Project Outline Sheet: Going On Vacation

Situation:
Imagine that you've just won the coveted "Most Likely to Succeed in Math" award! Your prize is $4,500.00, which must be applied to a vacation. Your teacher will provide you with a list of choices. You, a parent, and two others will be traveling by car, and you must plan all the expenses for your trip without exceeding $4,500.00.

Strategies:
1) Decide which place to visit.

2) Estimate the distance you'll travel, select the type of vehicle you will take. Consult the data chart. A compact car gets better gas mileage, but may not be as comfortable. You won't be as cramped in a mini-van, but the van gobbles gas. Based on what your vehicle is capable of, estimate the fuel costs. Divide your distance round trip by miles per gallon. Multiply the answer by the cost of a gallon of gas to get your total gas cost.

3) Assume you'll be able to travel 600 miles per day (60 mph for 10 hours), estimate how long it will take you to arrive at your destination. For example, a 1,200-mile trip would require two days of driving, and you would have to spend one night in a hotel.

4) Use the data chart to select items for your vacation. Include all lodging, food, ticket prices, etc. Estimate costs and add these to your gasoline total. If your total expenses exceed $4,500.00, you will need to reduce costs. If your total is below $4,500.00, you will need to add items to come as close to the prize money as possible without going over.

Special Considerations:
- Do not include costs for souvenirs or extras. These items do not get deducted from the prize money.
- Travel and lodging must be calculated for a round trip.
- You may need two hotel rooms, such as one for girls and one for boys, so make sure to consider who is in the group. All boys or all girls can stay in one room.
- You have various choices and options. Study the data chart carefully and choose what will give you an outstanding vacation.
- You may remain on vacation as long as the prize money is available.
- You must pay all expenses of the group of 4.
- Calculate costs on the Vacation Cost Sheet
- Be sure to total costs.

To Be Submitted for a Grade: Vacation Cost Sheet

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VACATION COST SHEET

On the Road

Gasoline: $2.40* per gallon

- Choice A - A small compact car gets 35 miles per gallon (mpg)
- Choice B - A family sedan gets 25 mpg
- Choice C - A mini-van gets 18 mpg

Meals:

- Choice A - $15 per day per person (eating fast food)
- Choice B - $25 per day per person (a good breakfast, fast food lunch, full meal for dinner)

Lodging:

- Choice A - Superior Motel $79 per night
  (indoor/outdoor pools, restaurant, cable TV, movies, gym)
- Choice B - Good Motel $49 per night
  (outdoor pool, cable TV, restaurant nearby)
- Choice C - Average Motel $29 per night
  (cable TV)

At the Resort:

Lodging:

- Choice A - Superior Hotel $250 per night
  (huge pool, 4 restaurants, 24-hour snack shop, health club, shopping, arcade)
- Choice B - Good Hotel $190 per night
  (mid-size pool, restaurant, health club)
- Choice C - Average Hotel $125 per night
  (small pool, restaurant)

Admission to Theme Park:

- Choice A - 1-day pass: $35 per person
- Choice B - 2-day pass: $65 per person
- Choice C - 4-day pass: $115 per person
- Choice D - With a 4-day pass, a 5th day can be purchased for $25
- Choice E - Theatre tickets: $45 per person

Meal Plans:

- Choice A - $35 per person, per day. Includes lunch and dinner at selected restaurants
- Choice B - $55 per person, per day. Includes: 3 meals at any restaurant

* All prices for this exercise are based on estimates from 2005.

Name: _____

Calculating Vacation Costs

Destination _____

Include total costs for each item:

Travel Costs (Round Trip)

Gasoline: miles of trip/mpg x price of gas

   Choice _____ (_____ / _____) x _____ = $ _____

Lodging: number of nights at motel x cost per night x number of rooms

   Choice _____ _____ x _____ x _____ = $ _____

Meals: number of days x cost per day x number of persons

   Choice _____ _____ x _____ x _____ = $ _____

                                                    Subtotal $ _____

Destination Resort Costs

Hotel: number of nights x cost per night x number of rooms

   Choice _____ _____ x _____ x _____ = $ _____

Admissions: cost x number of persons

   Choice _____ _____ x _____ = $ _____

Meals: number of days x cost per day x number of persons

   Choice _____ _____ x _____ x _____ = $ _____

                                                    Subtotal $ _____

Adding both subtotals will equal the total cost of your vacation.

          _____ + _____ = _____
          Subtotal   *Subtotal*   *Total*