

# The Desert II Situation

It is 11:45 A.M., August 8. Your group, dressed in casual summer clothing, is standing together somewhere in the Sonoran Desert in the Southwest United States. You are looking at the charred airframe of the light twin-engine plane you were riding in 20 minutes ago. The wreck contains the bodies of the pilot and copilot. Although your group is shaken and in shock, no one is seriously hurt.

With the exception of the last half hour, it had been a beautiful day. Taking off from Acapulco at first light, you and your fellow passengers had witnessed a beautiful sunrise. Days ago your group decided not to return home to Prescott, Arizona, via the major airlines. This chartered flight was simply too appealing—a range of 1400 nautical miles at 185 knots, just the right amount of room for you, your friends, and the two-man crew. Best of all, it could land at the private airport very close to home.

Flying north, the plane had stopped at Hermosilo, Mexico, for refueling a little after 10 A.M., and you were back in the air by 10:30. At about 10:45 you all heard the pilot



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# The Challenge

Without discussing your answers, complete the sections marked *Major Problems to Overcome*, *Basic Strategy*, and *The Items* in the center of this worksheet. To get an idea of what is available to aid your survival, look over the survival items first. Enter your answers in the areas marked **I** (Individual). You may assume:

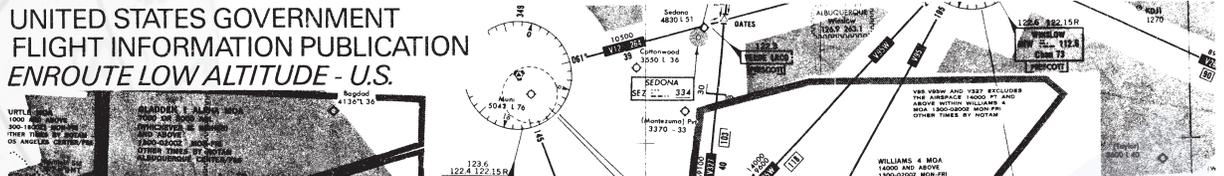
1. The number of survivors is the same as the number on your team.
2. You are the actual people in the situation.
3. All items are in good condition.

When all members of your team have finished, work all three sections together. Enter your team's answers in the areas marked **T** (Team).

If you must change any of your answers, do not use an eraser. Instead, cross out the first answer and circle the new one. Since any marks you make will show on the answer sheet underneath, use a separate sheet of paper for any preliminary figuring. Do not separate the center page until you are told to do so.

Your team will have until \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock to finish.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
FLIGHT INFORMATION PUBLICATION  
ENROUTE LOW ALTITUDE - U.S.



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but are not necessary for survival.

Priority 4: Items which are unnecessary, or possibly dangerous.

**Step 2** Decide on the **one** best use for each item. Circle the appropriate letter in the box to the right of each item. Although you may think of other possible uses for some items, confine your selection to one of those listed.

**Example**

Book entitled "Edible Animals of the Desert"

- a. Read to reduce boredom
- b. Use for toilet paper
- c. Burn pages for signal fire
- d. Use to identify edible animals

<b>I</b>	1	2	<b>3</b>	4
	(a)	b	c	d
<b>T</b>	<b>1</b>	2	3	4
	a	b	c	<b>d</b>

You think the book is not necessary for survival but it might help keep your mind off the situation. You would mark it **3 a**.

The Team, however, decides that it would be critically important to keep people from eating anything poisonous. They mark it **1 d**.

1 white silk scarf per person

- a. Use for bandages
- b. Use to carry supplies
- c. Wrap head and face

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	
<b>T</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	

Expert \_\_\_\_\_

3 lbs. (1.5 kg) of cheese and  
1 package of crackers

- a. Divide and eat as soon as possible
- b. Ration over two days
- c. Eat small amount when hungry
- d. Discard

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d
<b>T</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d

Expert \_\_\_\_\_

1 quart (.9 liter) water per person  
in plastic water bottles

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
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2 qts. (1.9 liters) 50w aircraft  
motor oil

- a. Burn for signal fire
- b. Put on skin for protection
- c. Pour a little on ground  
as you walk to mark trail
- d. Discard

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d
<b>T</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d

Expert \_\_\_\_\_

**Machete**

- a. Assign to leader
- b. Assign to hunting party
- c. Use to cut cacti, help  
erect shelter
- d. Dangerous weapon—  
discard

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d
<b>T</b>	1	2	3	4
	a	b	c	d

Expert \_\_\_\_\_

**Large beach umbrella**

- a. Cover bodies of pilot and

<b>I</b>	1	2	3	4
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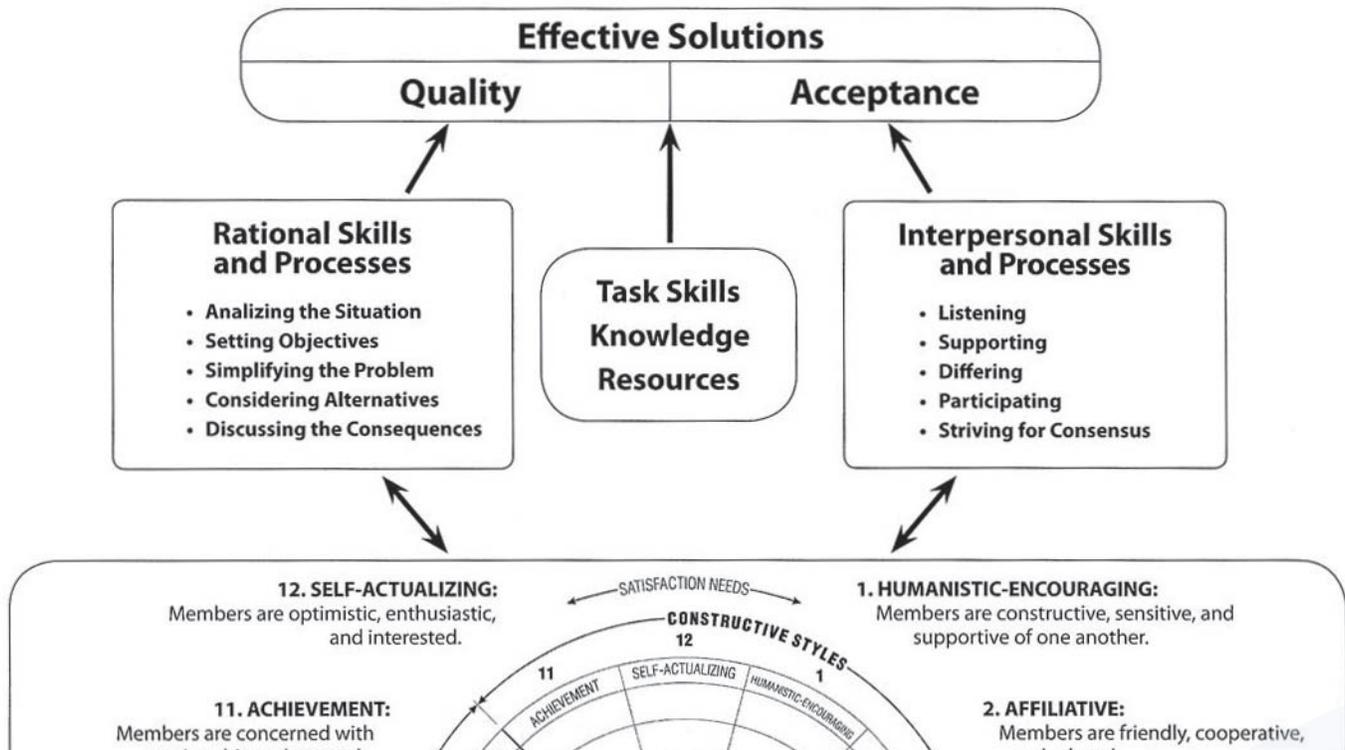


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# Synergistic Problem-Solving Model

Synergy occurs when the interactive efforts of two or more people have a greater impact than the sum of their independent efforts. Synergistic problem solving is achieved when groups maximize their use of available resources, knowledge, and task skills by exhibiting constructive (as opposed to defensive) interaction styles. It is further promoted when members approach problems in a rational, interpersonally supportive manner.\* The outcome is an effective solution—one that is both accepted by members and of higher quality than their individual solutions.



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#### Average Individual Score—Step 3

Add up the ❶ Individual Scores (Step 1) for each member of your team. Divide by the number of people on your team. This will give you the Average Individual Score (how team members did working alone).

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Total of all ❶ Individual Scores on your team.
Number of Individuals on your team.
Average Individual Score (enter in Step 3 below).

#### Scoring Grid

Please complete the following steps and insert the scores under your team's number.

	Team Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>STEP 3</b> Average Individual Score — Add up all members' Individual Scores (Step 1) and divide by the number of people on the team.						
<b>STEP 4</b> Team Score — Record the total from the bottom of the Step 2 column.						
<b>STEP 5</b> Gain (Loss) Score — Subtract Team Score (Step 2) from the Average Individual Score (Step 3). If the Team Score is higher than the Average Individual Score, the negative number represents a loss.						
<b>STEP 6</b> Percent Change — Divide the Gain or Loss Score (Step 5) by the Average Individual Score (Step 3) and multiply by "100" to get percentage.						
<b>STEP 7</b> Best Individual Score — Record the lowest Individual Score on the team.						
<b>STEP 8</b> Number of Members Better than Team — Record the number of Individual Scores lower than the Team Score.						