

Complaining Is Expensive

Real-Workplace Ethics

The owner of Matthews Computer Company in Ohio and his six employees agree to an experiment called The Complainers' Fund. The owner will contribute \$500 for each employee, or a total of \$3,000, to The Complainer's Fund. At the end of six months, the owner will deduct from the fund the amount of wages lost because of complaining.

After the experiment, any money remaining in The Complainers' Fund will be used to pay for a trip for all employees. Determine where the employees can go on their trip. (1) Calculate the amount of wages lost in a week because of the complaining employees named below. (2) Multiply that amount by 4 weeks in a month. (3) Multiply the result by 6 months to determine the total to be deducted from The Complainer's Fund. Subtract the amount from \$3,000 to determine which trip the employees can afford to take.

Possible Trips Remaining in the Fund

To the Super Bowl, including game tickets \$ 3,000

To the Grand Old Opry in Nashville \$ 1,500

To Six Flags theme park at King's Island, OH \$ 500

To the local park for a picnic lunch \$ 250

To the company cafeteria for one can of soft drink \$ 20

Forget it! Less than \$20

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Rachel, a high stress person, earns \$12 an hour as a bookkeeper. She complains frequently about working conditions to Jeff and Stan, who each make \$10 an hour. This means each loses about 1/2 hour a day in productivity.

Rachel 1/2 of \$12 an hour _____

Jeff 1/2 of \$10 an hour _____

Stan 1/2 of \$10 an hour _____

Cost of non-productive time for one-day _____ (total daily loss)

Cost of non-productive time for one-week _____ (multiply by 5 days)

Cost of non-productive time for one-month _____ (multiply by 4 weeks)

Cost of non-productive time for six months _____ (multiply by 6 months)

Kameron and Marlene work in the Order Fulfillment Department earning \$6 an hour each. Kameron, who complains to get attention, wastes his, Marlene's, and his supervisor's time with petty complaints. His lost production time is 2 hours a week, Marlene's is about 2 hours a week, and his supervisor's is about 1 hour a week.

Kameron 2 hours x \$6 an hour _____

Marlene 2 hours x \$6 an hour _____

Supervisor 1 hour x \$20 an hour _____

Cost of non-productive time for one week _____ (total weekly loss)

Cost of non-productive time for one month _____ (multiply by 4 weeks)

Cost of non-productive time for six months _____ (multiply by 6 months)

Total of all cost for non-productive time _____

What trip can the employees take? _____