

Problem solving #2 - The Sinking Ship

The situation

After seven days of sailing in horrible weather, the ship you are a passenger on is about to sink somewhere in the Pacific Ocean. The captain has lost all contact with the outside world, but he hopes and believes that the ship is not far from some uninhabited Pacific islands.

The captain informs you that the ship will go down within few minutes. He orders you to wake up five of the sleeping passengers, because the lifeboat unfortunately only has room for five out of the ten passengers, in addition of you and the captain. While handing you the passenger list, the captain says:

- Let the other passengers sleep peacefully as long as possible, be careful not to wake them. At worst it can come to fights, and that would do no good.

Mary (30). Priest, member of a church choir and former orienteer.

Thánh (53). Very skilful nurse from Vietnam, but also very racist and spiteful.

Laura (18). Swedish language nerd. Speaks 12 languages fluently and never keeps her mouth shut. Sings ABBA-songs when nobody wants to talk with her.

Ryan Giggs (18). Very skilful football player on Manchester United. Discreet and loyal.

Roderick (44). Police officer and ex-military specialist. He is guilty of domestic violence and numerous sexual assaults.

N.N (28). Jack-of-all-trades and a master of survival. Suspected for having connections to Al Qaida.

Nelson Mandela (95). Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and highly respected former head of state.

Samantha (20). Supermodel with blond hair. Amazingly pretty, but also amazingly stupid.

Tom (9). Smart, cheerful and always helpful. Can make anyone happy by his presence.

Sheryl (35). Tom's mother and his only living relative. She is infected with a terminal illness, and probably only has three months left to live.

