

FOP APPLICATION SCENARIO 2015

You are about to eat lunch on the third day of your FOP trip with 8 FOPpers and 1 co-leader. So far, your trip has gone smoothly except for the first night: it was raining and you couldn't get one of your stoves to work, so you had a late dinner and a short night of sleep. Also, Dennis and Rafael's sleeping bags got damp, and they are still drying out. Lunch is later than usual today because the terrain in the morning was steep with a lot of elevation change. Neha, your most fit FOPper, thought the morning was really easy and was voicing her frustration that the group had been moving so slowly. Brynne hiked in the back the whole morning and could barely keep up. She told you that she was worried about holding up the group, but that this was the hardest thing she'd ever done before.

At lunchtime, the whole group sits down and you start to pull out the salami and cheese. One of your FOPpers, Jacob, is Jewish and does not eat salami, which you knew beforehand, so you pull out the peanut butter for him. Another one of your FOPpers, Greg, says he's never met a Jewish person before and asks Jacob why he's not eating salami. Neha turns to you and asks if she can have peanut butter instead because she's sick of salami. You know if you passed the peanut butter around today, there probably would not be enough peanut butter to last for the next two lunches. You are about to ask Neha to hold off when your co-leader, Ted, says "sure!" and passes it to her. You try to signal to him but he doesn't see you, and lunch goes on. You notice that Dennis is sitting separate from the group and not participating in the conversation.

Joanna, one of your most outgoing FOPpers who went to boarding school in Massachusetts, has been talking about her two older brothers who also went to Harvard. She announces to the group that she wants to go to medical school, and that she wants to write for the Crimson. One of your quieter FOPpers, Catherine, is from a rural town in Idaho and is the eldest of five siblings. She is listening intently to Joanna, and asks her what the Crimson is. Joanna explains to her that it is Harvard's daily newspaper, one of the top college papers in the country, and that it looks really good on a resume. Joanna goes on to tell Catherine how she and her mother have already planned out all of the courses that she will take over the next four years. Catherine looks worried and continues to ask Joanna about her college plans.

As you're eating lunch, Ted takes out the map and shows everyone the route for the afternoon. He says that we still have two miles over challenging terrain, and that we're going to have to pick up the pace if we want to get to camp before dark.

Dennis is still sitting away from the group, and you realize that he has been separate at meals for the past two lunches. You decide to go check in with him, and when you ask him how he's doing, he tells you that he's fine, just tired. You ask him if he wants to come over and join the group and he shrugs his shoulders and says maybe later.

As you pack up lunch you wonder what to do next. As a leader of the group you want to make sure everyone gets the most out of this FOP trip. You wonder how best to prepare everyone for the rest of the day and the remainder of the trip.