**Draft Vignettes – First Attempt**

#1

Your computer has a virus of either type X, Y or Z. You enlist a computer engineer who advises you that there is a ⅓ chance that your computer has been infected with virus X, and a ⅔ chance that it has been infected with either virus Y or Z. She advises you that only one of these viruses compromises your personal and banking details. Which do you hope is true?

A. The virus that compromises your personal and banking details is X

B. The virus that compromises your personal and banking details is Y

Your computer has a virus of either type X, Y or Z. You enlist a computer engineer who advises you that there is a ⅓ chance that your computer has been infected with virus X, and a ⅔ chance that it has been infected with either virus Y or Z. She advises you that two of these viruses are likely to compromise your personal and banking details. Which do you hope is true?

A. The viruses that compromise your personal and banking details are X and Z.

B. The viruses that compromise your personal and banking details are Y and Z.

#2

You are on a hike in the remote wilderness when you notice that you have been bitten by a spider under the sleeves of your shirt. When you roll up your sleeves to inspect the bite, you find 3 spiders. You identify with certainty one spider as species X. However, the other two spiders could be species Y or species Z (the two species are impossible for you to differentiate). You know that one of these spider species (X, Y or Z) is extremely venomous but you can’t remember which one. Which do you hope is true?

A. The species that is venomous is X

B. The species that is venomous is Y

You are on a hike in the remote wilderness when you notice that you have been bitten by a spider under the sleeves of your shirt. When you roll up your sleeves to inspect the bite, you find 3 spiders. You identify with certainty one spider as species X. However, the other two spiders could be species Y or species Z (the two species are impossible for you to differentiate). You know that two of these spider species (X, Y or Z) are extremely venomous but you can’t remember which one. Which do you hope is true?

A. The species that are venomous are X and Z

B. The species that are venomous are Y and Z

#3

You have a stock portfolio of three stocks: X, Y and Z. You get a call from your stockbroker who advises you that he has received an anonymous tip that one of your stocks is about to skyrocket in value. He tells you that there is a ⅓ chance that it is stock X and a ⅔ chance that it is either stock Y or Z. However, you have to sell a stock to pay for emergency medical bills. Which stock do you sell?

1. Stock X
2. Stock Y

You have a stock portfolio of three stocks: X, Y and Z. You get a call from your stockbroker who advises you that he has received an anonymous tip that one of your stocks is about to skyrocket in value. He tells you that there is a ⅓ chance that it is stock X and a ⅔ chance that it is either stock Y or Z. However, you need to sell two of your stocks to pay for emergency medical bills. Which stock do you sell?

1. Stocks X and Z
2. Stock Y and Z

**Draft Vignettes -- Attempt 2**

**SOCIAL**

Loss

You are attending a social event when an important acquaintance comes over to you to initiate a friendly conversation. Your friend calls you by your name, but you cannot remember theirs. However, you know that their name is either James or Peter. You resolve to attempt to use their name in conversation so as to avoid losing social capital. Which of the following do you prefer:

1. There is a 50% chance that their name is James and a 50% chance that their name is Peter.
2. Their name is either James or Peter, but you are unsure of the probability.

Gain

You are attending a social event when you sight an important acquaintance whom you wish to impress. You decide to go over to them and initiate a friendly conversation. While you have met them before, you cannot recall their name with certainty: you only know that their name is either James or Peter. You resolve to attempt to use their name in conversation so as impress them and gain social status with them. Which of the following do you prefer:

1. There is a 50% chance that their name is James and a 50% chance that their name is Peter.
2. Their name is either James or Peter, but you are unsure of the probability.

**STOCKS**

Loss

You have a stock portfolio of two stocks: X and Y. You get a call from your stockbroker who advises you that he has received an anonymous tip that one of your stocks is about to plummet in value, while the other will continue to grow steadily. Due to taxation and investment regulations, you can only sell one of these stocks. Which of the following do you prefer:

1. There is a 50% that Stock X will plummet and a 50% chance that Stock Y will plummet.
2. Either stock X or Y will plummet in value, but you do not know the exact probabilities.

Gain

You have a stock portfolio of two stocks: X and Y. You get a call from your stockbroker who advises you that he has received an anonymous tip that one of your stocks is about to skyrocket in value. However, you must sell one of the stocks to pay for emergency medical bills. Which of the following do you prefer:

1. There is a 50% that Stock X will skyrocket and a 50% chance that Stock Y will skyrocket.
2. Either stock X or Y will skyrocket in value, but you do not know the exact probabilities.

**COMPUTER VIRUS**

Loss

Your computer has a virus of either type X or Y. You enlist a computer engineer who advises you that only one of these viruses compromises your personal and banking details. Which of the following do you prefer:

1. There is a 50% chance that it is virus X that will compromise your personal data, and a 50% chance that it is virus Y.
2. Either virus X or Y will compromise your personal data, but you do not know the exact probabilities.

Gain

Your computer has a virus of either type X or Y. You enlist a computer engineer who advises you that only one of these viruses compromises your personal and banking details. The computer engineer also advises you that she can only remove one of these viruses from your computer to safeguard your identity. Which of the following do you prefer?

1. There is a 50% chance that it is virus X that compromises personal data, and a 50% chance that it is virus Y that compromises personal data.
2. Either virus X or Y will compromise your personal data, but you do not know the exact probabilities.

**Medical**

Loss

You learn that your body has developed a strange pathogen with two possible variants: variant X and variant Y. Variant X is potentially deadly while variant Y is somewhat benign. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that it is variant X and a 50% chance that it is variant Y.
2. It is either variant X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.

Gain

You learn that your body has developed a strange pathogen with two possible variants: variant X and variant Y, both of which are potentially deadly. There is a simple, cheap, non-invasive and non-painful cure for variant X, but variation Y is incurable. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that it is variant X and a 50% chance that it is variant Y.
2. It is either variant X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.

**DEADLY ANIMALS**

Loss

You are on a hike in the remote wilderness when you are bitten by a snake. Only two species of snake exist in the area in which you are hiking: species X and species Y. A bite from species X is possibly lethal, while a bite from species Y is harmless. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that the bite is from species X and a 50% chance that the bite is from species Y.
2. The bite is from either species X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.

Gain

You are on a hike in the remote wilderness when you are bitten by a snake. There are only two species of snake that inhabit the area in which you are hiking: species X and species Y, both of which have potentially lethal venom. Luckily, you brought with you 1 vial of anti-venom that can save your life – but it will only work to save your life from a bite from species X. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that the bite is from species X and a 50% chance that the bite is from species Y.
2. The bite is from either species X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.

**HOUSING**

Loss

You have developed an insect infestation in your house of either species X or species Y (but not both). An infestation of species X will ruin the structural integrity of the house and cause it to plummet in value. Species Y, however, is completely benign and will impose no costs (whether they be financial, aesthetic, or otherwise) to you property. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that the infestation is of species X and a 50% chance that the infestation is of species Y.
2. The infestation is of either species X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.

Gain

You have developed an insect infestation in your house of either species X or species Y (but not both). An infestation of either species X and Y will ruin the structural integrity of the house and cause it to plummet in value. The inspector advises you that she has a cheap, simple and non-invasive solution to exterminate species X, but there is nothing that she can do to mitigate an infestation of species Y. Which of the following situations do you hope is true?

1. There is a 50% chance that the infestation is of species X and a 50% chance that the infestation is of species Y.
2. The infestation is of either species X or Y, but you do not know the exact probabilities thereof.