

EXERCISE

DINNER PARTY

Objective:

To use clues to solve a seating arrangement logic problem with your team.

Applications:

- ❖ Conflict Resolution
- ❖ Data Analysis
- ❖ Decision Making
- ❖ Group Interaction
- ❖ Problem Solving

Group Size:

Unlimited. Participants will work in teams of up to six members each.

Time Required:

Fifteen to thirty minutes

Materials:

A set of Dinner Party Worksheet cards in an envelope for each team. One copy of the Dinner Party Solution Sheet for each team.

Preparation:

Duplicate the Dinner Party Worksheet on card, making one copy for each participating team. Cut each copy into individual cards along the dashed lines, and place the entire set of cards in an envelope. Each team will receive an envelope with a complete set of cards. Also duplicate a copy of the Dinner Party Solution Sheet on regular copy paper for each team.

Process:

1. Instruct the participants to form teams of up to six members each. Distribute one envelope filled with one set of cards to each group and assign the groups to work in separate areas of the training room.
2. Read the following scenario to the participants.

Recently, a group of friends got together to play cards. As they arrived, each person greeted the hostess and then took a seat at a large round table. The next morning, Tina was trying to recall exactly where everyone had been seated. She decided to list some of the events that had occurred to help herself remember. Can you help Tina reconstruct the seating arrangements?

Explain that each team needs to determine Tina's correct seating arrangement using the clues on the cards provided in the envelope.

3. Allow sufficient time (approximately ten to fifteen minutes) for the groups to work together to determine the circular seating arrangements.
4. Distribute one copy of the Dinner Party Solution Sheet to each team and instruct them to check their answer for accuracy. Using a show of hands, determine how many teams were able to solve the problem correctly.

Discussion:

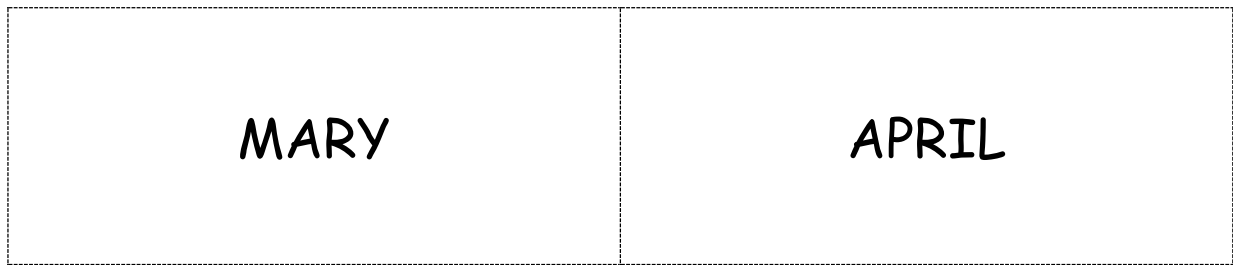
- ❖ How well did team members work together?
- ❖ How well did your team do in solving the actual problem?
- ❖ What approach did your team take to arrive at this solution?
- ❖ What factors influenced your final outcome?
- ❖ How were differences of opinions or conflicts resolved?
- ❖ Did the order in which you used the information cards influence the outcome? How?
- ❖ How can a systematic approach to analysing data help in solving problems in the workplace?

WORKSHEET

DINNER PARTY

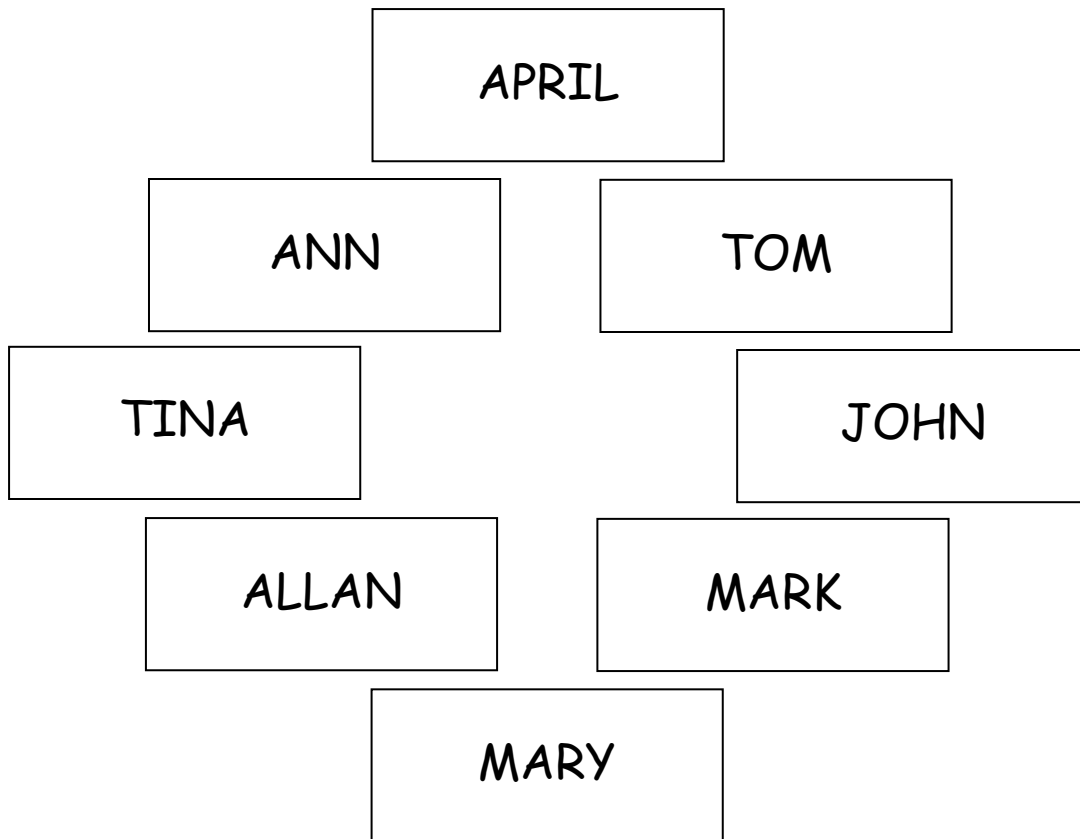
Mary was flirting with both men who were seated either side of her	Ann had turned to her left to talk to her friend April about the weather
There were exactly three people sitting between Mary and April	Allan was sitting directly across from Tom, and Mark was to the right of Mary
April sat two places, going counter clockwise, from John's seat	John and Tom were the only men sitting next to another man at the table

ANN	ALLAN
MARK	JOHN
TINA	TOM



SOLUTION

ROUNDAABOUT



1. April is on Ann's left.
2. There are three people sitting between Mary and April.
(halfway - opposite from each other).
3. Mark is on Mary's right.
4. Mary is sitting between two men (either Allan, Tom or John).
5. June is sitting two places, counter clockwise, from John.

6. John and Tom are the only men sitting next to another man.
7. Allan is directly across from Tom (Allan is across from Tom so he can't be next to John).
8. Place Tina in the last vacant position.