

Name _____

Date _____



Credit Cards

Using Credit Wisely

Uh-huh, Flocab, it's credit time! Let's go!

Meet Melvin, likes new clothes and social media,
He's on that InstaFaceYouTumbITwittEpedia.
Wants to give his girl Vanessa Super Bowl seats,
But he sees tickets cost 500 bucks a piece.
Dang, but he sees an offer in his mailbox,
He wants that Visa-MasterCard-Amex like a real boss.
That's credit — ya buy now, pay later,
But it also has a dark side: Darth Vader.
Melvin sees he only needs to pay 25 a month,
He's like, "I've got 25 bucks, I'm in luck."
Gets the card, and the tix get charged,
Plus Vanessa wants that jersey—we livin' large!
That month he pays the minimum, 25 bucks,
When you only pay the minimum, things get tough.
He didn't check the APR, annual percentage rate,
His is 25%, but now it's too late.
'Cause of interest, the amount that he owes goes up,
Pretty soon he owes the bank 2,000 plus bucks.
He's like, "Forget that, I already went to the game,
I'm not paying this off, these creditors are lame."
But now he's got bad credit, can't buy a car,
Can't rent an apartment, times is hard.
And when the phone rings, do you think it's Vanessa?
Nah, it's just a bunch of debt collectors.

I'm sayin', credit's like a stick of dynamite,
It can mess you up, if you don't use it right.
Pay it off each month, don't forget it,
Use a charge card and build up that credit. (x2)

Meet Lana: hip-hop head and a movie buff,
Watches drama but it's kung fu flicks she really loves.
She's doing credit card research online,
And looks up the card details one at a time.
Annual fee — how much you pay yearly to have it,
APR's percent charged, it can wreak havoc.
So she chooses one and only uses it for stuff
That she knows she can afford.
If she doesn't know how much cash she'll have next week,
Then she isn't charging to the card, you get me?
Always pays off the amount she owes in full,
So her principal is zip, zero, null.
Her APR is 15%, that's something,
But 15% of \$0 principal is nothing!
She builds up her credit, her credit score is juggernaut,
Now she's renting that apartment she really wants.
She bumps into Melvin, he looks like "ouch,"
He's begging Lana just to crash on the couch.
She says, "Well ok, I guess I can let you,
But so you know I'm dating someone new named Vanessa."

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Name _____ Date _____

Credit Cards

Using Credit Wisely

Learn more about this topic! Each section gives more detail on one of the lyrics from the song. Read each section, and then respond by answering the question or taking notes on key ideas.

1. Credit cards buy things without paying for them right away. When you pay for something with credit, you are borrowing money and promising to pay it back. If you have an emergency or need to buy something expensive, they can be a big help. They let you build good credit if you pay your bills in full and on time. Credit cards come with limits. If your card's credit limit is \$2,000, you won't be able to use it to buy something that costs \$2,500.

When you buy something with a credit card, you don't necessarily need to pay that amount of money back that month, or even that year. Each month, you'll get a bill from your credit card company with a required minimum payment. It will likely be a small portion of the total amount that you owe. Only paying the minimum might be tempting, but it's a bad idea.

2. Credit card companies make money by charging interest on the money you owe. Interest is determined by the annual percentage rate (APR) for that particular card, and it applies to every purchase you make. Remember Melvin? If he only paid the minimum monthly payment, \$25, it would take him over 7 years to pay off that \$1,000. And that's not all he'd owe. His credit card had a 25% APR, so at the end of 7 years he'll owe more in interest than the amount he borrowed in the first place!

The bigger the payment that you make each time you pay your bill, the less interest you have to pay. If you pay the whole amount, you don't have to pay any interest at all! If you pay the minimum, though, you're going to rack up a lot of interest, so avoid doing that whenever you can.

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3. In addition to interest, credit cards often come with assorted fees. There may be an introductory fee (to sign up), an annual fee (a yearly fee to have the card) and additional fees if you make a late payment or miss a payment altogether. It may be tempting to make large purchases and put off payments for later, but with interest and fees, your debt can add up quickly.

Some credit cards come with low introductory costs. This could be as low as 0% APR the first year, with no annual fee. If you see an offer that seems too good to be true, it probably is. Make sure to read the fine print so you know what the APR and fees will be after the introductory period.

4. How you use and pay your credit cards will determine if you have good or bad credit.

If you make the full payment every month, you won't have to worry about accruing interest or fees for late or missed payments, and you'll end up with good credit. If you have good credit, you're more likely to be approved for a credit card because lenders will know you're reliable.

If you are irresponsible with your credit cards and fail to make payments, you'll end up with bad credit, and possibly in debt. Bad credit will affect many aspects of your adult life. It makes you much less trustworthy in the eyes of creditors, so you'll have a hard time getting approved for loans, apartments or anything else that involves making significant payments on time. It might even make you less attractive to potential employers.

5. With all of the dangers of bad credit, you may be wondering why you'd ever want to get a credit card in the first place. Why spend money you don't have? Well, while bad credit can hurt your chances of getting approved for loans or apartments, good credit does exactly the opposite. If you don't establish any credit, it can be hard for you to get a loan because banks won't know anything about your financial history. And there are some purchases--like buying a house--that are nearly impossible to make without getting a loan. If you build good credit now, you'll be able to borrow money when you need it in the future, and you will be able to do so at lower interest rates.

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He's on that InstaFaceYouTumblTwittEpedia.
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YOU and **CREDIT:**

FAIL TO PLAN, PLAN TO FAIL

In the video, Melvin's first mistake was buying something he didn't need with money he didn't have. Melvin was tempted by Super Bowl tickets and a jersey for his girlfriend. What might your temptation be?

Many people know the temptations that come along with a credit card, and they have crazy suggestions about how to avoid getting into debt—like freezing their credit cards in a block of ice. What are some strategies you could use to avoid debt?

Think of a scenario where it would be appropriate to use a credit card. What would that expense be, and what would your plan be to pay off your balance?

Name: _____ Date: _____

CREDIT CARD COMPARISONS

Do some research on the different credit card offers out there and see which offers the best deal.

	CREDIT CARD #1	CREDIT CARD #2	CREDIT CARD #3	CREDIT CARD #4
Special Offer?				
Annual Fee?				
APR?				
Grace period?				
Other differences				

Circle the credit card you think you would choose and explain why.

Name _____

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Credit Cards - Vocab Cards

charge verb

to ask for an amount of money for goods and services.

How much do you *charge* for a double latte?

Rech.Nr. 4572	30.07.2007/13:29:17
Bar	Tisch 7/01
2xLatte Macchiato	à 3.00 \$ 6.00
1xGloki	à 5.00 \$ 5.00
1xSchweinschnitzel	à 22.00 \$ 22.00
1xChässpätzli	à 18.50 \$ 18.50

	54.50

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

credit noun

the status of being trusted to borrow money to buy something and pay it back later.

She knows that if she wants to maintain good *credit*, she has to pay her bills on time and manage her loans wisely.

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

credit card noun

a plastic card given by a store or bank that allows consumers to buy things now and pay the money back later.

I had to use my *credit card* to buy groceries because I spent all my money on my vacation.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

creditor noun

a person, bank or company to whom money is due.

When I got a loan from the bank, the bank became my *creditor* and I made them regular payments.

Antonyms: debtor

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

debt noun

something that is owed or must be paid back, especially money.

I still have some *debt* that I hope to repay soon.

Synonyms: deficit, liability



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

fee noun

an amount of money paid for a service.

Every month I pay a *fee* to the phone company.

Synonyms: expense, cost



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

interest noun

money that is paid for borrowing someone else's money.

I opened a savings account with that bank because they offer the highest rate of *interest*.

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

minimum noun

the lowest or smallest possible amount.

I have to make a *minimum* payment of \$20 on my credit card, but I usually pay the bill in full.

Antonyms: maximum



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

principal noun

an amount of money that is put in a bank on which interest is paid.

The larger your *principal*, the higher your monthly interest will be.

Principal -\$1,200	Flat Rate Calculation		
	Total payment	Interest	Outstanding (month end)
Month 1	\$312.00	\$12.00	-\$900.00
Month 2	\$312.00	\$12.00	-\$600.00
Month 3	\$312.00	\$12.00	-\$300.00
Month 4	\$312.00	\$12.00	\$0.00
Total	\$1,248.00	\$48.00	\$0.00

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

rate noun

a measurement of something, like growth or speed.

We were driving at a *rate* of 60 miles per hour.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

Name _____

Date _____

Credit Cards

Use the text to answer each question below.

1. Credit cards buy things without paying for them right away. When you pay for something with credit, you are borrowing money and promising to pay it back. If you have an emergency or need to buy something expensive, they can be a big help. They let you build good credit if you pay your bills in full and on time. Credit cards come with limits. If your card's credit limit is \$2,000, you won't be able to use it to buy something that costs \$2,500.

When you buy something with a credit card, you don't necessarily need to pay that amount of money back that month, or even that year. Each month, you'll get a bill from your credit card company with a required minimum payment. It will likely be a small portion of the total amount that you owe. Only paying the minimum might be tempting, but it's a bad idea.

Which of the following statements is false?

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. Credit cards let you spend unlimited money. | B. Credit cards have minimum monthly payments. |
| C. Credit cards give you the chance to build good credit. | D. Credit cards let you spend money that you don't have. |
2. Credit card companies make money by charging interest on the money you owe. Interest is determined by the annual percentage rate (APR) for that particular card, and it applies to every purchase you make. Remember Melvin? If he only paid the minimum monthly payment, \$25, it would take him over 7 years to pay off that \$1,000. And that's not all he'd owe. His credit card had a 25% APR, so at the end of 7 years he'll owe more in interest than the amount he borrowed in the first place!

The bigger the payment that you make each time you pay your bill, the less interest you have to pay. If you pay the whole amount, you don't have to pay any interest at all! If you pay the minimum, though, you're going to rack up a lot of interest, so avoid doing that whenever you can.

How can you avoid paying interest on your credit card purchases?

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. by only paying the minimum each month | B. by only using your credit card for big purchases |
| C. by having a credit card with a high APR | D. by paying off your whole bill each month |

3. In addition to interest, credit cards often come with assorted fees. There may be an introductory fee (to sign up), an annual fee (a yearly fee to have the card) and additional fees if you make a late payment or miss a payment altogether. It may be tempting to make large purchases and put off payments for later, but with interest and fees, your debt can add up quickly.

Some credit cards come with low introductory costs. This could be as low as 0% APR the first year, with no annual fee. If you see an offer that seems too good to be true, it probably is. Make sure to read the fine print so you know what the APR and fees will be after the introductory period.

Eduardo needs a credit card to buy a computer that will probably take him a year to pay off completely. Which of these cards should he apply for?

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. a credit card with no introductory fee, no annual fee and a 45% APR | B. a credit card with a \$100 introductory fee, a \$25 annual fee and a 10% APR |
| C. a credit card with no introductory fee, a \$25 annual fee and a 10% APR | D. a credit card that gives you \$10 for signing up but charges a \$30 annual fee and has a 15% APR |

4. How you use and pay your credit cards will determine if you have good or bad credit. If you make the full payment every month, you won't have to worry about accruing interest or fees for late or missed payments, and you'll end up with good credit. If you have good credit, you're more likely to be approved for a credit card because lenders will know you're reliable. If you are irresponsible with your credit cards and fail to make payments, you'll end up with bad credit, and possibly in debt. Bad credit will affect many aspects of your adult life. It makes you much less trustworthy in the eyes of creditors, so you'll have a hard time getting approved for loans, apartments or anything else that involves making significant payments on time. It might even make you less attractive to potential employers.

Why do lenders look at your credit?

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. to know what your income is | B. to know what you pay in rent |
| C. to know if you're a reliable friend | D. to know if you're financially responsible |

5. With all of the dangers of bad credit, you may be wondering why you'd ever want to get a credit card in the first place. Why spend money you don't have? Well, while bad credit can hurt your chances of getting approved for loans or apartments, good credit does exactly the opposite. If you don't establish any credit, it can be hard for you to get a loan because banks won't know anything about your financial history. And there are some purchases--like buying a house--that are nearly impossible to make without getting a loan. If you build good credit now, you'll be able to borrow money when you need it in the future, and you will be able to do so at lower interest rates.

Without establishing good credit, it would be most difficult to

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| A. find a job. | B. buy lunch. |
| C. buy a house. | D. make a minimum payment. |

Name _____

Date _____

Credit Cards

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. When you purchase something with a credit card, you _____.
 - A. automatically improve your credit score
 - B. buy it now and promise to pay for it later
 - C. pay for it now but receive it later
 - D. decrease your debt

2. The bigger the payment that you make on your credit card bill, the _____.
 - A. less interest you will have to pay in total
 - B. more interest you will have to pay in total
 - C. higher your APR
 - D. lower your annual fee

3. If you have good credit, you _____.
 - A. will never have to borrow money
 - B. have never paid back money you owe on time
 - C. are more likely to be denied a loan
 - D. have a history of paying back money you owe on time

4. What is a **minimum monthly payment**?
 - A. the minimum annual percentage rate on credit card
 - B. the minimum amount on your credit card bill you need to pay each month
 - C. the minimum you must purchase with your credit card each month
 - D. the minimum interest you rack up each month

5. Which of the following is a **false** statement?
 - A. Bad credit can make it hard for you to borrow money.
 - B. Some credit cards come with low introductory costs.
 - C. The interest you owe can never be more than your original purchase with a credit card.
 - D. If you pay only the minimum monthly payment, your debt can add up quickly.

6. Isaiah has bad credit. He likely _____.

- A. always paid his whole credit card bill on time
- B. doesn't have a credit card and has never borrowed money
- C. will be able to make a large purchase, like a car
- D. will have a hard time getting approved for loans

7. Cynthia hasn't established any credit at all. Which of the following is true?

- A. She has a high chances of getting approved for loans.
- B. She will always owe interest on her credit card bill.
- C. She will have an easy time buying her first home.
- D. Banks won't know if she's financially reliable.

8. Kimberly pays her entire balance every month. She _____.

- A. never owes interest on her purchases
- B. never has a principal of \$0
- C. likely has bad credit
- D. pays more than 100% in interest on her purchases

9. Jonas is still paying off a purchase he made many months ago. This is most likely because _____.

- A. Jonas only makes the minimum payment every month
- B. his credit card company is tricking him
- C. Jonas pays his entire balance every month
- D. his APR is 0%

10. Roberto researches several credit card options. Which of the following would be the **best** choice for him to make?

- A. a card that will always have a 25% APR and \$100 annual fee
- B. a card that will always have a 10% APR and \$50 annual fee
- C. a card with a 0% APR and no annual fee for the first year and a 50% APR and \$100 annual fee every year after that
- D. a card with a 0% APR, no annual fee and a \$50 introductory fee for the first year and a 25% APR and \$200 annual fee every year after that

Name _____

Date _____



Goal Setting

"SMART Goals"

There are so many things I can do and be,
But I better put a plan in place y'all see?
My future sorta seems distant,
But I'm headed there now, this instant.
I make goals, not like soccer,
So my dreams aren't blocked, Ibaka.
My goals aren't vague and undefined,
Or off in the future, when I have the time.
They're not pipe dreams, hopes and wishes,
Those goals could leave me cold as Christmas.
No, I set a goal I can start,
And I make sure that my goal is SMART.
Is it specific, can I measure it?
Can I act on it, is it realistic?
Tonight I plan to date Hermione,
That's not realistic, but at least it's timely.

Oh you don't dream? It's simple, nothing fancy,
I've got my back-up options down from plan A to plan Z.
My goal is real specific, I can measure it and do it,
Yeah it's SMART, ending soonish, something I can follow through with.
(x2)

So if you've got a big goal like wealth or happiness,
Break it down small, let's see what's happening.
Like: I want to do well in math,

So I can go to college, take a coding class.
I get specific — in Algebra I,
I need a B+ even if it's not fun.
Can I measure it? My report card
Will tell me if I hit my goal or not.
Actionable — What do I have to do
To make sure that my goal comes true?
I set aside one hour every night,
For math homework and studying, right.
Is it realistic? It just might
Be the most realistic goal I've set in my life.
Make it timely — I set a deadline,
Six weeks to make that B+ mine.
Yuh, I apply this method,
To all kinds of goals I'm setting:
Who I want to date, what I want to weigh, team I want to make,
Money that I want to have, and for me that's a ton of cake.
So I plan and save up,
Make my financial game tough.
Set SMART goals that's an acronym,
I'mma work, go bring the hook back again.

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Make it _____ — I set a _____,

Six weeks to make that B+ mine.

Yuh, I apply this _____,

To all kinds of goals I'm setting:

Who I want to date, what I want to weigh, team I want to make,

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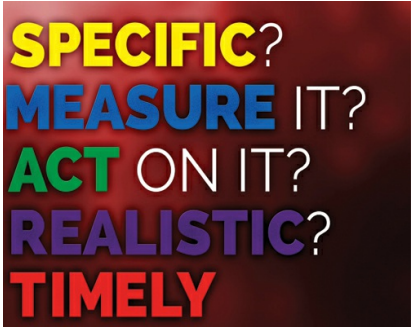
(x2)

Goal Setting

“SMART Goals”

Learn more about this topic! Each section gives more detail on one of the lyrics from the song. Read each section, and then respond by answering the question or taking notes on key ideas.

1.



Set a SMART goal.

People tell you to dream big, but how do you make your big dreams a reality? By breaking them down. Break your big goals down into smaller goals, and then break those small goals down into even smaller, achievable steps. That’s what it means to make your goals SMART:

specific, measurable, actionable, realistic and timely.

While not all goals require money, many do. When you’re thinking about going to college, finding a place to live, getting trained in something you’re interested in—that all takes cash. Part of the SMART goal-setting process is considering many financial factors. Make sure that you’re also thinking about the money you need to reach your goals and giving yourself the opportunity to earn it. Research the costs connected with each step. Include that information when you’re writing out your SMART goal so that you can anticipate expenses.

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2. Sometimes your goals are clear—there are certain things you’ve always wanted. But sometimes, people get stuck in the present moment and don’t think about what they might want in the future. Maybe you don’t need a car now, but if you’ll need one in a year, you might need to start saving today. So spend some time thinking about what’s important to you. What do you care about? What do you need or want now? What about next year? What about in five years? Is there anything that you’ll regret not trying?

If you’re not sure where to start, talk to the people you admire. Look around and get inspired by things you see. If you feel uncertain, remember that sometimes knowing what you don’t want to do is just as important as knowing what you want to do. For example, if you know that you don’t want to become an electrician even though your father wants you to, you’ve identified important aspirations that can help think about what you’d prefer and an area of your life where you could use a specific goal. What career might you want instead?

3. A short-term goal is one that you want to accomplish soon—from one hour to one year from now. Painting your room and learning to drive a car are short term goals. If you are thinking about a goal that you plan to achieve in one to five years, that is a moderate-term goal. Maybe you want to complete a four-year degree or travel extensively in another country. A long-term goal is one that you don’t envision meeting for a long time, like five to 10 years (or even longer). A goal like this might be going to college, training as a dancer, purchasing a home or visiting all 50 US states. Whether you’re working with a short-, moderate- or long-term goal, always make sure your goals are things that you really want and that you really think you can achieve if you work hard and plan wisely.

4. Most people want to be rich, successful and happy. Those are great goals, but they’re not specific. What do you want money for and how will you spend it? Do you want money because you want to start a foundation that supports artists, because you want to open your own restaurant or because you want to go to Italy? What does success look like for you? Does it mean being able to work from home, being able to send your kids to college or never having to worry about having enough money to pay your bills? What makes you happy: family, travel or giving back to your community? The more specific you are about what you want, the easier it is to make a plan to get there. Another way to make it specific is to make sure it answers the five W’s: Who (else does your goal involve), What (is it about), Where (does it take place), When (will you achieve it), Why (do you want it)?

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5. Once you have a specific goal (getting a scholarship for college, training for a marathon, saving up for a computer), how will you know when you've reached it? Can you measure it somehow? A grade on a report card, an amount of money saved, the number of jobs applied for—those are all measurable ways to know you've reached your goal. But it's not just about measuring when you've reached the goal. You also want to measure your progress along the way to make sure you're on track. One way to do that is to give yourself targets with their own deadlines. If your goal is to save \$1,000 in three months, how much do you want to save by the end of the first month? \$300? Set that target and deadline for yourself and see how you're doing at that point. If you only have \$50, it might be time to reevaluate both your goal and your plan to achieve it.

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WRITING SMART GOALS

When you have a goal you want to reach, be SMART and you'll get there.
For each of the scenarios below, one part isn't written correctly. Find the incorrect one for each and rewrite it in a way that makes it SMART.

Goal: To make some extra money, I will apply to and accept a part time job by the end of the semester.

- S** Is it **specific**? I will search in my neighborhood for retail jobs as a cashier or sales associate.
- M** Is it **measurable**? To increase my job options, I will apply to 5 different stores in my neighborhood.
- A** Is it **actionable**? I believe I can achieve this goal.
- R** Is it **realistic**? I have the proper attire for an interview and am working on a list of my strengths to discuss during the interview.
- T** Is it **timely**? I will achieve this goal before the end of the semester in order to work during the holiday break and next semester.

Goal: To increase membership of my comic book club on campus.

- S** Is it **specific**? Club members will use Facebook more.
- M** Is it **measurable**? Reach goal of 200 Facebook 'likes', 100 Twitter followers and post daily pictures on Instagram to regularly reach a wider range of students.
- A** Is it **actionable**? Members will vote on a new social media representative and event coordinator who will be responsible for finding creative ways of increasing club membership.
- R** Is it **realistic**? With help of all club members as well as meeting with on campus associate student body (ASB), we will have the support to reach this goal.
- T** Is it **timely**? Being active during the first month of school to be prepared for the first semester club fair and continuing on during the second semester with help from the newest members.

Goal: To hold a headstand for my Spring break in Florida.

- S** Is it **specific**? I will hold a headstand for 10 seconds: long enough for my friends to take a picture of me doing it.
- M** Is it **measurable**? I will progress if I do it correctly.
- A** Is it **actionable**? Everyday I will spend 15 minutes doing ab exercises and practicing my headstand against a wall to be more in shape and work a new skill.
- R** Is it **realistic**? I will talk to friends and trainers about the workouts I could do as well as research methods for properly holding a headstand without injuring myself.
- T** Is it **timely**? If I am consistent with my workouts and practice daily, I will hold a headstand effortlessly before Spring break in 2 months.

Name _____

Date _____

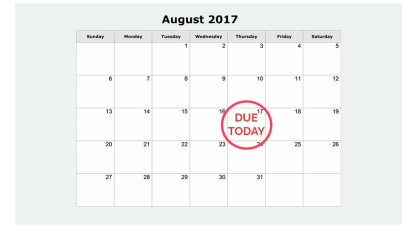
Goal Setting - Vocab Cards

deadline]>

the time by which something must be completed or turned in.

The *deadline* for her book report is next Thursday at 8AM.

Synonyms: due date



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

financial]>

dealing with matters of money.

In the end, the *financial* considerations helped them make their decision. It was just too expensive to buy that house.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

goal]>

an end result that one puts in effort to achieve.

Liza's *goal* is to climb the tallest mountain in the country, so she's practicing on smaller mountains.

Synonyms: aim, objective



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

measure]>

to find the size or weight of something.

I want to know for sure if my brother's room is bigger than mine, so I will *measure* both rooms today.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

method]>

a way of doing something.

Solly has his own particular *method* for studying for an exam, which includes putting flashcards on his forehead.

Synonyms: manner, system, way



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

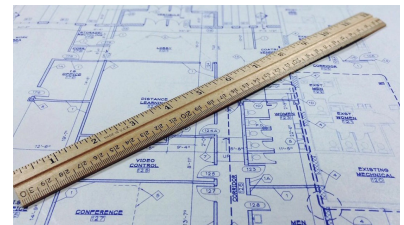
Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

plan]>

a set of actions that are decided ahead of time as a way to do something.

We worked with an architect to design a *plan* for the new building.

Synonyms: strategy, arrangement



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

realistic]>

concerned with the practical, or things that will really happen; resembling real life.

I want to get Jay-Z to play at our dance party, but it's not a *realistic* goal.

Synonyms: practical

Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

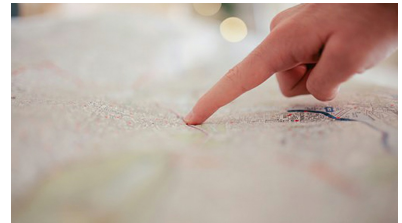
specific]>

exact; particular.

My sister pointed to a *specific* spot on the map and asked me to meet her on that exact corner later that day.

Synonyms: precise; definite

Antonyms: general, vague



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

timely]>

happening at the right or most ideal time.

The *timely* meeting changed our minds at the right moment.



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

vague]>

not clearly expressed.

I thought the author's point was *vague* in the essay. In fact, I got really lost in her unclear writing.

Synonyms: unclear

Antonyms: clear



Use this word in a sentence or give an example to show you understand its meaning:

Draw this vocab word or an example of it:

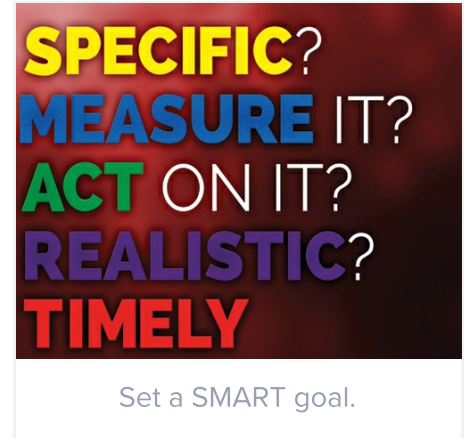
Name _____

Date _____

Goal Setting

Use the text to answer each question below.

1. People tell you to dream big, but how do you make your big dreams a reality? By breaking them down. Break your big goals down into smaller goals, and then break those small goals down into even smaller, achievable steps. That's what it means to make your goals SMART: specific, measurable, actionable, realistic and timely.



While not all goals require money, many do. When you're thinking about going to college, finding a place to live, getting trained in something you're interested in—that all takes cash. Part of the SMART goal-setting process is considering many financial factors. Make sure that you're also thinking about the money you need to reach your goals and giving yourself the opportunity to earn it. Research the costs connected with each step. Include that information when you're writing out your SMART goal so that you can anticipate expenses.

How does money factor into the SMART goal-setting process?

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. You need to know if achieving your goal will require money. | B. You need a plan to earn or acquire the money needed to achieve your goal. |
| C. You need to know the costs associated with the steps of achieving your goal. | D. All of the above. |

2. Sometimes your goals are clear—there are certain things you’ve always wanted. But sometimes, people get stuck in the present moment and don’t think about what they might want in the future. Maybe you don’t need a car now, but if you’ll need one in a year, you might need to start saving today. So spend some time thinking about what’s important to you. What do you care about? What do you need or want now? What about next year? What about in five years? Is there anything that you’ll regret not trying?

If you’re not sure where to start, talk to the people you admire. Look around and get inspired by things you see. If you feel uncertain, remember that sometimes knowing what you *don’t* want to do is just as important as knowing what you want to do. For example, if you know that you don’t want to become an electrician even though your father wants you to, you’ve identified important aspirations that can help think about what you’d prefer and an area of your life where you could use a specific goal. What career might you want instead?

How can knowing what you **don’t** want to do be helpful?

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Knowing what you don’t want to do means you don’t have to set goals for yourself. | B. Knowing what you don’t want to do can help you think through your preferences. |
| C. Knowing what you don’t want to do means someone else is responsible for telling you what your goal should be. | D. Knowing what you don’t want to do means you don’t have to worry about your future. |

3. A short-term goal is one that you want to accomplish soon—from one hour to one year from now. Painting your room and learning to drive a car are short term goals. If you are thinking about a goal that you plan to achieve in one to five years, that is a moderate-term goal. Maybe you want to complete a four-year degree or travel extensively in another country. A long-term goal is one that you don’t envision meeting for a long time, like five to 10 years (or even longer). A goal like this might be going to college, training as a dancer, purchasing a home or visiting all 50 US states. Whether you’re working with a short-, moderate- or long-term goal, always make sure your goals are things that you really want and that you really think you can achieve if you work hard and plan wisely.

Which of the following is **not** an example of a short-term goal for a twelve-year-old?

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. saving money to go to the movies this weekend | B. being cast in the school play in the spring |
| C. graduating from medical school | D. spending more time with a sibling this summer |

4. Most people want to be rich, successful and happy. Those are great goals, but they're not specific. What do you want money for and how will you spend it? Do you want money because you want to start a foundation that supports artists, because you want to open your own restaurant or because you want to go to Italy? What does success look like for you? Does it mean being able to work from home, being able to send your kids to college or never having to worry about having enough money to pay your bills? What makes you happy: family, travel or giving back to your community? The more specific you are about what you want, the easier it is to make a plan to get there. Another way to make it specific is to make sure it answers the five W's: Who (else does your goal involve), What (is it about), Where (does it take place), When (will you achieve it), Why (do you want it)?

Which of the following is **not** one of the five W's?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A. What | B. Will |
| C. When | D. Why |
5. Once you have a specific goal (getting a scholarship for college, training for a marathon, saving up for a computer), how will you know when you've reached it? Can you measure it somehow? A grade on a report card, an amount of money saved, the number of jobs applied for—those are all measurable ways to know you've reached your goal. But it's not just about measuring when you've reached the goal. You also want to measure your progress along the way to make sure you're on track. One way to do that is to give yourself targets with their own deadlines. If your goal is to save \$1,000 in three months, how much do you want to save by the end of the first month? \$300? Set that target and deadline for yourself and see how you're doing at that point. If you only have \$50, it might be time to reevaluate both your goal and your plan to achieve it.

Jiao's goal is to write a novel in a year. Which of the following are good targets and deadlines for her to use to measure her progress and ensure she reaches her goal?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. write one chapter a month | B. write 20 pages a week |
| C. write two pages a day | D. all of the above |

6. Goals can be motivating and exciting, but they can also be overwhelming when we don't know what we need to do to accomplish them. The best kind of goal is an "actionable" one with concrete steps that you can take to achieve it. The goal "take a road trip across America," for example, is huge, but it's achievable if you can figure out the separate actions that reaching it requires, such as saving money for a car and gas, making a budget and planning your route. Each of these is a small action that gets you closer to reaching your goal. The outcome of an actionable goal should be in your control. For example, "learn to code" is a goal you can achieve on your own—you might need a teacher or money, but ultimately, what happens depends on you. However, "make my crush like me" is a goal that's completely out of your control. You can do things like talk to them more, but since liking you is their choice, achieving this goal relies on their actions, not yours.

Which of the following people does **not** have an actionable goal?

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. Jack, who wants his brother to stop having nightmares | B. Faith, who wants to be a pilot |
| C. Kalil, who wants to have his own graphic design company | D. Aaliyah, who wants to throw her sister a surprise party |

7. If the goals you set aren't realistic, you're setting yourself up to fail. No one can learn to be an amazing guitarist in one week or turn a grade from a D to an A overnight. If you give yourself an unrealistic goal, you may get discouraged when you don't reach it. Remember, a realistic goal should be something you can achieve if you have a plan, work hard and give yourself the right amount of time. Accomplishing a goal requires patience, persistence and focus. If you don't reach a goal that you thought was realistic, don't give up! Instead, adjust your plan, commit to it and believe in yourself.

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What does it mean for a goal to be "realistic"?

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. that you aren't the first person who's ever tried to achieve it | B. that you have a person to talk through your plan with |
| C. that with a plan, time and hard work, you can achieve it | D. that it is very precise and defines what success will look like |

8. If you procrastinate, you delay doing something, often over and over and over... Goals need deadlines because otherwise it's really easy to keep putting them off. Let's say you want to write and perform a song for your mother's birthday next month. The first step would be to brainstorm ideas or draft some lyrics. Great! But it's not great if you keep saying, "Oh...I'll do it next weekend," because you might never get it done, or you'll do it at the last minute and do a bad job because you don't have enough time to do it well. Give yourself a deadline. Better yet, set aside a chunk of time and give yourself a limited time to complete the task. If someone invites you to a party on the nights you designated for songwriting, say you've got plans—because you do! Without deadlines and time constraints, simple goals can get delayed for weeks, months or years.

If you procrastinate, what can happen?

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. You might achieve more goals than you thought you could. | B. You might save money. |
| C. You might never achieve your goal. | D. You might gain people's admiration for your hard work. |

Name _____

Date _____

Goal Setting

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Which is the **best** way to achieve a large goal, such as becoming wealthy?
 - A. Think about it every day.
 - B. Break it down into smaller goals.
 - C. Wait until you're ready to commit to it full-time.
 - D. Join with other people who have the same goals.

2. Ramon dreams about becoming a vet. Which of the following would be the best way to make his goal **actionable**?
 - A. watching a movie about a dog that gets lost
 - B. signing up for an animal biology class
 - C. reading stories about animals
 - D. playing with his puppy

3. "I want to be really successful." This is an example of a goal that is:
 - A. specific and actionable.
 - B. specific, but not actionable.
 - C. actionable, but not specific.
 - D. neither specific nor actionable.

4. Why are deadlines helpful when you make your plan?
 - A. Deadlines help you slow down.
 - B. Deadlines help you think of goals to achieve.
 - C. Deadlines help you stick to your plan.
 - D. Deadlines help you dream big.

5. What is the **main** purpose of the SMART approach to goal-setting?
 - A. to help you think through the many goals you might have
 - B. to help you set a plan for accomplishing your goals
 - C. to make sure your goals are what you truly hope to accomplish
 - D. to identify places you can get help to accomplish your goals

6. Painting your room is an example of a _____.

- A. short-term goal
- B. moderate-term goal
- C. long-term goal
- D. pipe dream

7. What does the "T" stand for in the SMART acronym for goal setting?

- A. timely
- B. tasteful
- C. temporary
- D. trustworthy

8. Grades on a report card or the amount of money in a savings account are both strategies that fall under which element of SMART goal setting?

- A. specific
- B. measurable
- C. actionable
- D. realistic

9. The 5 Ws are **most helpful** in making a goal-setting plan more _____.

- A. specific
- B. measurable
- C. actionable
- D. realistic

10. A moderate-term goal is one that you hope to accomplish in what time period?

- A. two to three months
- B. six to twelve months
- C. one to five years
- D. ten to twenty years