

Exercise 1: "THE ALBATROSS"

Directions Ⓐ Take 10 minutes to read the story below and answer the questions on the next page.

Story A certain west coast university scientist chartered a ship for exploration purposes. When a large white bird was sighted, the scientist asked permission to kill it. He stated that white albatrosses are usually found only off the coast of Australia. He wanted the bird as a specimen for the university museum.

The crew protested the killing of the bird, calling the scientist's attention to the old sailor's superstition that bad luck followed the killing of a white albatross.

Nevertheless, the captain granted permission to kill the bird and the bird was killed. These mishaps occurred after the bird was killed:

- Ⓐ The net cables fouled up three times.
- Ⓑ The net caught on the bottom and was ripped to shreds.
- Ⓒ The shaft on the main winch snapped and it took the crew members 5 hours to reel in 1,700 feet of cable by hand.
- Ⓓ A rib was broken when Jackie Larson, a scientific aide, fell down a hatch ladder.
- Ⓔ The scientist became seasick for the first time in his life.
- Ⓕ Lost gear forced the ship to head for land.
- Ⓖ The cook left his job.

Directions Read each statement. In the blanks following the statement, write T for True, F for False, or ? when you are unable to tell from the information in the story. You may refer to the story, as necessary.

1. The scientist had never been seasick before. _____
2. After the scientist shot the albatross, the trouble happened. _____
3. The scientist was not from a university or college. _____
4. The scientist asked the captain for permission to kill the bird. _____

5. A ship was chartered by a scientist. _____
6. The net was ripped on the bottom of the sea. _____
7. The white albatross was sighted near Australia. _____
8. When an albatross was sighted flying near the ship, the scientist asked permission to kill it. _____
9. The net was not damaged. _____
10. The troubles happened after the albatross was killed. _____
11. The ship, propelled by a motor, was in difficulty after the gear broke. _____
12. Permission to kill the bird was given by the captain. _____
13. The crew was not disturbed when the scientist violated the old sailor's superstition. _____
14. The person who fell down a hatch ladder was a man named Larson. _____
15. The scientist did not ask the crew for permission to kill the albatross. _____
16. The scientist's attention was called to the old sailor's superstition that bad luck follows the killing of a white albatross. _____
17. The naturalist did not ask permission to kill the bird in order to secure it as a museum specimen. _____
18. Lost gear was not the reason the ship landed. _____
19. The crew protested the killing of the bird. _____
20. The scientist's aide was Jackie Larson. _____

Questions to Consider

How did team performance compare to individual performance?

What advantages of teams did this exercise illustrate?

Did any teams have difficulty out-performing the best individual in their team? If so, what kinds of things got in the way?

Why is teamwork important in an ATC environment?