

The Pillows and Blankets War

CHMUN XIX

Specialized Agency

Committee Background:

For the past two years, the study group consisting of Jeff, Annie, Britta, Abed, Troy, Shirley, and Pierce has been getting along with only a few minor arguments. However, Greendale Community College is about to transform from a struggling community college to a war zone. Two members of the study group, Abed and Troy, decided to build a schoolwide pillow fort for fun. Previously they had built a blanket fort by the name of “Fluffytown”, but it was destroyed under Operation Omega, due to its mainstream popularity. Their new pillow fort, “New Fluffy Town” would be constructed of pillows, meticulously built for detail, comfort, and structure. As they both were constructing the fort, the Dean of the school showed up and told them that they could go for the Guinness World Record for the biggest fort. Troy found the option attractive but when Abed told him they shouldn’t value a record over quality he decided to abandon the record. All was going well until Vice Dean Laybourne and Troy had a secret conversation that messed with Troy’s head. They were talking about a television show called Inspector Spacetime when Laybourne mentioned that Abed and Troy had always reminded him of the two characters in the show: the Inspector and his trusty constable Reggie. Laybourne continued to say that the inspector was smart, independent, and decisive while Reggie was his “naive, obedient lapdog.” As the Vice-Dean Walks away, Troy is left thinking about his relationship with Abed.

Later, as the boys are making the pillow fort, Abed tells Troy he isn’t putting the pillows correctly and Troy thinks back to the relationship between the Inspector and Reggie. Troy says Abed didn’t even give his blanket-fort a second thought and that Abed treats him like an “under kick”. To that, Abed said “I never said you couldn’t do anything. If you want to make a blanket fort that’s fine with me. Just don’t make it part of my pillow fort.” Troy decides to leave Abed and make a blanket fort without him. Later it came to be known as The Legit Republic of Blanketsburg.

While the two are building their forts in Student Room F, the Dean tells Troy a representative from the Guinness World Record is coming to see the blanket fort. When Troy asks Garret, a member from the blanket side of the conflict, how much more they need to expand, Garret says they are still

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more than 2,000 square feet shy of the record and that Abed's pillow fort is the only thing left standing in their way. Because Abed declines to connect the two forts, the Dean concludes that Abed will destroy his pillow fort and Troy will use the space to expand his. Abed calls Magnitude, a member from the pillow side of the conflict, and tells him to evacuate everyone and prepare the fort for self-destruction.

As Abed is about to destroy his fort, Vice Dean Laybourne tells Abed to ignore what "the Reggies of the world" say and accept and let them try to keep up with the "inspectors" or perish. Abed decided to continue upholding his fort and the two groups were on the verge of war. To control things, the Dean says since he is Dean, he will make the call. He decides the pillow fort comes down but as he goes to take it down, Star-burns, or Alex, stops him and throws a pillow at his head. Unfortunately, the pillow misses the Dean, and hits the blanket fort, taking part of it down. THIS IS WAR!



Topic 1: The Ultimate Truce

Introduction:

Despite all the chaos, everyone has a reason for fighting. The general goal of The United Forts of Pillowtown, led by Abed Nadir, is to expand their territory of quality pillow forts throughout the Greendale campus. On the other hand, The Legit Republic of Blanketsburg, led by Troy, wishes to quickly receive the world record for the largest blanket fort by valuing quantity over quality. Despite starting their journey united, the two split off and caused a massive divergence among the student body. As tensions build, both sides continue vigorously to pursue their goals. The only thing standing in either Nation's way? Each other.

Despite the rising tension and anger, some students remain neutral. For example, Annie Edison is a long-time friend of both Troy and Abed. Not able to choose one friend over the other, she became the only nurse in the War and took care of injured soldiers from both sides. Another friend of Abed and Troy's, Britta Perry, turned to her camera, attempting to document the War and the relationships it changes. With all the fighting, it is easy to forget the 29 out of 100 students impacted, who remain neutral— at least until they are persuaded by either side to join their cause. These neutral students are left in the midst of the fighting and have the potential to be utilized for either peace or battle.

There are also those who wish to exploit the rift for their own personal gain. Such people are easily ignored, yet pose the greatest risk to the friendship of Troy and Abed and the future of Greendale Community College. These students may pose as loyal citizens of either Pillowtown or Blanketsburg or stay neutral, bargaining with both sides.

With so many different motives, it will be challenging to come up with a truce to benefit all. A truce may end the fighting, but it may leave unsolved the broken relationships and goals of citizens from both sides of the conflict.

Questions to consider regarding the topic:

- What motives might you and other delegates have?



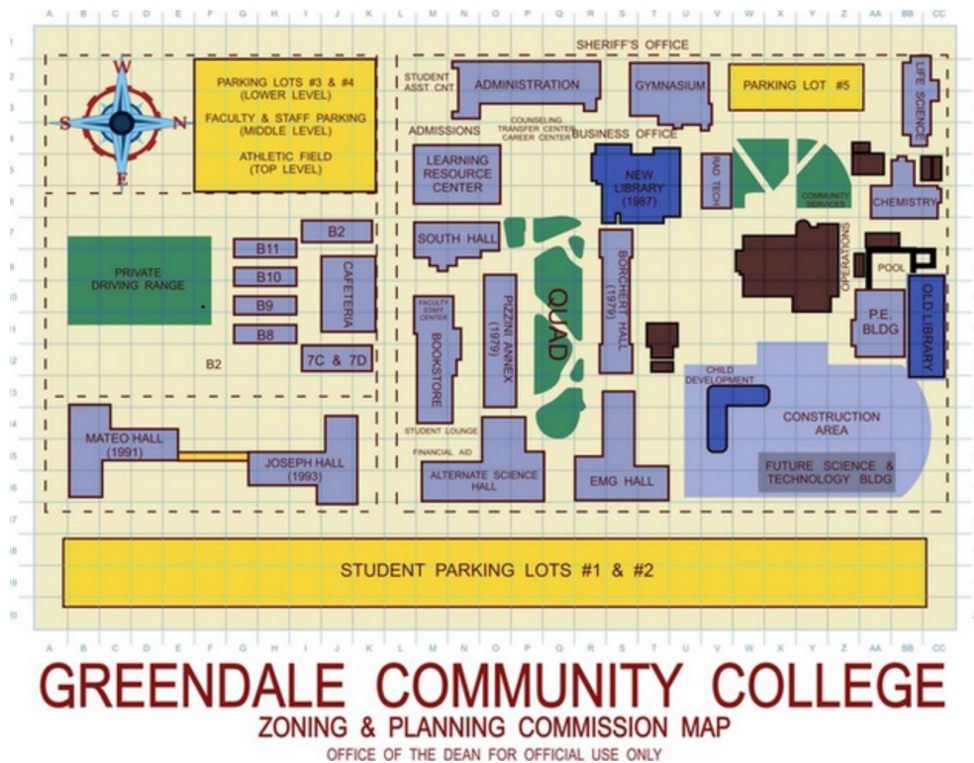
- Is a truce even in the best interest of you and others?
 - If not, how can you stop a truce?
 - What are the disadvantages/ advantages of a truce?
- What would the perfect truce benefiting all sides look like?
- Who or what may have been the reason for the fighting and how can the threat be eliminated/exposed?



Topic 2: Expanding Territories

Introduction:

In every good war, whether on land, water, or blankets, it is necessary for both sides to develop a game plan. In the case of Pillowtown and Blanketsburg, securing strategic land and ample allies is of utmost importance. As the forts get bigger, more and more of the school is getting involved with the cause and less and less land is available to secure. Each side must ensure that they are not only expanding their territory but also creating secure bases and access points for their soldiers to defend and attack.



Aside from expanding strategically, both sides must take into consideration the structure of their forts and the advantages and disadvantages that come with using either pillows or blankets to expand. For example, while blankets may stretch larger distances with fewer materials, pillows are



sturdier and easier to build upon. Weighing in each of these factors, one side may see itself pulling ahead and reaching victory.

Additionally, Both sides may choose to develop alliances, whether by force or friendship, with neutral members to strengthen their party. In particular, despite the generous efforts of Annie Edison, the grounds used for shared hospitality have the potential to be exploited for personal games because, in the end, all is fair in war.

Questions to consider regarding the topic:

- How can members ensure they maintain a sturdy supply of resources?
- What are some unique ways in which the different fort-building materials could be utilized?
- What is the best way to gain more territory in an effective and efficient manner?
- How can the different sides reach out to the public to grow their cause?
- What emotions should they cater to to ensure the most submission?



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