

Worksheet 11: Rank, Responsibility, and Chain-of-Command Reasoning

Use rank information to answer scenario and reasoning questions.

Part A: Rank Order Logic

Simplified order for this worksheet: Private, Specialist, Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Sergeant First Class, First Sergeant, Sergeant Major, Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel.

1. A Specialist, Sergeant, Captain, and Major are in a meeting. List them from lowest to highest according to the simplified order.

2. Which ranks in the list are officers? How can you tell from their placement in the simplified order?

3. How many rank steps separate Staff Sergeant and First Sergeant? Show the ranks in between.

Show your work / final answer:

4. A message must move from a Sergeant to a Captain through the fewest listed rank steps. Write the sequence using the simplified order.

Extra workspace / final response:

Part B: Scenario Analysis

5. During an emergency, why might bypassing the chain of command sometimes be necessary? Give one careful example.

6. Why can a chain of command improve accountability, not just authority?

7. Create a fictional team of five people using ranks from the list. Explain who gives guidance, who reports information, and how problems get escalated.

Extra workspace / final response:
