Many say that it takes different skills to survive in poverty, middle class, and wealthy class. Do you have the skills to survive in all classes? Take the following tests to gain some insights as to different skill sets.

**Could you survive in poverty? (Put a check by each item you know how to do.)**

- I know which churches and sections of town have the best rummage sales.
- I know which rummage sales have "bag sales" and when.
- I know which grocery store's garbage bins can be accessed for thrown away food.
- I know how to get someone out of jail.
- I know how to physically fight and defend myself physically.
- I know how to keep my clothes from being stolen at the Laundromat.
- I know what problems to look for in a used car.
- I know how to live without a checking or savings account.
- I know how to live without electricity, heat and a phone.
- I know how to use a knife as scissors.
- I can entertain a group of friends with my personality and my stories.
- I know what to do when I don't have money to pay the bills.
- I know how to move in half a day.
- I know how to get and use food stamps or an electronic card to buy groceries.
- I know where the free medical clinics are.
- I am very good at trading and bartering.
- I can get by without a car.
- I know how to pay rent with a money order.
- I know how to apply for Emergency Assistance.

From *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*, by Ruby Payne
Could you survive in middle class? (Put a check by each item you know how to do.)

_______ I know how to get my children into Little League, piano lessons, soccer, etc.

_______ I know how to properly set a table.

_______ I know which stores are most likely to carry the clothing brands my family wears.

_______ My children know the best name brands in clothing.

_______ I know how to order in a nice restaurant.

I know how to use a credit card, checking account, and savings account. I understand an annuity. I understand term life insurance, disability insurance, and 20/80 medical insurance policy, as well as house insurance, flood insurance, and replacement insurance.

_______ I talk to my children about going to college (or, my parents talked to me about going to college).

_______ I know how to get one of the best interests rates on my new-car loan.

I understand the difference among the principal, interest, and escrow statements on my house payment.

_______ I know how to help my children with their homework and do not hesitate to call the school if I need additional information.

_______ I know how to decorate the house for the different holidays.

_______ I know how to get a library card.

_______ I know how to use the different tools in the garage.

I repair items in my house almost immediately when they break - or know a repair service and call it.
Could you survive in wealth? (Put a check by each item you know how to do.)

______ I can read a menu in French, English, and another language.

______ I have several favorite restaurants indifferent countries of the world.

During the holidays, I know how to hire a decorator to identify the appropriate
______ themes and items with which to decorate the house.

I know who my preferred financial advisor, legal service, designer, domestic-
employment service, and hairdresser are.

______ I have at least two residences that are staffed and maintained.

______ I know how to ensure confidentiality and loyalty from my domestic staff.

I have at least two or three "screens" that keep people whom I do not wish to see
______ away from me.

______ I fly in my own plane, the company plane, or the Concorde.

______ I know how to enroll my children in the preferred private schools.

______ I know how to host the parties that "key" people attend.

______ I am on the boards of at least two charities.

______ I know the hidden rules of the Junior League.

______ I support or buy the work of a particular artist.

I know how to read a corporate financial statement and analyze my own financial
______ statement.