



The Missing Key

DECISION MAKING · WHICH WOULD YOU PICK

Mariam reaches the equipment room door with two folding net posts balanced against the cinder-block wall. The key ring is not on the red lanyard that usually hangs from the peg beside the ball carts. Earlier, she sent her group a message saying the key was handled, but she left out where it would be. One group member has gone toward the office while the others wait near the cart of cones and floor tape. Mariam can either chase the office handoff now or keep preparing the items that do not need the locked cage. Both choices cost time, and the wrong first move could leave the group standing with only half the setup.

Choose one option and give one practical reason.

- ☐ Go to the office first to find the key location, then send one corrected message with the exact place.
- ☐ Keep unloading the equipment that is already available, then ask the group member returning from the office for the key status.

Give one practical reason for the choice.

Responses will vary. Accept any answer the student can give a practical reason for.

Think about it: What information should a corrected message include so the group can act without another round of questions?

TEACHER NOTE

Responses will vary. A strong response names the missing detail—the key's exact location—and connects the chosen first action to keeping the setup moving. Either option can work if the reason explains the tradeoff between solving the key problem immediately and using the waiting time well.

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