Using the Objectives for Development and Learning

Scenario 1: Dinner Party—You are having a group of friends to dinner. You have a lot to do before they arrive! Over the next 4 hours, you will have to e-mail directions to your guests. You will have to make a shopping list and buy all the food and supplies. When you get home, you will need to clean the house and set the table. You are going to make an appetizer, an entrée, and dessert. You have to phone your brother to get the appetizer recipe. The entrée is an old favorite, so you can make it from memory. Dessert is another story. You have never made it, but you love the idea and downloaded the recipe. After reading the recipe again, you realize that you will be using your only 9- x 13-inch pan for the entrée and must find another pan. After all of the other tasks, you will need to select your outfit, shower, and get dressed.

Scenario 2: Lunch With Friends—Every fourth Saturday, you and three friends go to lunch and a movie. The tradition is that, every time you meet, you share a new recipe or restaurant experience, retell an unusual news story, and sing a new song or talk about a book or an artist. Lunch is always at a restaurant that expands your cultural and culinary horizons. At the end of the meal, you split the bill four ways and take turns paying the tip. The same person never picks the movie twice in a row, and the person with the least unusual news story buys the popcorn.

Scenario 3: Driving Across the Country—Your family has decided to drive across the country during the summer. The entire trip will take 2 weeks. In preparation, you will need to map the route, determine how many miles you can drive comfortably each day, research places to stay and sights to see, figure out your daily budget, determine what to pack, decide how to entertain each other while driving, and arrange for someone to take care of your plants while you are gone. Part of the trip will include visiting family members who live in three different states. Of course, you will also have to figure out how you are going to fit all the luggage in the trunk of the car.

Scenario 4: Playing Charades—It is family game night, and your family decides to play charades. One of the great things about charades is that you have to communicate nonverbally as you act out various scenes, movies, dances, or songs. Sometimes you even have to draw! Charades requires you to think about previous experiences that you and your team members have in common. You need to think about those experiences so you can choose and interpret nonverbal clues. There are always two teams when you play with your family, but the composition of each team changes every game night. Who is on your team this time?

Scenario 5: Playing a Sport—After weeks of practice and tryouts, you made the kickball team! You know that the team with the most points wins and that the two teams with the most wins compete for the championship. You spent hours catching and throwing the ball, not to mention learning how to kick the ball to get on base. Now that you are part of the team, you have to think about how to work with other team members, not just what you have to do to score. Kickball is a summer game, so you have to prepare for hot weather. You will have to determine what to bring to the games and how to keep yourself healthy.

Scenario 6: Family Reunion Picnic—Invitations have been sent, relatives are arriving soon, and you have to work through the remaining details of the reunion picnic. Think of all the things you have to figure out! How will family members get to the park from the north, south, east, and west? The family has gotten so large that your relatives range in age from 6 months to 96 years. Some people have food allergies, and some are allergic to bees. Some relatives have never even met! How will they get to know each other and remember everyone’s names? Don’t forget to think about the supplies you need in addition to food. There will be the traditional picnic games, too. Where will those take place? Have you covered all the details? What else needs to happen before the family converges at the park?