

SURVIVE!

Management Challenge

An exercise in Planning, Leadership and Teamwork

An 'under-pressure' situation! Prepare yourself for survival in hostile mountains – but if morale touches zero it'll be a helicopter rescue!

TRAINING BENEFITS

- **Packed with planning & organisational skills**
- **Demands efficient teamwork & delegation**
- **Asks teams to assess risk towards the objective**
- **Addresses morale and motivation**
- **The importance of contingency planning**

TIMING	two hours
NUMBERS	up to four teams of 3 to 6 participants
COST	£295 (plus VAT for UK). Delivery £9.75 for UK, £29 or less for elsewhere

SUMMARY

Teams represent three managers on an outdoor training exercise who must plan a four-day trek, on foot, into a mountainous region. Each team has the same mission - to locate and collect the 'Koruk Klune', an ancient and precious stone holding a mysterious message. The stone is broken into four fragments – and all are hidden at separate locations in the mountains.

Syndicates must first locate the whereabouts of their stone pieces and then plan their route – taking care to camp near water, to avoid difficult terrain if possible and to choose the appropriate equipment.

All the equipment for the trek must be carried in the team's three rucksacks. 'Equipment pieces' must be 'packed' on a 'rucksack card' but not everything they might want to take can be carried. Too heavy a pack and it will slow them down – but it's no use leaving out important equipment if their survival is on the line! Difficult decisions must be made. Is a radio necessary? What type of tent would be best? Will an airbed be a convenience or a liability? How much load can they cope with? How much will it slow them down?

Putting Plans to the Test

Once teams have made their plans and are ready for off they follow their chosen route on their map. An audio tape sets the time frame, gives them a number of realistic problems to deal with along the way and provides regular weather reports.

Planning for Success

A unique morale gauge is used to illustrate how well their plans stand up. If teams have planned well, morale will remain high – and even climb as each piece of the stone is retrieved. Poorly prepared teams will suffer – but if morale plummets there's a rescue helicopter standing-by!

When all four pieces of the Koruk Klune are collected, the message can be deciphered – and the first team back to base is the winner.

SURVIVE! WHAT TO DO

- 1 Introduce the session and explain the reason for doing the exercise.
- 2 Divide the group, ideally into teams of three. You can have more in a team but remember they represent a team of 'three'.
- 3 Issue one **map** of the Koruk Mountains and some **team briefs** to each group. Allow groups time to read the brief and study the map.
- 4 The group's first task is to use the rhyme on the front of the Brief to locate four sites on the map. Allow groups 10 minutes to locate the four places, then ask groups for their suggestions. Ensure each group has located the right places before moving on.
- 5 Issue each group with three **rucksack cards** and a **bag of equipment**. Explain that they now have 80 minutes (variable) to plan their route, decide on equipment and pack their rucksacs.
- 6 Ask each group to give a brief presentation on the decisions made and why they made them. Score each team's presentation (see **Trainer's Notes**).
- 7 Explain that groups now 'go on their trek' - to test their plans. They will follow the timescale given by an **audio tape** which also poses problems en route for groups to solve - and gives regular weather reports.
- 8 Issue each group with a **morale gauge** and explain how it works.
- 9 Switch on the audio-tape and leave it running.
- 10 At the end allow time for teams to discuss what happened then lead a discussion on the major issues, planning, leadership, decision-making, and draw out the main lessons (see **Trainer's Notes**).

SURVIVE!

Trainer's Notes

*"I use **Survive!** on our five day Introduction to Leadership and Management course and find it a very useful exercise. It is capable of being adjusted to suit the time available - and provides a bit of excitement to counter the mid-week sluggishness."*

John Cheyne
Sun Life Assurance

*"**Survive!** is a very useful way of observing how people exercise planning skills and work as members of a team."*

Mike Hoffman
International Training Centre

SURVIVE!

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