

Seating arrangements

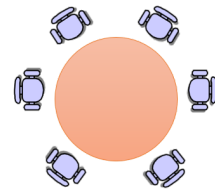
A closed, 2 or 3-way communicative task

Instructions

You will do this task with one or two of your fellow course participants. Please take a maximum of **five** minutes to read these instructions, then begin discussing the task with your partner(s). You may choose to record yourselves for future reference.

Then give yourselves **ten** minutes to solve the problem, which is:

Six people are going to meet each other for the first time when they have dinner together in a Chinese restaurant. They will be seated at a round table. Their names, nationalities, occupations, political outlook, hobbies and the languages they speak are listed on the next page. They have some characteristics in common, but they differ in other ways.



There are three rules:

1. No two men or two women can sit next to one another.
2. Left-wingers can be seated next to one another or next to political centrists, but not next to right-wingers. Right-wingers can sit next to one another or to centrists, but not to left-wingers.
3. People must be able to speak at least one of the languages of the person on each side of them.

There is only one arrangement that meets all the requirements. How will you seat them? Who will sit next to whom? You can make a drawing and write notes if it helps.

Remember, it will be a round table, so the first and last people on your list will be seated next to one another.

Dinner guests

John



- American
- Businessman
- Very conservative
- English & German
- Golf, vintage cars

Pierre



- French
- Physician
- Left-wing
- French & Spanish
- Walking, reading

Elke



- German
- Banker
- Right-wing
- German & Russian
- Tennis, golf

Maria



- Spanish
- Journalist
- Centrist
- Spanish & English
- Painting, movies

Heidi



- Austrian
- Lawyer
- Centrist
- German & Russian
- Gardening, painting

Pablo



- Mexican
- Dentist
- Centrist
- Spanish & German
- Walking, gardening