

Bangkok, May 19, 2010 (AP)

Practical Risk Management Using Scenario Training with Students and Leaders to Teach Judgement and Responsibility

Presented at:

Creating and Sustaining The Education Abroad Continuum
The Forum on Education Abroad 13th Annual Conference
March 29-31, 2017, Seattle WA

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isdsi.org/risk

Topics

How to think about risk and hazards

Components of a good scenario

Run through a partial scenario

Debrief and brainstorm on scenarios you can use

Why Scenarios?

Used in emergency medicine, aviation, wilderness leadership and other areas

Proven effective in increasing participants judgment and decision making skills

Low risk way to help people get comfortable making decisions in stressful environments

What is risk?

Risk is the chance of loosing something of value

Risk = Probability x Severity x Time

Probability — how likely?

Severity — how bad?

Time — how long?

To lower risk you lower one or more of the variables

Hazards



Hazards

A “hazard” is a source of potential harm

Hazards can be categorized into two types

Objective — environment / external

Subjective — self / internal

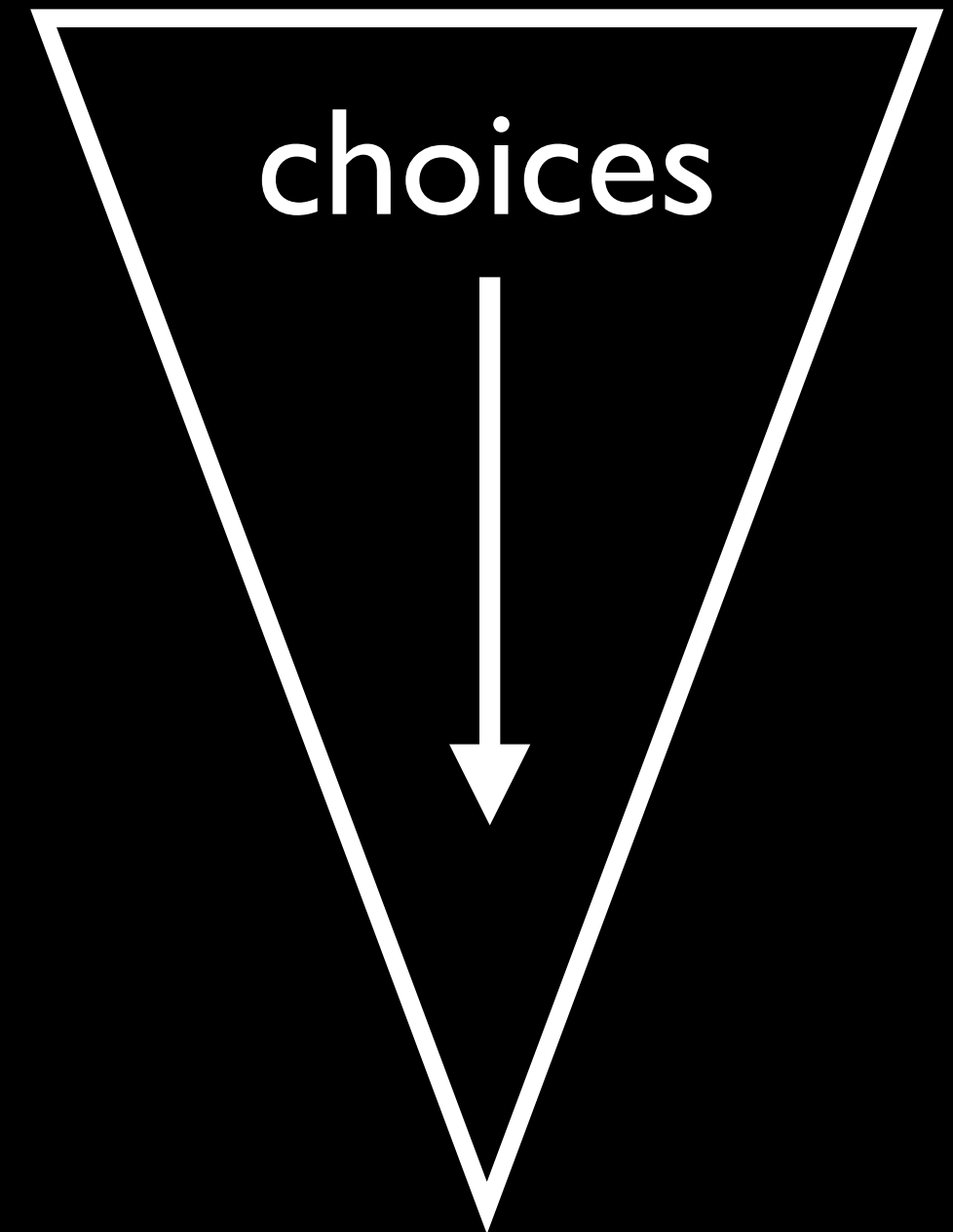
Avoiding / managing hazards requires knowing which type you are dealing with

The Funnel

A sequence of events / choices

Going down the funnel limits
your options

The chain of events can push you
so far down the funnel that the
outcome (accident) is inevitable



Why are scenarios useful?

Scenario training is useful to help develop judgement and sound decision making

Not “role playing” but working with teams to try and figure out correct / incorrect choices

Quick and effective training (but to do right can take a lot of time up front to prepare)

Components of an effective scenario

Realistic and relevant

Set the stage like a play or drama

Lots of realistic details about resources, timing, etc.

Define and understand key actors and stakeholders

Break the scenario into acts at key decision making points

Drive crisis and resolution to your key point

Use narrative to focus on key issues but participants need to figure out what is and is not relevant

Leave lots of time for debrief and discussion

Use RISK, HAZARDS and the FUNNEL to analyze the scenario

Scenario: Student group in the mountains



Some of the places where you can use scenarios for developing judgement and decision making skills:

On-campus study abroad office

Faculty led programs

Student leaders

Out-going student orientation

In-country orientation

Brainstorm: Creating training scenarios

Scenarios:

Faculty led trip to Paris: Lost student

Phone call to university office: Student involved in an accident

Independent student travel: Passport stolen

Come up with:

Set up — what do you need to know / context / key actors

Outline where you want to end up / lesson to teach — the main point

Ideas for each act — steps to the outcome (going down the funnel)

A large, dark, rounded metal pot with a lid and a long handle is suspended over a fire. The fire is burning brightly, with orange and yellow flames visible. The pot is positioned on the left side of the frame. In the background, there is a simple wooden bench made of two parallel planks. The ground is dirt and ash. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the fire providing the primary light source.

Discussion

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