

# EVERYDAY LIFE

## MONEY TALKS

**Age:** Teenager/Adult

**Level:** Intermediate (B1)

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Activity:** In this lesson, students will:

1. identify old currencies;
2. do a quiz about money;
3. discuss changing currency.

**Language focus:** vocabulary for money

**Materials:** one copy of the worksheet per student

## PROCEDURE

**Warmer:** Draw three columns on the board with the following headings: Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives. Ask students what type of word each of the following is, and then write it in the appropriate column on the board (answers included after each word):

- spend (v)
- cash (n)
- rich (adj)
- borrow (v)
- cheap (adj)
- credit (n)
- dear (adj)
- save (v)

Check students understand and can pronounce each one.

Ask what the words have in common. The answer is that they are all connected to money. You may need to explain that *dear* is a British English word meaning 'expensive'.

Hand out the worksheet. Ask students to look at Exercise

1. Tell them to identify the old currencies and where they were from.

**Key:**

1. c
2. e
3. h
4. b
5. a
6. f
7. g
8. d

Students then do Exercise 2, the quiz, in pairs or small groups. Check the answers and award points for each correct answer. The team with the most points wins.

**Key:**

1. d
2. a
3. c
4. b
5. c
6. b
7. a
8. c
9. a
10. b
11. b
12. a

In Exercise 3, students discuss the questions in groups. Then they report their ideas to the class. If your students are struggling, you could ask them to imagine their country is about to use the currency belonging to a neighbouring country. They should debate whether this would be a good thing or a bad thing, and the reasons why.

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## WORKSHEET

### EXERCISE 1: OLD MONEY



Can you match the currencies to the countries they come from? What do they all have in common?

- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. markka      | a. the Netherlands |
| 2. schilling   | b. Greece          |
| 3. escudo      | c. Finland         |
| 4. drachma     | d. Germany         |
| 5. guilder     | e. Austria         |
| 6. franc       | f. France          |
| 7. Irish pound | g. Ireland         |
| 8. Deutschmark | h. Portugal        |

### EXERCISE 2: MONEY QUIZ



#### DID YOU KNOW?

On January 1, 2002, euro notes and coins came into circulation. Twelve European countries abandoned their old national currencies, and more than 300 million people started carrying euro notes and coins in their pockets. Today, 19 out of the 28 countries in the European Union use the euro.

- Which of the following countries did not adopt the euro as a currency in 2002?
  - France
  - Spain
  - Italy
  - Switzerland

- Whose face appears on an American one-dollar bill?
  - George Washington
  - Abraham Lincoln
  - George W. Bush
  - Nicolas Cage
- Which country does not use the dollar as currency?
  - Canada
  - the United States
  - Venezuela
  - Australia
- If you withdraw money from a bank, what are you doing?
  - You are stealing it
  - You are taking it out
  - You are putting it in
  - You are writing a cheque
- Which country uses the baht as currency?
  - Mexico
  - the Netherlands
  - Thailand
  - Korea
- Which country made the first official paper money in 1023 during the Sung dynasty?
  - Sweden
  - China
  - Japan
  - the United States

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The dollar sign (\$) is based on the peso coin from the 18th century, which featured a P superimposed upon an S.

- What does it mean if your bank account is "in the red"?
  - You are in debt
  - You are rich
  - You have no money
  - You have little money
- In English, what is the money called that parents give their children every week?
  - bribery
  - candy money
  - pocket money
  - extra money

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9. What is the missing word? Over the years I've been saving and I've put away a tidy little nest \_\_\_\_\_.
- egg
  - money
  - bank
  - pocket
10. Parents will sometimes say to their children that money doesn't grow \_\_\_\_\_.
- in the garden
  - on trees
  - in bushes
  - easily
11. You are travelling from a European country to the United States with €800 in your pocket for holiday expenses. You hear on the radio that the dollar exchange rate is 1.13. How much money do you have for your holiday?
- \$688
  - \$904
  - \$800
  - \$702.24

12. Which of the following statements is true?
- Euro banknotes are the same all over Europe, but individual countries have their own euro coins.
  - Euro coins are all the same, but individual countries have their own euro banknotes.
  - Euro banknotes and euro coins are the same all over Europe.
  - Euro banknotes and euro coins are different all over Europe

## EXERCISE 3: SHARING A CURRENCY

Discuss the following questions in small groups.

- Has the currency in your country changed recently?
- If so, has the change been positive or negative? What is life like with a new currency?
- If not, would you like to use the same currency as another country too? Why, or why not?