistakes with a partner or in groups.

Melanie has decided to make a special meal for her family. She arrives at the grocery store and selects a package of steak to make fajitas. She places the steak in the top portion of the shopping cart. She then goes to the produce section and purchases lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and peppers. She places these items in the bottom of her shopping cart. Melanie spends a total of 45 minutes in the store. On her way home, she drives for 30 minutes, then decides to stop for ice cream, since it is a hot summer day. Melanie spends 30 minutes at the ice cream shop, leaving the groceries in the back seat of her car. From the shop, it takes her another 15 minutes to get home.

Melanie parks in the garage and pauses to pet Pug, the family dog, on her way into the house. She goes into the kitchen and places her groceries on the countertop. She gets a knife and cutting board and begins to slice the steak. She drops a piece of steak on the floor, but quickly picks it up and places it back in the pile of slices. She then places the steak in sauce to marinate on the countertop. Next, she washes the vegetables and places them on the same cutting board used for the steak. Melanie then begins to cut her vegetables using the same knife she used to cut the steak. She lets the steak marinate for a couple of hours on the countertop, and then cooks the steak and vegetables on the stove. When the food is cooked, she places it back in the bowl of marinade, sitting on the counter, and takes it to the table for her family.

Melanie’s Mistakes:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Do you think Melanie’s mistakes could create possible issues? If so, what might happen to Melanie and her family?