

## 36 Survivors!

### Instant Discussions

With a partner, decide which three of these survival situations are the worst:

1. being lost at sea in a small yacht
2. travelling to do business in a country where you do not speak the language
3. losing your wallet, credit cards and passport in a foreign country
4. being lost in the middle of a forest
5. living in a dangerous part of the city where people are regularly **mugged**
6. having two fifteen-year-old nephews to stay for a weekend without their parents
7. being the only one at a party who doesn't know anyone
8. your car breaking down on the motorway

### Reading

Read these newspaper articles and answer the questions below. Do you think you could have survived?

#### BOY USES BELT TO STOP BLEEDING

ABBEVILLE, S.C (AP) A boy whose leg was severed by a train used his belt to stop himself from bleeding to death - a skill he learned from his mother when she was studying to be a nurse.

Alex Compton, 10, was crossing the tracks near his home on Monday when his foot got caught on some rocks.

After the accident, he removed his belt and tightened it around his thigh to stop the bleeding, rescue workers said. He learned the technique from his mother. Lisa Compton, who had studied first aid at school.

A neighbour found Alex beside the track. His leg was also found but doctors couldn't reattach it. Abbeville County Coroner Ronnie Ashley said he had never known anyone to survive such an accident. "Alex is a very, very brave child," Ashley said. "He's something special. He keeps wanting to know how he's going to ride his bicycle and how he is going to run and play with the other kids."

#### LOST MAN SURVIVES IN WOODS

GORMAN, Calif. (AP) A 25-year-old man who wandered into the Angeles National Forest a month ago and got lost has been found alive, police said.

Sean Kelly, who was reported missing on September 30th, was found by a hunter on Monday about 60 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, sheriff's Deputy Michael Lorenci said.

Kelly was too weak to walk, so rescuers transported him by helicopter to Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, where he was treated.

Kelly told the hunter he had been lost for about two weeks and survived by eating roots and bugs. Lorenci said. To survive, he covered himself with dirt and branches at night to keep warm.

"We're all surprised that he'd been out there for 30 days and that he survived," Lorenci said. "It's not every day that something like this happens."

Work in pairs and mark the following statements:

T = True      F = False      NEI = Not Enough Information

1. Alex Compton lost both legs.      F
2. If Alex Compton had not used his belt to stop the bleeding, he would have bled to death.      T
3. Alex Compton struggled to get to the hospital by himself.      F
4. Alex Compton has already **come to terms with** this incident.
5. Sean Kelly went into the woods to go camping.      F
6. Sean Kelly was forced to eat insects.      T
7. Sean Kelly was amazingly well after being so long in the woods.      NEI
8. Sean Kelly is an exceptionally lucky person to have survived such an experience.      T