

Scenario Cards — Spot the Pattern

Print and cut. One set per group of 3. Each person reads ONE card only. Solve your own scenario before sharing with the group.

CARD A — CROWD EVACUATION

You are the safety manager at a large concert venue. The concert has just ended and 2,000 people need to leave safely.

The situation:

- There are 4 exits around the venue
- Each exit can safely handle a maximum of 600 people before becoming dangerously overcrowded
- People should use the nearest exit to them
- Once an exit reaches capacity, nearby people must be redirected to the next nearest available exit
- You need to ensure everyone exits safely and in an orderly way

Your task: Write a numbered, step-by-step procedure that stewards could follow to evacuate everyone.

CARD B — LIBRARY BOOK SORTING

You are the librarian at a school that has received 200 donated books. They need to be organised onto shelves.

The situation:

- Books should be sorted by subject first, then by author surname, then by title
- Each subject section has a maximum capacity of 80 books on its shelves
- When a section is full, overflow books go to labelled overflow storage
- Books in overflow must still be findable by students

Your task: Write a numbered, step-by-step procedure for sorting and shelving all 200 books.

CARD C — SCHOOL SUBJECT ALLOCATION

You are a school administrator allocating 800 students to subjects for next year.

The situation:

- Students list their top 3 subject preferences in order
- Each class has a maximum of 30 students
- Students get their first choice if there is space
- If their first choice is full, they get their second choice
- If both are full, they get their third choice
- If all three are full, they go on a waiting list

Your task: Write a numbered, step-by-step procedure for allocating all 800 students.
