Date: Sept. 15, 2021	GHS Seminar
Grade Level: 10 th	
Recommended Sequence	Seminar Meeting
Objective(s) / Learning Target(s):	Students will work together using their communication, problem solving, and critical thinking skills to play a Survival Plane Crash scenario type of game.
Materials Needed:	 Prioritizing list (one per group) (below) Answer list (just for the teacher)
Suggested Process:	 Have students share out any good news they might have since the last time your Seminar was together (school-related, extracurricular, personal, etc.). Explain to students that today, they are going to be working on working together and communicating to solve a problem: Divide them up into 3-4 groups (have them work with people they probably haven't worked with much or talked to much).
	3) You and your companions have just survived the crash of a small plane. Both the pilot and co-pilot were killed in the crash. It is mid-January and you are in Northern Canada. The daily temperature is zero and the night time temperature is below zero. There is snow on the ground and the countryside contains several creeks criss-crossing the area. The nearest town is 35 kilometres away. You are all dressed in city clothes appropriate for a business meeting. Your group of survivors managed to salvage the following items:
	 ✓ A ball of steel wool ✓ A small axe ✓ A loaded pistol ✓ Can of vegetable oil ✓ Newspapers (one per person) ✓ Cigarette lighter (without fluid) ✓ Extra shirt and pants for each survivor ✓ 20 x 20 ft. piece of heavy-duty canvas ✓ An air map made of plastic ✓ Some whiskey ✓ A compass ✓ Family-size chocolate bars (one per person)
	4) Your task as a group is to list the above 12 items in order of importance for your survival. List the uses for each. You will be required to come to agreement as a group and describe why you prioritized each item as you did.
	5) Give the groups about 15+ minutes to complete their priority lists and rationales and then call the groups back together and have the teams put their lists on the board under their team name.

	6) Give them the answers (see below) and let them debate, explain their reasonings to each other.
Discussion Questions:	 How were decisions made? Who influenced the decisions and how? How could better decisions have been made? Did people listen to each other? if not why not? What roles did group members adopt? How was conflict managed? What kinds of behavior helped or hindered the group? How did people feel about the decisions? What have you learned about the functioning of this group? How would you do the activity differently if you were asked to do it again?

PLANE CRASH SCENARIO ANSWERS

- 1. <u>Cigarette lighter (without fluid)</u>: The gravest danger facing the group is exposure to cold. The greatest need is for a source of warmth and the second greatest need is for signalling devices. This makes building a fire the first order of business. Without matches, something is needed to produce sparks, and even without fluid, a cigarette lighter can do that.
- 2. <u>Ball of steel wool</u>: To make a fire, the survivors need a means of catching he sparks made by the cigarette lighter. This is the best substance for catching a spark and supporting a flame, even if the steel wool is a little wet.
- **3.** Extra shirt and pants for each survivor: Besides adding warmth to the body, clothes can also be used for shelter, signalling, bedding, bandages, string (when unravelled) and fuel for the fire.
- 4. <u>Can of vegetable oil</u>: This has many uses. A mirror-like signalling device can be made from the lid. After shining the lid with steel wool, it will reflect sunlight. While this could be limited somewhat by the trees, a member of the group could climb a tree and use the mirrored lid to signal search planes. It can be rubbed on exposed skin for protection against the cold. The empty can is useful in melting snow for drinking water. It is much safer to drink warmed water than to eat snow, since warm water will help retain body heat. The can is also useful as a cup.
- **5.** <u>20 x 20 ft. piece of heavy-duty</u> canvas: The cold makes shelter necessary, and canvas would protect against wind and snow (canvas is used in making tents). Spread on a frame made of trees, it could be used as a tent or a wind screen. It might also be used as a ground cover to keep the survivors dry.

6. Small axe

Survivors need a constant supply of wood in order to maintain the fire. The axe could be used for this as well as for clearing a sheltered campsite, cutting tree branches for ground insulation, and constructing a frame for the canvas tent.

- 7. <u>Family-size chocolate bars (one per person)</u>
 Chocolate will provide some food energy. Since it contains mostly carbohydrates, it supplies the energy without making digestive demands on the body.
- **8.** Newspapers (one per person): These are useful in starting a fire. They can also be used as insulation under clothing when rolled up and placed around a person's arms and legs. A newspaper can also be used as a verbal signalling device when rolled up in a megaphoneshape. It could also provide reading material for recreation.
- 9. A loaded pistol: The pistol provides a sound-signalling device. (The international distress signal is 3 shots fired in rapid succession). There have been numerous cases of survivors going undetected because they were too weak to make a loud enough noise to attract attention. The butt of the pistol could be used as a hammer, and the powder from the shells will assist in fire building. By placing a small bit of cloth in a cartridge emptied of its bullet, one can start a fire by firing the gun at dry wood on the ground. The pistol also has some serious disadvantages. Anger, frustration, impatience, irritability, and lapses of rationality may increase as the group awaits rescue. The availability of a lethal weapon is a danger to the group under these conditions. Although a pistol could be used in hunting, it would take an expert marksman to kill an animal with it. Then the animal would have to be transported to the crash site, which could prove difficult to impossible depending on its size.
- 10. Some whiskey: The only uses of whiskey are as an aid in fire building and as a fuel for a torch (made by soaking a piece of clothing in the whiskey and attaching it to a tree branch). The empty bottle could be used for storing water. The danger of whiskey is that someone might drink it, thinking it would bring warmth. Alcohol takes on the temperature it is exposed to and a drink near freezing whiskey would freeze a person's oesophagus and stomach. Alcohol also dilates the blood vessels in the skin, resulting in chilled blood belong carried back to the heart, resulting in a rapid loss of body heat. Thus, a drunk person is more likely to get hypothermia than a sober person is.
- **11.** A compass: Because a compass might encourage someone to try to walk to the nearest town, it is a dangerous item. The only redeeming feature is that it could be used as a reflector of sunlight (due to its glass top).
- **12.** An air map made of plastic: This is also among the least desirable of the items because it will encourage individuals to try to walk to the nearest town. It's only useful feature is as a ground cover to keep someone dry.