

Mid Term Challenge – A role playing exercise to practice problem solving

This assignment sets up a scenario that presents a problem solving opportunity. It may not be a real world scenario for everyone, but some students have probably found themselves in a similar situation. Think of this as a role playing exercise. Here is the scenario...

You intended to spend a week studying for the midterm in this class. The midterm will cover all the material presented from the beginning of the semester. Things happened that prevented you from studying. When there was less than a week before the midterm, you adjusted your intentions and planned to spend five days studying for the midterm. Life got in the way. Now, your instructor has reminded you that the midterm is in two days and you have not started studying.

Please answer the questions in this exercise, in a Microsoft Word document, from the perspective of a student legitimately experiencing the situation. Your assignment is to formulate a real world approach to this challenge (i.e. you can't, for example, stop time to allow for more study). You also can't spend too much time attempting to model the problem or exploring possible strategies. That would take time away from studying. However, a strategic approach to this challenge should include consideration of your options from a real world perspective.

1. Briefly describe the challenge or problem that you face.
2. How do you hope this will turn out? What score (percent) would you like to earn on your midterm exam?
3. Briefly describe three possible strategies that might make things turn out as you hope and identify which you think is the best strategy.
4. Why is the best strategy most likely to make things turn out as you hope?

Pretend you executed the best strategy and took your midterm exam. Open the attached excel spreadsheet. It has your grade on the midterm.

5. What score did the spreadsheet say you earned on your midterm exam?
6. Based on the score (percent) you wanted to earn, and the score from the spreadsheet, what might you do differently in the future?

When you have answered the six questions in a Microsoft Word document, please save and upload that digital file to your LiveText account, so your instructor can use the Problem Solving rubric to assess your problem solving skills.