



Keeping Score

After watching the *JA Economics for Success Session 5* volunteer video, reflect on the lesson and review the concepts and vocabulary. Complete the following activity. You may also be assigned the math skills practice problem or choose to practice it on your own.

Think About It:

- What might you do now to improve your credit in the future?
- What would it be like to live without using credit?
- What problems do teens and young adults sometimes experience when using credit cards?
- What is the best credit score you can achieve?

Try It:

Create a trivia game using information you learned from the lesson. Check off the boxes as you finish your work.

- Conduct some online research, if necessary, about the factors and decisions that increase and decrease a credit score. Use a search engine and a term such as “credit score factors.”
- Write trivia questions to test people’s credit card knowledge, or create questions which pose decision choices about how and when to use credit.
For example:
Which of the following is the best time to use credit?
 - a. When buying a large purchase, such as a home or a car
 - b. When you see something you want but you don’t have enough in our budget
 - c. For all purchases, regardless of their size
- Write each question on a 3 x 5 card or a slip of paper.
- Make up your own rules and point system for your game. Assign point values to your questions with the goal of achieving a score of 850, which is an excellent credit score. For example, you might assign each question 10 points and have multiple players compete to see who can achieve a score of 850, or you might assign harder questions a higher point value.
- Ask parents or other older adults to play the game with you and see who can achieve the highest credit score.



Practice Your Math Skills:

Building good credit gives you many advantages, among them allowing you to purchase big items, such as a home and a car. However, paying for those items with credit comes at a cost—called *interest*. Use an online interest calculator, such the one at www.moneychimp.com, to calculate the cost of purchases at different rates of interest. Pretend to shop online and choose an item between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Use the online interest calculator to determine the total price of the good with interest over different amounts of time. Using credit:

- What is the least you might spend on the item?
- What is the most you might spend?