Negative Money Problems

Suggested Time: 45 minutes

What's important in this lesson:

In this lesson, you will learn how to explain the meaning of negative numbers as they apply to money.

Complete the following steps:

1. Read through the lesson portion of the package on your own.
2. Complete the exercises.
3. Check your answers with the Answer Key that your teacher has.
4. Seek assistance from the teacher as needed.

Hand in the following:

1. Student Handout

Questions for the teacher:

Negative Money Problems

Part A: Can you have negative savings?

1. Pascal kept track of his income and spending for one week.

Income		Spending	
Part-time job	$76.90	Lunches	$17.00
Babysitting	$12.00	Clothing	$26.00
		Tickets	$35.00
Total			

a) Write Pascal's total income and total spending in the table.

b) Which amount is greater?   INCOME   SPENDING

c) Pascal's **Savings**   = Total income – Total spending

   = _____ - _____

   =

d) Are Pascal's savings positive or negative? _____

   Does this make sense to you? Explain why or why not.

2. Each week, Sandy cashes her cheque from her part-time job. She also spends money during the week. (Sometimes she has to borrow from her mom.) At the end of the week, Sandy takes whatever amount of money she has left (her savings), and puts it in her piggybank.   The chart shows Sandy's pay and spending over the last month.

a) Complete the chart.

Week	Cash from cheque (income)	Spending this week	Savings
1	$112.25	$ 82.50	
2	$ 97.00	$147.00	
3	$133.75	$103.00	
4	$ 88.00	$ 85.25	

b) Are there some weeks when Sandy's savings are negative?

How did that happen?

c) Over the whole month, did Sandy have positive or negative savings? Justify your answer.

Part B: Can You Afford It?

1. Sometimes a person who finds himself out of money too often, realizes his friends or family don't want to keep loaning him money. He turns for advice to you, the understanding math student, to help him. You suggest he needs a **budget:** a spending plan over a certain period of time, such as $5 a day for lunches during a school week.

a) Complete the chart to find whether he stayed within his daily budget.

School Day	Budget	Actual price of lunch	Money left ? **+** = yes ▬ = no
Mon	$5	$4.75	5 − 4.75 = .25
Tues	$5	$5.25	
Wed	$5	$3.50	
Thurs	$5	$4.25	
Fri	$5	$6.00	

b) On what days did your friend spend *within* his budget limit (money left is **+**)?

c) When did your friend spend *more than* his budget limit (money left is **-**)?

d) Overall, did your friend spend more than the $25 weekly limit that you planned? _____ How much money was left?

2. Noni has a budget of $200 for the month. He plans to spend $45 on a concert ticket, $75 on art supplies, and $88 on car repair.

a) Is his money left positive or negative?

b) What does that tell you about the amount of money left in his pocket?

3. For his vacation, Guy decides to take a road trip. While driving the rental car, he gets a $280 fine for speeding. Guy has only a certain amount of money budgeted for his trip, and no extra money. He does not want to owe money at the end of his holiday. The car rents for $40 a day. He will have to return the car earlier than planned, so the car rental money can be used to pay the fine. How many days must be cut out of the trip to pay for the fine?