

Independent Challenge 2

You work with Carla Marcus, the owner of Sage Realty Services in Winnetka, Illinois. Employee morale is low, and Carla wants to take her staff on a company retreat to boost morale and brainstorm ways to stimulate sales. She wants to have the retreat in a place that offers meeting facilities, access to entertainment, and access to business resources such as computers, copiers, and meeting facilitators. She has narrowed her choices to four locations, and created a table to rank and weigh each choice. Figure 2-18 shows the table. Carla asks you to help her evaluate the alternatives.

- Open the **PS2-IC2.docx** document and follow the steps in the worksheet.
- Proofread the document carefully to fix any grammar or formatting errors.
- Submit the document to your instructor as requested.

FIGURE 2-18

Company Retreat									
Each alternative = 25%	Transportation cost		Meeting facilities		Entertainment		Business resources		Total Score
	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	
Orlando									
New York									
Smoky Mountains									
Las Vegas									

Real Life Independent Challenge

You can apply the decision-making techniques you learned in this part to the decisions you need to make in other parts of your life, such as what job to accept, whether to buy or rent a house or apartment, and whether to continue your formal education. Select a decision you need to make, and then identify possible solutions.

- Select a decision you need to make. Choose one that demands careful consideration and analysis.
- Use one of the tools presented in this lesson to generate possible alternatives. For example, brainstorm a list of alternatives or create a mind map.
- Use a tool such as a decision table to rate the alternatives.
- Use a different tool to rate the alternatives, and then compare the results.
- Now that you've applied logic to your decision, do you intuitively agree with the results?

Team Challenge

You are working for Colorado Green Builders, a company in Boulder, Colorado, specializing in sustainable building. The goal of your company is to design and build structures that use energy, resources, and materials efficiently, protect the health of occupants, improve the productivity of employees, and reduce waste, pollution, and environmental degradation. Your manager, Amanda Karlson, asks you and your team to consider whether Colorado Green Builders should accept a new project. The project involves building an information center in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. The building will be "off the grid," meaning that the building will be self-sufficient and will not rely on public utilities for power or water. Amanda suggests you follow the steps below to make your recommendations:

- Individually, learn what is involved in green building and creating off-the-grid structures. Outline a plan of up to six steps for building the information center.
- Meet as a group to discuss what would happen if the project fails miserably. Compile a list of the reasons for the failure.
- Sort the list into categories, such as technology obstacles, community opposition, and lack of knowledge.
- Revise your plan to correct its flaws and to avoid the potential problems.
- Submit the plan to your instructor as requested.