

Lost At Sea Activity

Step 1

You have chartered a yacht with three friends, for the holiday trip of a lifetime across the Atlantic Ocean. Because none of you have any previous sailing experience, you have hired an experienced skipper and two-person crew. Unfortunately in mid Atlantic a fierce fire breaks out in the ships galley and the skipper and crew have been lost whilst trying to fight the blaze. Much of the yacht is destroyed and is slowly sinking. Your location is unclear because vital navigational and radio equipment have been damaged in the fire. Your best estimate is that you are many hundreds of miles from the nearest landfall. You and your friends have managed to save 14 items, undamaged and intact after the fire. **In addition, you have salvaged a four man rubber life craft and a box of matches.** Your task is to rank the 14 items in terms of their importance for you, as you wait to be rescued. Place the number 1 by the most important item, the number 2 by the second most important and so forth until you have ranked all 14 items.

Lost At Sea Ranking Chart

Item	Your Ranking	Team Ranking	Coast Guard Ranking
A shaving mirror			
A quantity of mosquito netting			
A 25 liter can of water			
A case of army rations			
Maps of the Atlantic Ocean			
A floating seat cushion			
A 10 liter can of oil /gasoline mixture			
A small transistor radio			
10 meters of Opaque plastic sheeting			
A can of shark repellent			
1.1 liters of 160 % proof rum			
4.5 meters of nylon rope			
2 boxes of chocolate bars			
An ocean fishing kit and pole			

Debriefing of Group Task

NOTE: This is an individual Task

Discuss the success of your team's decision-making abilities by answering the following questions:

- 1) How were decisions made?
- 2) Who influenced the decisions and how?
- 3) How could better decisions have been made?
- 4) How was conflict managed?
- 5) How did people feel about the decisions?
- 6) How satisfied was each person with the decision (rate your satisfaction out of 10, then record-keeper will obtain a group average and compare / discuss with other groups' satisfaction levels)
- 7) What have you learned about the functioning of this group?

8) How would you do the activity differently if you were asked to do it again?

9) What situations at work/home/school do you think are like this exercise?

