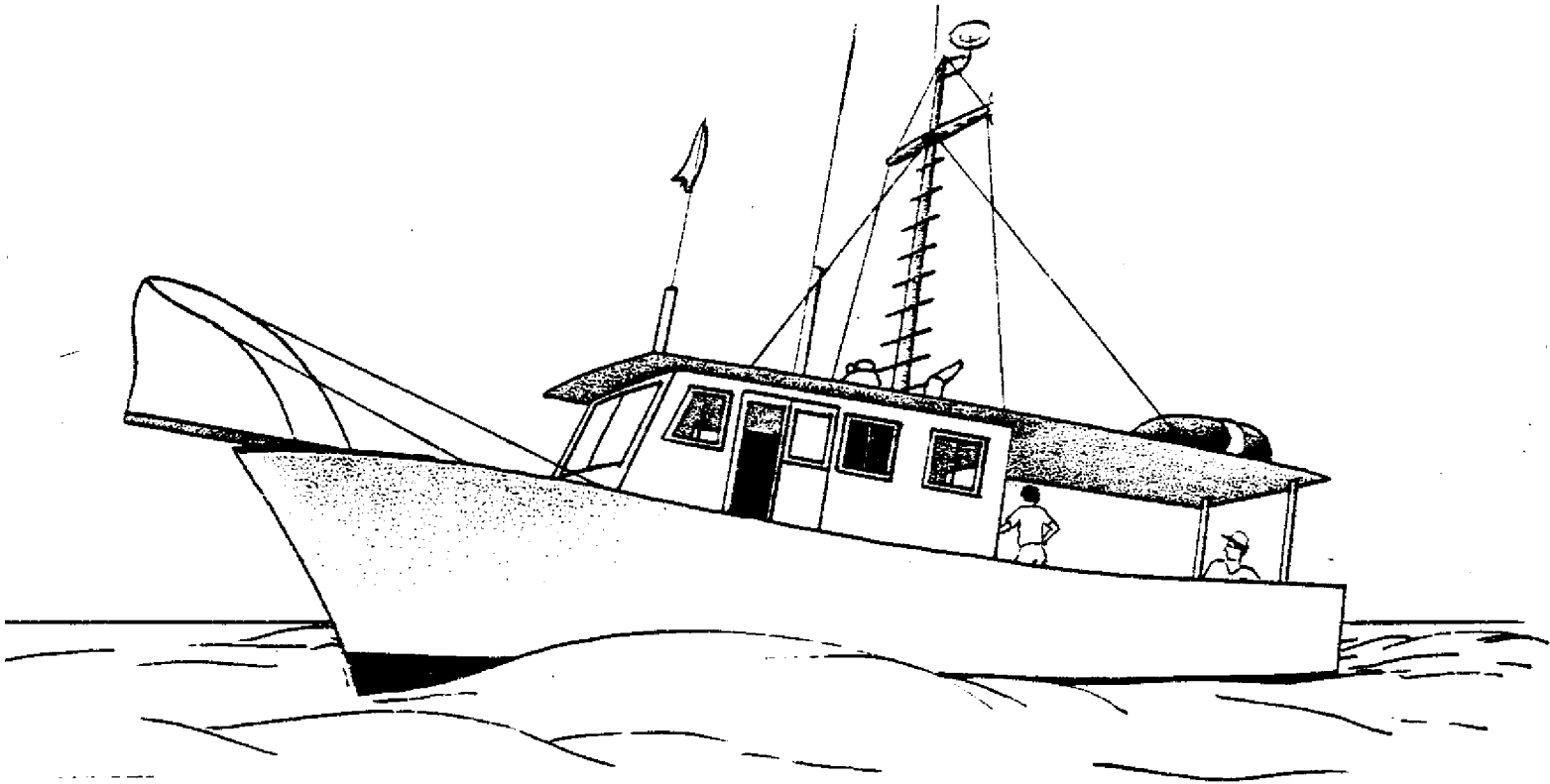




Sea Survival



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THIS EXERCISE IS DESIGNED TO BE USED WITH A GROUP OF PEOPLE. DIVIDE THE GROUP INTO SMALLER GROUPS OF ABOUT SIX PEOPLE EACH. AFTER YOU HAVE THE SMALL GROUPS ARRANGED, TELL THE STORY THAT IS PROVIDED ON PAGES 1 AND 2. TELL THE STORY WITH ENTHUSIASM AND GUSTO. SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO USE MUSIC TO SET THE MOOD. AFTER YOU HAVE TOLD THE STORY, HAND OUT THE STORY AND THE PRIORITY LIST (PAGES 1-3). GO OVER THE INVENTORY LIST AND THE PROBLEM WITH THEM WHICH IS ON PAGE 2, AND THEN LET THEM GO AT IT.

THIS TYPE OF EXERCISE PUTS LESS EMPHASIS ON COGNITIVE LEARNING WHILE PUTTING MORE EMPHASIS ON CREATIVENESS. IT WILL BRING ABOUT AN INCREASE IN IMAGINATION AND PROBLEM SOLVING IDEAS. THIS SHOULD BE A CREATIVE VENTURE SO DON'T HELP THE MEMBERS. GIVE THEM FROM 30 TO 45 MINUTES TO SET THE ITEMS IN PRIORITY AND THEN HAND OUT THE ANSWERS (PAGES 4, 5, AND 6). GO OVER THE ANSWERS AND LET THEM CHECK THEIR PAPERS.

MUCH FUN WILL BE ENJOYED BY ALL.



SEA SURVIVAL

INTRODUCTION

You may, at one time or another have had a problem where you needed help. You may have been driving along in your automobile and all of a sudden had a flat tire. You looked for a car jack but found out that you didn't have one. You loaned your jack to a friend and he must have forgotten to return it to you. What do you do? This is a little problem in contrast to what you are about to experience.

THE SETTING

It is the third week in July when six friends set out on a fishing trip in the Atlantic Ocean. The craft is a forty-five foot, wooden, diesel powered, fishing boat. There are enough provisions on board to last one week.

They travel due east for approximately seven hours and some eighty miles from shore. Suddenly a leak develops in the bilge and the boat begins to sink. Before they know it, the boat is half under water. Somebody yells "Throw over the life boat" which somebody does. As the boat is sinking everybody begins throwing belongings, food, clothes, etc. into the life boat. The 45 foot fishing boat sinks quickly. The life boat, the six companions and what provisions they managed to throw into the life boat are the only items left afloat.

All six people climb into the life boat. It is twelve o'clock (noon) and the temperature is about 100°F with no clouds in sight. The sea is calm and everyone is dressed in light clothing.

The families back on shore expect the group to return the following day and will surely report them missing when they don't show up. However, the six people in the life boat realize that it might take some time for someone to find them because they have gone further than anyone might have expected.

As the six sit in the boat they notice that they are very low in the water. The life boat is overloaded. The six people with everything that they have managed to save are too heavy for the small boat. They are in no immediate danger but if the sea was to become rough they would surely sink.

The captain of the sunken fishing boat, Jim, suggests that they take an inventory of every item on board and make a priority list. The following list is what they find:

INVENTORY LIST

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. one am/fm radio | 11. one dufflebag containing: |
| 2. three windbreakers | (a) one long sleeved shirt |
| 3. one gallon of water | (b) two pairs of socks |
| 4. one bottle of liquor | (c) one bed sheet |
| 5. one salt shaker (full) | (d) one pair of pants |
| 6. one compass mounted on the boat | (e) a first-aid kit |
| 7. four pairs of sunglasses | (f) one tooth brush |
| 8. one large tool chest | (g) one tube of toothpaste |
| 9. one large flashlight | (h) one shaving mirror |
| 10. one aluminum oar | (i) one razor with blade |
| | (j) one can of shaving cream |
| | (k) two boxes of matches |
| | (l) one carton of cigarettes |

THE PROBLEM

You are a member in the boat. It is your job to help set the priorities for the items listed above. With the help of your companions, make a list containing eight of the most important items, with the most important first and the least important last. The

remaining articles will be thrown overboard to lighten the load in the boat.

INSTRUCTIONS

Appoint a secretary to list the items, from the most important to the least important, as they are agreed upon by the entire group. List the items below:

REMEMBER - As time goes on, even items on this list may have to be thrown overboard due to a weight problem. The most important item should be first, and so on.

PRIORITY LIST

MOST IMPORTANT

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

LEAST IMPORTANT

Everything else will be thrown overboard!

ANSWERS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| MOST IMPORTANT | 1. Shaving Mirror |
| | 2. Large Flashlight |
| | 3. Bed Sheet |
| | 4. Sunglasses |
| | 5. Windbreakers |
| | 6. Gallon of Water |
| | 7. Matches |
| LEAST IMPORTANT | 8. Long Sleeved Shirt or Pair of Pants |

RATIONALE FOR ANSWERS

1. The mirror is the most important item because it can be used immediately and during the daylight hours to signal boats and airplanes. Being rescued is more important, at the present time, than saving items for survival.
2. The flashlight can be used during the night to signal for help. Out at sea during the night it can get very dark. No one would be able to see you at night unless there is some means of producing a light.
3. The bed sheet could be made into a canopy to cover most everyone in the life boat. Since it is very hot, preventing water loss is very important. The sheet would provide considerable shade reducing water evaporation from the body.
4. Calm water and a bright sun will produce solar reflection and glare that can hurt the eyes much like snowblindness. Since it is very important to maintain a watchful eye for boats and airplanes, sunglasses would reduce glare and increase the amount of time one could watch for distant craft.
5. Windbreakers will help reduce the body's loss of water through evaporation and help maintain body heat during the night. It would be wise to keep at least three people up at all times as look-outs. During the night, the windbreakers could help keep the look-outs warm. During the day, the lookouts could not be under the protection of the sheet so the windbreakers would serve to reduce water evaporation from the body.
6. The one gallon of water is not the most important because it is not enough water to maintain six people for very long. One

gallon of water weighs 8 lbs., therefore it would be wise in getting rid of it as soon as possible. It would be best to share the water equally with everyone and drink it immediately. This way it would help you in keeping a clear head for decisions that must be made early.

7. Matches could be used as a signaling device in the night if the flashlight were to give out. The matches would not last long and would not give off much light but a distant boat or even an airplane could possibly see a burning match on a calm moonless night. It would not be advisable to use the matches to build a fire while in the boat if you want to stay afloat.
8. Preventing the loss of body water is very important. Although there is only one shirt with long sleeves, it could be worn by one of the look-outs. If it came to the point where everyone was losing consciousness, the one shirt might be enough to keep one person conscious long enough to signal for help.

The pants could serve the same purpose as the long sleeved shirt. The pants could also be torn up to serve as protection against the sun and evaporation for more than one person.

THE OTHER ITEMS

The am/fm radio is useless since it can only receive radio messages.

Liquor decreases body fluid through both perspiration and urination. This would be a bad way to die happy.

The salt in the salt shaker is of no use because salt increases thirst. As you lose water from your body, due to dehydration, your blood becomes thicker and saltier. Salt taken into your body would act as a further dehydrating agent. Avoid salt.

The compass is of no use since the life boat has no power. Knowing your direction is of little importance since you will not be going anywhere. If the wind were to blow and move the boat there would still be nothing you could do as far as maintaining a desired course. The compass would be important only if you decide to row to shore, which would probably be a fatal mistake. Since there will be somebody looking for you the next day, the best thing to do is remain calm, not exercise and avoid dehydration. Throw the compass over to lighten the load.

The tool chest should be thrown over immediately. A large tool chest can weigh up to fifty pounds or more. This would lighten the load considerably.

One aluminum oar is of little use. The exertion to use it for moving the boat would not be warranted due to the amount of energy

and water loss. It is best to remain quiet and out of the sun as much as possible.

The dufflebag could possibly be used as a protective cover for someone. In this case it could be priority item number 9.

Socks would be of little use in conserving water.

The first-aid kit would be of value if someone were to be cut or hurt, but it is not of primary concern right now compared to being rescued. Even if someone were to get cut later they would probably not bleed very much because their thickened blood due to dehydration would prevent bleeding to death. Blood would clot very quickly.

The tooth brush and toothpaste would be of little use unless you felt a great need in brushing your teeth.

The blade in the razor could possibly be used to cut up the pants and the dufflebag in order to use them as a canopy. The razor and blade would not be high priority items.

The can of shaving cream would be of little use. The amount of cream in one can would not suffice as a marker or signaling device in the water.

The carton of cigarettes would also be of little use. They could be burned to signal a distant craft but a craft that close would be able to see waving arms just as easily.

In summary, the best thing to do is remain calm, do very little exercise, keep out of the sun and wind to avoid dehydration, avoid alcohol and salt and maintain a constant look-out with signaling devices.

