

Lost on the Moon Exercise

You are in a space crew originally scheduled to rendezvous with a mother ship on the lighted surface of the moon. Mechanical difficulties, however, have forced your ship to crash-land at a spot some 200 miles from the rendezvous point. The rough landing damaged much of the equipment aboard. Since survival depends on reaching the mother ship, the most critical items available must be chosen for the 200 mile trip.

Below are listed 15 items left intact after landing. Your task is to rank them from most important (write a “1” next to this item) to least important (write a “15” next to this item).

Item	(1) Your Ranking	(2) Team Ranking	(3) NASA Scientist’s Ranking	(1) – (3) (absolute value)	(2) – (3) (absolute value)
Box of matches					
Food concentrate					
50 feet of nylon rope					
Parachute silk					
Portable heating unit					
Two .45 caliber pistols					
One case dehydrated milk					
Two 100-pound tanks of oxygen					
Stellar map (moon’s constellation)					
Life raft					
Magnetic compass					
5 gallons of water					
Signal flares					
First-aid kit containing injection needles					
Solar-powered FM receiver-transmitter					
			Totals:		

Your individual score



Your team score



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2 / 2

Answers:

Item	Rank from NASA scientists
Box of matches	15
Food concentrate	4
50 feet of nylon rope	6
Parachute silk	8
Portable heating unit	13
Two .45 caliber pistols	11
One case dehydrated milk	12
Two 100-pound tanks of oxygen	1
Stellar map (moon's constellation)	3
Life raft	9
Magnetic compass	14
5 gallons of water	2
Signal flares	10
First-aid kit containing injection needles	7
Solar-powered FM receiver-transmitter	5