

JejuMUN XI

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Fictional Committee

1 | *Zootopia: The Night Howler Mystery*

SDG:

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Committee Introduction

Welcome to the Fictional Committee!

In this Fictional committee, all delegates are invited to the Zootopian world from the animated movie 'Zootopia 1', produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios in 2016. The committee will focus on the mystery of the Night Howlers, encountering unpredictable scenarios and unexpected obstacles.

This committee is a part of the Zootopia Police Department (ZPD), which is the main law enforcement agency responsible for maintaining peace and order in the city of Zootopia. In response to the resurgence of the Night Howler crisis, following the first incident in 2017, representatives of all sectors of Zootopia have been called upon to discuss potential solutions. The primary goal of this meeting is to track down remnants of those involved in the previous incident, particularly former collaborators of Assistant Mayor Bellwether, and to promote lasting peace and unity among all mammals, regardless of whether they are prey or predator. Furthermore, the meeting will focus on fostering reconciliation for the victims and ensuring justice is served.

The primary goal of delegates in this committee is to investigate the hidden mysteries of the Night Howler and prevent catastrophes in Zootopia. Delegates must have a thorough understanding of the movie 'Zootopia' storyline. To facilitate this, the chairs strongly recommend that all delegates watch the entire movie beforehand. Based on the crisis updates, active submissions of public and private directives are encouraged.

This committee asks all delegates for cooperative effort in solving the Night Howler mystery from the perspective of the Zootopian citizens. Collaboration among various species and active engagement in discussions are encouraged, especially those with similar stances and backgrounds.

Agenda Introduction

The Fictional Crisis Committee addresses the mystery of the “Night Howler” from the animated movie ‘Zootopia’. This conference takes place a year after the “Night Howler Incident” depicted in the film. Despite the police department’s belief that arresting Assistant Mayor Bellwether — who played a significant role in disseminating Night Howlers to design a world where prey dominates predators by the distorting perspective towards predators — would resolve the crisis, there have been numerous reports of consecutive Night Howler addiction cases. The Zootopia Police Department (ZPD) suspects Bellwether’s accomplices’ remnants continue to manufacture and distribute Night Howlers illicitly. ZPD reports say that the police are also suspecting the existence of internal collaborators, as the police force is strictly monitoring the distribution of Night Howlers.

Given that Zootopia is a city where anthropomorphic mammals of various species coexist, the proliferation of Night Howlers has a high potential to escalate disputes among animal species, which may lead to various social problems rooted in discrimination and stereotypes. Acknowledging the rising concern and fear of repeated attacks, the Zootopian government has initiated a conference to address this crisis. This conference aims to uncover the mystery behind this second wave of Night Howler and to prevent catastrophic societal consequences through the cooperation of Zootopian citizens.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear citizens of Zootopia,

Greetings, and welcome to the fictional committee! I am Dahyun Park, a junior at Branksome Hall Asia, and I am greatly honored to serve as your director of this committee. My MUN journey started in grade 8, and it has always been a challenging opportunity for me to step out and speak confidently. I also learned to think from multiple perspectives while working with other delegates. As the agenda of this committee is fictional, I strongly encourage all delegates to read through the chair report thoroughly, especially the character stances. They will provide ample information on approaching this 'Night Howler' crisis. Please remember that we are here for you whenever you have any questions. See you soon!

Dear esteemed delegates! Greetings, my name is Yudan Sun, and it is my true honor to be serving you as your Head Chair. I am currently a freshman attending Korea International School Jeju, and this is my 4th year in Model United Nations. My chairing in JejuMUN XI will be my seventeenth Model UN conference overall, sixth experience chairing, and third experience chairing a crisis committee. My goal as a head chair is to smoothly operate the committee's proceedings and assist our director with the flow of the crisis committee, but most importantly, to provide all delegates with an enjoyable and remarkable experience. I sincerely hope that you have fun, earn inspiration, and be creative at the Night Howler Crisis.

Hi everyone! This is Geunyoung Lee, a sophomore attending BHA. I will be serving you as the deputy chair in the upcoming conference. MUN is a valuable event where you can understand different perspectives on certain issues, broadening your mindsets to become a global citizen. I believe that some delegates would be concerned with public speaking and formal writing, similar to myself in my first MUN conference. My advice for you is to practice a lot and contact the chairs more often, as we are here to support you. So let's have fun in MUN and seize the opportunity to make new friends!

Best Regards,

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Key Terms

Night Howler

Night Howler is a toxic purple flower that causes mammals to forget their civilized demeanor and act as if they have regained their primitive characteristics: Aggression and Hunting prey.

Stereotype

Because of the injection of Night Howler, the carnivorous animals became aggressive and therefore created stereotypical perspectives on the carnivorous animals. The herbivorous animals are terrified, and they avoid interacting with carnivorous animals. The stereotypes are also applied to herbivorous animals as they are considered weak and small, easy to hunt.

Discrimination

Stemmed from stereotypes, it often accompanies violence and physical abuse that harms both herbivorous animals and predatory animals. Discrimination segregates carnivorous mammals due to fear and terror herbivorous animals have experienced.

Dealer

A person who sells illegal drugs. In Zootopia, they are the ones who sell Night Howlers to other mammals. The dealers intensify the problem of Night Howler injection and increase patients severely damage their mental and physical health. This is a serious societal problem as Night Howlers create social chaos and conflicts.

Animal

Animals are the species that lose their civilized demeanor and act as if they have regained primitive behaviors such as aggression and hunting.

Mammal

Mammal refers to the normal Zootopia citizens who have a civilized demeanor. They have the characteristics and personalities similar to humans in the real world. However, if they go insane due to Night Howler, they are called 'Animals'.

ZPD(Zootopia Police Department)

The Zootopia Police Department preserves peace in Zootopia and tries hard to eliminate discrimination and conflicts between mammals. The Department of Drugs is included in ZPD.

DMV(Department of Mammal Vehicles)

The Department of Mammal Vehicles registers mammal vehicles such as cars, buses, and taxis to track them and secure people's lives. Previously, Nick and Judy found the car where Mr. Otterton rode through Flash's support.

Historical Background

The Night Howler Mystery is a national drug-related crime involving 17 missing mammals in Zootopia. The primary commonality among the missing mammals was that they were all predators, which heightened the tension between them. Tension between predators and prey escalated along with the spread of stereotypes about predators. Despite the continuous effort of the ZPD (Zootopia Police Department) to search for the missing mammals, the case remained a mystery due to a lack of information on the disappeared mammals and resources.

It was uncovered that the missing mammals had become savage due to the Night Howlers, which is a *'toxic purple flower that drove mammals crazy'*, causing them to act aggressively as if they were primitive animals. By capturing Duke Weaselton, who supplied Night Howlers to unknown mammals, throughout the process of investigation, it was revealed that the unknown underground group had manufactured Night Howlers into a weapon that made mammals lose their civilized demeanor and become aggressive.

It was uncovered that Assistant Mayor Bellwether was secretly operating Night Howlers to predators, intending to make Zootopia a 'prey reign supreme' and to gain authority. Additionally, Mayor Lionheart captured all missing mammals based on his belief that it was a mysterious disease, attempting to keep the situation a secret from the public. Both the Mayor and the Assistant Mayor were arrested and imprisoned for conducting illegal operations and creating social fear and division within Zootopia.

After the Night Howler incident, Zootopia finally regained peace. Regardless of species, mammals interact freely, shedding stereotypes and discrimination.

Current State of Affairs

Many parts of Zootopia are recovering from the First Night Howler crisis, constructed by the previous mayor Bellwether. During this time, the predator citizens of Zootopia were greatly discriminated against by the population for their “natural instincts” of violence, as the media reported cases of deaths or injury from Night Howler-injected predators.

Even with the previous mayor, Bellwether, currently in jail, there have been numerous reports or witnesses of Night Howler cases in various locations within Zootopia. The city has recognized these series of events as a serious issue for the peace of Zootopia as a second wave of the previous Night Howler crisis may cause a more magnified distinction between the predator and prey species. The ZPD established a drug department by recruiting members from diverse social classes and jobs to review the case from a different perspective and gain more robust information that can ultimately solve the case.

Rising tensions between the predator and prey species have led to a few protests or comments about the current systems of Zootopia, and even though the Night Howler crisis has been solved, the stereotypes and discriminations still remain in mammals. The current mayor Leodore Lionheart has also received public backlash, as some citizens have questioned the danger of having a predator as the mayor of Zootopia.

Stances of Parties

Judy Hopps

Species: European rabbit

Judy was the first rabbit police officer of the ZPD who contributed the most to revealing the secret behind the first Night Howler incident, led by Assistant Mayor Bellwether. She consistently works as a police officer with her partner, Nick Wilde, to eliminate crimes in Zootopia. She has a strong desire to maintain Zootopia's security and also puts a lot of effort into mitigating the conflicts between carnivores and herbivores that stem from stereotypical thoughts. As the officer who has contributed to closing the first case, she has deep knowledge of the case and will share information based on her personal experiences. Judy can report the suspects that might have participated in the Night Howler incident, but she is not able to arrest the mammals by reading the top-secret files that are only allowed for high-ranking officers.

Nick Wilde

Species: Fox

Nick Wilde is a newly appointed police officer of ZPD who has collaborated with Judy Hopps to play a significant role in resolving the first Night Howler incident. He has a connection with Mr. Big and Finnick as he has been working as a con artist, allowing him to communicate with multiple mammals based on his previous actions. As a new police officer of ZPD, he mainly cooperates with Judy Hopps in order to diminish the social chaos that still remains due to the first Night Howler incident. He will participate in the case by providing sufficient information, even those unrevealed to the public, as the core of the first incident.

Clawhauser

Species: Cheetah

Clawhauser is a police officer of ZPD who mainly works at the front desk. With his friendly characteristics, he dreams of a diverse world, eliminating all stereotypes based on the appearance of prey and predator. However, as a predator mammal, he is concerned about others' thoughts about him being at the front desk which is the face of the ZPD. As a police officer, he believes that a peaceful and sustainable solution to the stereotypes will improve the current chaotic situation in Zootopia. From his prior connections with the underworld, he can contact them for different resources and rumors around the underworld, which will further elaborate on creating constructive solutions.

McHorn

Species: Rhinoceros

McHorn is a police officer of ZPD and is in charge of the 1st Precinct. With his authority as a police officer, he can access internal information unrevealed to the public. He is also able to

arrest or investigate suspicious mammals publicly and privately. As a large herbivore mammal, he tends to show off his physical superiority to Judy Hopps, which can be seen from his calling Judy a "Meter maid". McHorn does serve his duty as a police officer to secure public safety, but he is not strongly affiliated with supporting the elimination of stereotypes of prey and predators.

Chief Bogo

Species: Buffalo

He is the chief of the ZPD, has strong authority over Zootopia City, and can even deploy all police officers to handle cases. He has extensive access to internal information. Though he regarded small mammal officers as disqualified for dealing with serious crimes that require physical strength, he now believes that all mammals should be treated equally and fairly. Furthermore, he will play a pivotal role in investigating the second Night Howler mystery, aiming to remove even the small remnants of the Night Howler incident.

Mr. Big

Species: Arctic Shrew

The boss of a mafia group in Tundratown, a district of Zootopia. Despite his small physical size, he is the most feared among mammals. He values loyalty and his family - especially his daughter FruFru - above anything else. He views the Night Howlers as a direct threat to the balance of power between prey and predators, disrupting his city's peace. With his strong bonded relationship with his polar bear guards, he can use them for extra investigation of the Night Howler incident. Furthermore, with his position as the mafia boss, he has access to valuable information from the criminal underworld. This provides the ability to gather insights from the backstreet NightHowler dealings, and if needed, cooperate with the police department.

FruFru

Species: Shrew

FruFru is the beloved daughter of Mr. Big, the boss of the Tundratown mafia. She sees the Night Howler as a threat to her family, which she values the most. FruFru shows a warm, compassionate interaction compared to her father, as shown in her relationship with Judy Hopps. After Judy saves her, FruFru expresses gratitude and trust by naming her daughter after Judy. With her position as the daughter of the mafia boss and her connections with the police force through Judy Hopps, FruFru can offer critical support by sharing such information or by utilizing Mr. Big's secret forces to assist the police, bridging the police forces and the mafia group.

Koslov

Species: Polar Bear

Member of the Tundratown mafia and Mr. Big's most believed bodyguard. He is characterized by his deep loyalty to Mr. Big and he views the Night Howlers as a direct danger to Mr. Big's safety and authority. His primary concern is maintaining order and stability in Zootopia's underworld on behalf of Mr. Big. His position within the mafia allows him access to valuable connections, such as operating discreetly outside the reach of the police to gather additional information or investigate the source of the Night Howler incidents. Furthermore, he can monitor potential threats and use his authority to intimidate rivals or enemies, even the suspicious. He can act both personally and based on Mr. Big's order.

Yax

Species: Yak

Yak runs the Mystic Springs Oasis in Zootopia, also known as the Naturalist Club. His relaxed mind suggests that he would view the seriousness of the Night Howlers as chaos in another world. He does possess knowledge and connections that can be useful in understanding the implications of the Night Howlers, especially given his unbiased perspective toward prey and predators. His ability to exist outside the structural world of crime or law enforcement allows him to offer a unique perspective, being a potential ally to resolve the Night Howler mystery. His deep connection with various mammals will be impactful in gathering small pieces of information.

Flash

Species: Sloth

Flash is a worker at the Department of Mammal Vehicles (DMV). Flash contributed to the first Night Howler incident by supporting Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde, in searching for the suspicious car. As a government worker, he has access to records or information that could assist the investigation of the Night Howler case, despite his slow pace. Especially, as vehicles are essential for transportation, he can gather digital and physical records of the suspicious. Furthermore, his meticulous characteristics may help uncover overlooked details.

Pricilla

Species: Sloth

Pricilla works at the Department of Mammal Vehicles (DMV) with Flash. They are engaged, as depicted in the movie. Pricilla can provide digital and physical information and suggest possible solutions, as she is knowledgeable in transportation policies in Zootopia. Pricilla believes that Night Howler must be tackled through detailed city policies and regulations, emphasizing safety in communal areas, especially public transportation.

Peter Moosbridge

Species: Moose

Peter Moosbridge is a news anchor for Zootopia News. With his co-anchor, he had been reporting breaking news stories, being the face of Zootopia. As he is the news anchor who receives lots of information before the citizens, he will be an influential participant who gains abundant information and reports the updated issues throughout the conference. He calls upon Zootopian citizens to listen attentively to updates and government announcements. He believes that the Night Howler mystery could be tackled through active use of the press, specifically communication between ZPD and Zootopian citizens.

Mayor Lionheart

Species: Lion

Mayor Lionheart is currently imprisoned due to his past actions of confining the addicted animals illegally in Cliffside Asylum. He conducted various experiments to figure out whether the Night Howlers affect only carnivores or both carnivores and herbivores. However, after being discovered of his crime by Judy and Nick, he resigned from his job and was incarcerated in jail. Mayor Lionheart will participate in this ZPD conference, considering his experience with Night Howler, and will examine the reason why Night Howlers are still harming mammals in the city. Mayor Lionheart may choose to support ZPD by sharing data from his examination at Cliffside Asylum or turn against ZPD by concealing his knowledge to himself.

Garry

Species: Wolf

Garry is a security guard at Cliffside Asylum with Larry. The former Mayor Lionheart officially hired him which indicates that he is still deeply loyal to Lionheart even after his incarceration. He will actively participate in the conference as he had witnessed Lionheart's crime and knows the information of Night Howler that will be essential throughout the debate. Garry is likely to side with Mayor Lionheart regarding sharing undiscovered knowledge of Night Howler but may decide to act independently from Mayor's decisions.

Larry

Species: Wolf

Larry is a coworker of Garry who also worked as a security guard at the Cliffside Asylum, under the control of former Mayor Lionheart. Same as Garry, he is also deeply loyal to Lionheart even after his incarceration. He will work on examining the incident as he had witnessed the Night Howler case in "Zootopia 1", and also has information about animals who are addicted to Night Howlers from the previous experience. Larry can recall his experience observing similar catastrophic events to advise the committee to counter the Night Howler mystery.

Gazelle

Species: Gazelle

Gazelle is the most popular singer in Zootopia who has a strong influence on whatever she says or does. She had urged for public support in reducing the conflict between the prey and predators, wishing for peace. She exposed herself on the news which made some mammals protest with Gazelle, holding placards about restoring peace in Zootopia. As an influential celebrity and a pacifist, she will lead the public support on solving the Night Howler mystery and also find a successful solution to scotch people's outrage due to the everlasting conflict.

Duke Weaselton

Species: Weasel

Duke Weaselton is a thief who stole Night Howler in Zootopia 1. He is a career criminal who is associated with Zootopia's underworld. Like most criminals, he shows a strong dislike towards police officers and a strong desire to make money through any kind of action regardless of violating the law. As he stole the Night Howlers as a hired hand, he probably had no clue about their hazardous capabilities. Due to his strong connection with the underworld, he will give information that is not relatively easy to receive.

Finnick

Species: Fennec Fox

Finnick is a former coworker of Nick Wilde who pretended to be a baby elephant wanting an ice cream. However, it was revealed that Finnick and Wilde were career criminals who often deceived mammals to make money. Similar to Duke Weaselton, due to his long criminal career that created some connections with the underworld, he will be a connection between the underworld and ZPD.

Mrs. Otterton

Species: Otter

Mrs. Otterton is the wife of Mr. Otterton and has a deeply negative and fearful stance on the Night Howlers. For her, the Night Howlers are not only a danger to the city, but also a direct threat to her family as her husband was a victim of the first Night Howler incident. Mrs. Otterton is focused on her family, driven by her love for Mr. Otterton. This led her to approach Chief Bogo to persuade them to continue the investigation of the missing mammals. Despite not having direct connections to ZPD, she can provide realistic experiential knowledge from the perspective of the victims. Additionally, using her position, she can influence the prey or those who are fearful of Night Howlers in both positive and negative ways through her experience.

Renato Manchas

Species: Black Jaguar

Renato Manchas, the victim of the first Night Howler incident, holds a defensive stance towards the Night Howlers. His fear of the Night Howlers is driven by his traumatic experience and the knowledge that he could be manipulated into violence against his will. Given his position as a victim, his actions have the potential to influence society. For instance, him showing violent actions would increase the fear of Night Howlers and predators, further bringing tension between prey and predator mammals. His experience serves as a valuable reference for the ZPD.

Possible Solutions

Expansion of the police force to curtail Night Howler usage

Night Howlers were initially forcibly injected into predators by Doug Ramses to make them aggressive and savage, aiming to have them removed from the city and allow prey to dominate the world. However, after the first Night Howler incident, mammals began dealing Night Howlers like drugs in the human world, enjoying the enhanced strength and power they provide. This has led to secondary crimes such as murders, Night Howler overdoses, and more. Expanding the police force can help resolve this situation by maintaining tight surveillance over the underworld and monitoring any suspicious individuals with criminal records.

Proposal of laws and policies that restrict Night Howler usage

As there were no reports on drug overuse in Zootopia before the advent of Night Howler, it is apparent that laws regulating the use of Night Howlers weren't established. Due to the absence of regulation, the mammals could indiscreetly produce massive amounts of Night Howler that damaged mammals' lives and health causing public insecurity. To legitimately manage the prevalent usage of Night Howler, it is essential to propose laws and policies that strongly prohibit the manufacture and use of Night Howler which makes mammals acknowledge the hazards of Night Howler addiction. Furthermore, the mammals would consider adding the sub-clauses about stepping up the inspection between the borders of cities which will effectively block the illegal transfer of Night Howler.

Questions to Consider

1. What is the social impact of Night Howler throughout Zootopia City? What kinds of conflict does it produce and heighten?
2. How can you develop an ideal solution that does not violate both the rights of predators and prey?
3. What are the discriminations that both sides experience? How is that related to the Night Howler incident?
4. How can you meet the consensus by balancing both sides of mammals' needs? What methods are you going to use on the addicted animals?
5. In what way can mammals minimize stereotypical thoughts and perspectives toward certain animals? What will be the fundamental approach to the problem?

Bibliography

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