Edexcel A-level Economics The Economic Problem



While sailing in the Pacific Ocean your ship went down and your group has been stranded on a deserted island. You must survive while you are waiting to be rescued. Fortunately, you were able to salvage some items before you got off the ship.

Task #1: Choose 10 of the following items to help you survive:

- Blankets
- Axe
- Shovel
- 10 Matches
- Rope
- 2 Plastic Garbage Bags
- Flashlight (batteries included)
- 1 Tarp
- 1 Pot
- 1 Pan

- Pocket Knife
- Compass
- Wrist Watch
- Calendar
- 3 Toothbrushes
- Makeup Kit
- Hair Brush
- Mirror
- Razor
- First Aid Kit

Task #2:

You will need to

- record each task
- keep track of your resources
- be responsible for presenting your story as it unfolds make notes
- decide how you are going to use the items you have to best help you survive
- keep a record of what items you use and how on a daily basis.

While you are on the island you will have the ability to collect units of food and water.

You can collect a total of 5 units per day in any combination you choose.

You start with 5 units of food and 5 units of water which you took from the ship.

As a group you consume $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 unit per person per day; however, you may ration out your resources at a rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ or 1 unit per person per day. Be careful though, if you ration too much you will starve or become dehydrated.

Task #3:

- Make sure you have enough food and water to survive
- Record how you go about finding food and collecting water

There are other resources on the island you may need to provide yourselves with shelter.

Task #4:

- Decide what items you are going to need
- Record how you go about collecting them and how you are going to use them.

Economic problem 'Our Island' Worksheet

1.	What items did you choose from the list? Why?
2.	Which items did you find to be most useful?
3.	Was your group close to being out of resources at any time?
4.	Which items turned out to be necessities?
5.	Which items turned out to be luxuries?
6.	Which items did you trade for?
7.	Which items had the greatest trade value to your group?
8.	If you had to go back and do it again what would you do differently?