

Additional Topic: Well-Being and Happiness

Problems

Problem 5.1

Mary works in your public relations office. She is doing a good job and you're pleased with her performance. About six months ago, she hired a new employee, named Jane, who turned out to be a born talent. They get along fine.

Mary's direct boss just quit, and you're looking for someone for the job. You don't think that Mary is perfect for it. By contrast, Jane seems a great fit. But it may be awkward to promote Jane and make Mary her subordinate. A colleague suggested that you go ahead and do this, but give both of them a nice raise to solve the problem.

What percentage of a salary raise do you think will solve the problem?

Problem 5.2

Robert and John went to school together, and they got married roughly at the same time. They lived in the city and enjoyed it very much.

Robert and his wife have not had any children. John and his wife had a first child after one year, and, two years later, they had the second one, now eight months old. As a result, John had to move to suburb, took a mortgage to buy a large house and he feels financially strained.

Robert is on a ski vacation with his wife, while John is at home. He can't even dream of a ski vacation with the two children, to say nothing of the expense. In fact, John would be quite happy just to have a good night sleep.

Do you think that Robert is happier than John?