

LOST ON THE MOON

Your spaceship has just crash-landed on the lighted side of the moon. You were scheduled to rendezvous with a mother ship 200 miles away on the lighted surface of the moon, but the rough landing has ruined your ship and destroyed all the equipment on board, except for the 15 items listed below.

Due to technical difficulties, the mother ship cannot come to you. You must go to it. Your crew's survival depends on reaching the mother ship, so you must choose the most critical items available for the 200-mile trip. Your task is to rank the 15 items in terms of their importance for survival. Place number one by the most important item, number two by the second most important, and so on through number 15, the least important.

- _____ Box of matches
- _____ Food concentrate
- _____ Fifty feet of nylon rope
- _____ Parachute silk
- _____ Solar-powered portable heating unit
- _____ Two .45-caliber pistols
- _____ One case of dehydrated milk
- _____ Two 100-pound tanks of oxygen
- _____ Stellar map (of the moon's constellation)
- _____ Self-inflating life raft
- _____ Magnetic compass
- _____ Five gallons of water
- _____ Signal flares
- _____ First-aid kit containing injection needles
- _____ Solar-powered FM receiver-transmitter

GROUP DECISIONS

1. Avoid arguing for your own view. Present your position as lucidly and logically as possible, but listen to the other members' reactions and consider them carefully before you press your point.
2. Do not assume that someone must win and someone must lose when discussion reaches a stalemate. Instead, look for the next-most-acceptable alternative for all parties.
3. Do not change your mind simply to avoid conflict and to reach agreement and harmony. When agreement seems to come too quickly and easily, be suspicious. Explore the reasons and be sure everyone accepts the solution for basically similar or complementary reasons. Yield only to positions that have objective and logically sound foundations.
4. Avoid conflict-reducing techniques such as majority vote, averages, coin flips, and bargaining. When a dissenting member finally agrees, don't feel that s/he must be rewarded by having his/her own way on some later point.
5. Differences of opinion are natural and expected. Seek them out and try to involve everyone in the decision process. Disagreements can help the group's decision because with a wide range of information and opinions, there is a greater chance that the group will hit upon more adequate solutions.