B2–C1 VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Phrasal Verbs About Money

A practical worksheet on saving, spending, borrowing and managing money.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

EXERCISE 1 · Match the meanings

Match each phrasal verb (1–10) with the correct meaning (A–J).

1. dip into	A. manage to live on limited money
2. get by	B. contribute towards a shared cost
3. rake in	C. completely repay a debt
4. put down	D. pay a deposit
5. chip in	E. spend freely on something special
6. run up	F. use part of your savings
7. pay off	G. reserve money for a purpose
8. splash out	H. arrange a loan or insurance
9. set aside	I. earn or receive a lot of money
10. take out	J. accumulate a large debt or bill

Your answers: 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___ 7 ___ 8 ___ 9 ___ 10 ___

EXERCISE 2 · Complete the sentences

Use the expressions in the box. Change the verb form when necessary. Use each expression once.

cash in · chip in · get by · pay off · put down
run up · save up · set aside · take out · splash out

1. We're _____ for a new sofa, so we aren't going abroad this year.

2. Everyone at work _____ £5 towards a farewell gift yesterday.

3. After eight years, she finally _____ her student loan.

4. They _____ a £2,000 deposit on the car last weekend.

5. He _____ a huge roaming bill while travelling abroad.

6. We decided to _____ a small loan to replace the roof.

7. For their anniversary, they _____ on a weekend at a spa.

8. Grandad decided to _____ some savings bonds to pay for repairs.

9. I always _____ a little money for unexpected bills.

10. She doesn't earn much, but she manages to _____ on her salary.

EXERCISE 3 · Choose the better expression

Circle the most natural answer in each sentence. Think about the situation and the speaker's attitude.

1. The holiday was a treat, so we decided to **splash out / cough up** on a sea-view room.

2. I can't believe I had to **rake in / fork out** £260 for a locksmith.

3. He still owes me £50. I hope he'll **pay off / pay back** the money next week.

4. The client refused to **pay up / save up** until we sent a reminder.

5. The business has **run up / raked in** £2 million in revenue this year.

6. We need to **break into / cut back on** spending if we want to save.

7. The company **laid out / got by** £18,000 on new equipment.

8. She was reluctant to **shell out / set aside** £100 for the service.

Think about it: Which expression in Question 1 suggests a voluntary treat? Which expression in Question 2 suggests an unwelcome expense?

EXERCISE 4 · Complete the particles

Write the missing word in each expression. Each answer is one word.

1. I’m saving up _____ a new computer.

2. They’ve cut back _____ takeaway meals.

3. We all chipped _____ to buy her a present.

4. He gets by _____ a modest pension.

5. We splashed out _____ concert tickets.

6. She put _____ a deposit on the flat.

7. He cashed _____ his savings bonds.

8. She paid _____ the last of her loan yesterday.

REMEMBER: A small particle can completely change a verb’s meaning.

EXERCISE 5 · Spot and correct the mistake

Each sentence contains one incorrect phrasal verb, particle or word order. Rewrite it correctly.

1. I’m saving up on a new bike.

2. She finally paid back her mortgage in full.

3. We need to cut back of unnecessary spending.

4. Could you pay back me by Friday?

5. They took in a loan to cover the costs.

6. He ran on a huge hotel bill.

7. She chipped on £20 towards the gift.

8. They put on a deposit on the new flat.

EXERCISE 6 · Money talk: complete the conversation

Complete the conversation using the expressions below. Change the form where necessary.

cut back on · dip into · fork out · get by
pay off · save up · set aside · take out

Lena: Are you still planning to renovate your kitchen?

Max: Yes, but I'm (1) _____ for new cupboards.

Lena: What happened to the money you'd already saved?

Max: I had to (2) _____ my savings when the fridge broke. I had to (3) _____ nearly £700 for a replacement.

Lena: Would you consider (4) _____ a small loan?

Max: Not yet. I want to (5) _____ my credit-card balance first.

Lena: Could you (6) _____ anything for a while?

Max: Yes. I'll (7) _____ £150 a month, although it might be hard to (8) _____ on what's left.

Check your understanding

1. Why did Max need to use his savings?

2. Why doesn't he want a loan at the moment?

3. How much money does he plan to save each month?

EXERCISE 7 · Make the expressions your own

Use the phrasal verbs in brackets to write complete, natural sentences.

1. Your colleagues are collecting money for a birthday present. **(chip in)**

2. An unexpected car bill means you must use some savings. **(fork out; dip into)**

3. Someone has finally finished repaying a loan. **(pay off)**

Writing challenge

Write **70–90 words** about a purchase, savings goal or unexpected expense. Use at least **three** money phrasal verbs from the lesson.

ANSWER KEY

Check Your Answers

Exercise 1 · Match the meanings

1 F · 2 A · 3 I · 4 D · 5 B · 6 J · 7 C · 8 E · 9 G · 10 H

Exercise 2 · Complete the sentences

1. saving up

2. chipped in

3. paid off

4. put down

5. ran up

6. take out

7. splashed out

8. cash in

9. set aside

10. get by

Exercise 3 · Choose the better expression

1. splash out

2. fork out

3. pay back

4. pay up

5. raked in

6. cut back on

7. laid out

8. shell out

ANSWER KEY (CONTINUED)

Exercise 4 · Complete the particles

1 for · 2 on · 3 in · 4 on · 5 on · 6 down · 7 in · 8 off

Exercise 5 · Spot and correct the mistake

1. I'm saving up **for** a new bike.

2. She finally **paid off** her mortgage in full.

3. We need to **cut back on** unnecessary spending.

4. Could you **pay me back** by Friday?

5. They **took out** a loan to cover the costs.

6. He **ran up** a huge hotel bill.

7. She **chipped in** £20 towards the gift.

8. They **put down** a deposit on the new flat.

Exercise 6 · Money talk

1 saving up · 2 dip into · 3 fork out · 4 taking out

5 pay off · 6 cut back on · 7 set aside · 8 get by

Comprehension: 1. His fridge broke, and he needed a replacement. 2. He wants to clear his credit-card balance first. 3. £150 a month.

Exercise 7 · Example answers

1. We all chipped in £10 towards a birthday present.

2. I had to fork out £450 for car repairs, so I dipped into my savings.

3. She finally paid off her loan last month.

The writing challenge has no single correct answer. Check that at least three phrasal verbs are used naturally and in the correct form.