**Apo-conomics: The Economics of Survival**

**Survival Scenario**

You and your group of classmates have been traveling to complete a project at a friend’s house in Ozone Park. On the way there, the trains shut down as well as all other electrical power in the area. News media outlets are unable to find and report the news to the public. This blackout has made communication virtually impossible and results in the crash of the water systems in New York. No running water is available, and all faucets have run dry. Looting and rioting begin shortly after. Paranoia amongst neighbors and friends only continues to grow. The use of violence will only increase in the days to come. You find a single family home, and you decide to stop in to determine how you are going to handle this crisis scenario.

Upon entering the home you see that you are not the first people there. A number of individuals and small groups of people have also found this house and are using it as a temporary rest stop. The house has already been scavenged, and many of the best supplies have been taken. However, the people in the house have managed to protect some of the resources they discovered. Currently, the only supplies available to you and your group are the items that you are currently carrying on your person. The only personnel are the people in your group in addition to the ones already in the house when you got there. Below you will find two lists of personnel and supplies that will be accessible to you to complete your goal.

**Goals**

There are two possible objectives. You must complete one of these objectives. Diverting from either of the goals and breaking the rules may result in you exposing your group to an increased level of danger & a loss of points.

1. *Travel to the Manhattan Safe Zone*. This should take anywhere from *2 to 3 weeks*. Supposedly, power has been restored to parts of Manhattan, and the U.S. National Guard is keeping the peace. Reach the edge of any part of Manhattan for rescue.
2. *Survive in the Ozone Park Safe House* for *6 weeks* until you are rescued. Supposedly, the U.S. National Guard has been conducting search and rescue missions throughout the other boroughs in an attempt to find people trapped in the now powerless and lawless nation.

**Rules**

The rules below are designed to make your Apo-conomics survival scenario role-play as realistic as possible. Failure to follow the rules outlined below will result in a loss of no less than 5 points up to a maximum of 10 points.

* 1. While traveling to Manhattan or looking for supplies, the full group is only allowed to divide itself in half. Otherwise, you must stay together as a whole group.
  2. The group is only allowed to use weapons for self-defense. No supplies may be acquired by hostile takeover.
  3. The group cannot abandon, sacrifice, kill or cannibalize another group member. You must make all attempts to rescue your group members and/or cure sick members from disease. The pregnant woman cannot die during childbirth. Don’t let any members of your group die, because you wouldn’t do that in real life!
  4. There will be no use of any vehicles including, but not limited to: cars, SUVs, vans, buses, trucks, motorcycles, or Emergency Response Vehicles like Fire Trucks, EMS, or SWAT.
  5. The groups will never find a treasure trove of food, beverages or any other supplies you may need to survive. The most obvious places have all already been raided. Think realistically.
  6. For groups staying in the Safe House (Goal # 2) is only allowed a 5 block exploration radius. Anything beyond that distance is not safe enough to risk the rewards you could gain.

**Survivors at the “Safe House” & Their Possessions** - All members below are now a part of your group. You cannot leave any of them behind for any reason. There is safety in numbers, but too many people can result in a new set of problems. You can also add new members to the group that you come across during the role-play.

1. Mr. Z – North Face, cell phone, lighter, metal thermos

2. Female Mickey Mouse Impersonator – A/C suit

3. George Foreman – Foreman grill

4. Eli Manning – football, helmet, pads

5. Fireman – axe, 25 yards of hose

6. Police Officer – hand gun, 9 bullets

7. Dentist – medical kit

8. Lawyer – briefcase, Rolex watch

9. Social Worker – pen, pencil, paperwork, folders

10. Pregnant College Student (9 months) – no supplies

**Supplies Found in the “Safe House”** - The resources below are at your disposal. You can use any and all of them, or none if you so choose. If you are traveling to Manhattan (Option #1) you may not want to carry everything, so pack accordingly based on the scenario and problems that your group has been assigned.

* 6 rolls of toilet paper - Baking pan
* 100 paper plates - Suitcase set (S,M,L,XL)
* 5 cases of water (24 bottles per) - 2 Road flares
* 20 cans of food - Plastic grocery bags (approx. 25)
* 10 boxes of Mac & Cheese - 10 black garbage bags
* Garden hose (25 ft) - 2 Sets of sheets & blankets
* Fly swatter - 4 Pillows
* Cooking thermometer - Gas can
* Utensils - Sewing kit
* Bicycle tire pump - 3, ½ cans of vegetable oil spray
* Bleach - 1 Master Lock (unlocked, no key)
* Liquid detergent - Fire extinguisher

**Project Guidelines**

**Written Work (50 points = 5 points per question) –** Each group is responsible for answering a series of survival/economic based questions. Answering these questions will help your group formulate a plan of action to survive this scenario. If the question requires a bullet list, then do so. Other questions will be answered in paragraph format. At a minimum, each question must be answered in a well developed paragraph of 6 to 10 sentences depending on the question. It is possible to write very detailed explanations that contain more than a paragraph of explanation.

*Questions:*

1. What resources has your group collected? Create a chart that lists the natural, labor, and capital resources at your disposal.
2. Where are you located? Go on Google Maps and find a house that you are going to either stay in for six weeks, or from which you will begin your journey to Manhattan. Highlight key buildings you may attempt to access along the way or in your neighborhood. This will be different depending on what goal you choose.
3. What survival scenario has your group chosen? Which goal to you plan on attempting to achieve? Why did you choose this goal?
4. What resources do you need to produce to survive?
5. What is the order of importance when producing or gathering these items?
6. How will you acquire and/or make the resources you need to survive? If you cannot produce them, can you find them?
7. Who would receive the products produced or gathered by the group? Is there an order of importance/preference based on what you produced/obtained? Should some people receive more/less? Why?
8. How did you handle any sudden changes the group may have been exposed to during the survival scenario? If the situation went bad, could you have done anything to make it better sooner and prevent your failure from occurring?
9. How successful were you? Were you able to survive? Did you achieve your goal? Why or why not? Be realistic!
10. What did you learn from this role-play that would make you better prepared to survive in a similar situation if it were to occur in the future?

**Visual Presentation (25 points)** – Each group is required to present a poster board or Power Point slide show that visually presents the work completed. This portion of the project should include a neighborhood map and or a travel map to Manhattan. Additionally, much of the written information can be displayed on the visual accompaniment. Make sure to include, your resource lists, explanations of how you are combining natural, labor and capital resources & your survival plan.

**Oral Presentation (25 points)** – Each group is required to present their survival scenario to the rest of the class. This presentation should be approximately 8 to 10 minutes. During this presentation groups will highlight their survival plan, the resources at their disposal, how they combined these resources and attempted to complete one of the two assigned goals. It is important to have every group member present a portion of the project.