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CSIA 6010

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Lost At Sea Part 2

1. **A 25 Liter Container Of Water:** My group and me both choose this as our first option because water is the most important thing the human body needs. That is why we put water at the top of our list.
2. **A Case Of Army Rations:** I choose this as my second choice. Because a food is the second most important thing we need. Throughout this whole process I had in the back of mind the possibility of finding a land, and I based my decision making off of that. That is why I choose the case of army rations. My group put the army rations at 4.
3. **A small transistor radio:** I honestly thought I had this further down the list, it would be nice to have to know if a boat was coming our way. if I was to do it over again I would have the moved up the sextant to this position. My group placed this at 6.
4. **A ocean Fishing Kit and Pole:** You know the saying give a man a fish and he will starve but teach a man to fish and he will be set for a life time. I feel this same theory applies, a fishing kit will serve us well in getting food. My group put it at position 3.
5. **15 feet of nylon rope:** could be used to in alot of instances with combination of other items on this list. My group put the rope at rank 7.
6. **20 square feet of opaque plastic:** three ways this could be used.first: blocking the sun; second: collecting rainwater for drinking. Three: if we get stranded on an Island then the plastic sheeting can be used as protection. My friends put their plastic sheeting at rank 11.
7. **A 10 liter can of oil/petrol mixture:** can be used as a heat if we make it to an island. My group ranked theirs at 15. Which I should have done myself. The oil wouldnt be useful on the raft.
8. **A quantity of mosquito netting:** I didnt think mosquito netting wouldnt be very useful unless, more of a comfort thing. But my friend john brought up the fact that a mosquito net can be used as a fishing net. My team put the netting at rank 5 for that reason.
9. **A shaving Mirror:** I didnt forsee the usefulness of the mirror. But my group brought up the fact that you can use the mirror as a way to signal rescue boat in the middle of the day. Which is alot more useful then a radio. My group put it up there in their ranking at rank two.
10. **2 Boxes of Chocolate Bars:** I looked at the chocolate as a moral booster, and an extra source of food. My group looked at this as a convenience than a necessity.
11. **Maps of the Atlantic Ocean:** I didnt view the ocean map very useful if you didnt know where you where you are. My group ranked it at 10. I guess you could use it also as a fire starter.
12. **One bottle of 160 proof rum:** I think this is the funnest one, because of Pirates of the Caribbean. Why is all the rum gone? I could see this as a fire starter, or used to sanitize a injury. I guess it could be a comfort thing, but you will get dehydrated and die if you drink it. My friends put rum at rank 13.
13. **A can of shark repellent:** The reason this is so low on my list is I didnt believe that Shark Repellent was actually a thing. I did some research later and found out that shark repellent does exist and does work. Shark repellent is made from dead sharks, apparently fishermen would kill a shark and drag its body behind their boats to keep sharks away. My group put it alittle higher up after I told them it was a thing.
14. **A floating seat cushion:** Now everyone didnt seem to think this was very useful, because we are already in a raft. I would think this was a just incase. I guess you could carry extra stuff if you brought it along. Drag it behind the raft, maybe. My team also didnt see the use of this and put the cushion at rank 12.
15. **Sextant**: I believe this was my biggest mistake, I should have put this after water at rank 2. After thinking about this for awhile I realized that a sextant could be used for more than just navigation, but could be used as a signaling mirror, and the lense could be used to start fires. I looked up videos on how to use a sextant so I would be more skilled to navigate too. But at the time I saw this as useless because I didnt know how to use the sextant. My group thought the same thing and put it at rank 9, but my friend ellis knew how to use a sextant.

We survived but just barely. What I cant believe is that the only time I had a difference of zero with the coast guard was with the sextant. I’m a eagle scout, I thought I would do better in a situation like this. Well I guess I failed my stranded at sea merit badge. I can still tie knots, and we survived even if it was just barely. My friends and roommates really got into this assignment, they had fun discussing what they would do, which things they thought was most important. I am going to add this to one of my first date questions if conversation becomes alittle light. “What 15 things would you bring if you were stranded in the middle of the atlantic?” I have to know if she can handle herself.