Bank accounts, debit cards and credit cards

Whose money are you spending when you tap?

Answers and teaching notes

For the teacher

- **Aim:** Pupils tell debit from credit, meet both meanings of the word credit, read a bank statement and understand an overdraft as borrowing.
- **Curriculum links:** Financial Education Planning Framework, ages 11 to 14: how to manage money (bank accounts, cards and records) and managing risks and emotions (borrowing has a cost). PSHE: economic wellbeing. Citizenship: the uses of money. Maths: decimals.
- **Watch first:** the Penny Explains video "Debit card or credit card?" at pennyexplains.com.
- **Starter:** Draw two cards. Ask: when you tap each one, whose money leaves, and when?
- **Support:** Read the statement together. Pupils tick each row as money in or money out.
- **Stretch:** Pupils add two more lines to Leo's statement for April and work out each new balance.
- **Ages:** debit cards from about 11 at many banks. Credit cards and overdrafts are for over-18s.
- **Total:** 37 points. Suggested answers are shown in red; accept any answer that is well reasoned.

I can...

- ☐ I can explain the difference between a debit card and a credit card.
- ☐ I can explain the two meanings of the word credit.
- ☐ I can read a bank statement and say what an overdraft is.

Key words

Current account: an everyday bank account.
Debit card: spends your own money.
Credit card: spends the lender's money, which you pay back.
Balance: how much is in your account.
Overdraft: borrowing by letting your balance go below zero.

1 Quick quiz

4 points

Circle one letter for each question.

a) When you pay with a debit card, whose money are you spending?

- **A** Your own, from your bank account
- B The bank's, to pay back later
- C The shop's money
- D The government's money

b) When you pay with a credit card, whose money are you spending?

- A Your own savings
- **B** The lender's, which you pay back
- C Your school's money
- D Nobody's: it is free

c) How old must you be to get a credit card in the UK?

- A) 11
- B) 16
- **C) 18**
- D) 25

d) Which account is made for everyday money in and out, such as wages and card payments?

- A) A savings account
- **B) A current account**
- C) A loan account
- D) A pension

2 One word, two meanings

5 points

Use the words in the box to finish the sentences. Use each word once.

prize · limit · debit · saving · interest · borrowing · into

The word **credit** has two meanings. On a bank statement, a credit is money coming **into** your account, and a **debit** is money going out. But buying something **on credit** means **borrowing**: you get it now and pay later, often with **interest** added. A credit card lets you spend up to a credit **limit** set by the lender.

3 Read Leo's bank statement

6 points

Leo, 13, checks his new account in his banking app. Use it to answer the questions.

Northgate Bank · Current account — **Leo Okafor · 1 to 31 March**

Date and details	Money out (debit)	Money in (credit)	Balance
1 Mar · Opening balance			£42.50
3 Mar · Card payment, Corner Shop	£3.20		£39.30
7 Mar · Pocket money from Mum		£20.00	£59.30
12 Mar · Card payment, Game Vault	£24.99		£34.31
15 Mar · Cash machine	£10.00		£24.31
21 Mar · Car washing for Mrs Ali		£15.00	£39.31
26 Mar · Card payment, bus top-up	£12.00		£27.31
31 Mar · Closing balance			**£27.31**

A made-up statement for practice. This account has no overdraft.

a) How much money came in to Leo's account in March? 1 mark

£35.00 (£20.00 + £15.00).

b) What was Leo's biggest payment out, and how much was it? 1 mark

The card payment to Game Vault, £24.99.

c) How much went out of the account in total? Show your working. 2 marks

£50.19 (£3.20 + £24.99 + £10.00 + £12.00).

d) Did Leo's balance go up or down over the month, and by how much? 2 marks

> Down by £15.19 (£42.50 − £27.31, or £50.19 out − £35.00 in).

4 Debit, credit or both? 8 points

Leo has a debit card. His sister Maya, 19, has a credit card too. Sort the facts.

Sends a bill each month | Can pay contactless | Has a secret PIN | Spends your own money | Interest if the bill is not paid in full | Spends borrowed money | Over-18s only | Money leaves your account at once

Debit card only	Credit card only	Both cards
Spends your own money	Spends borrowed money	Has a secret PIN
Money leaves your account at once	Sends a bill each month	Can pay contactless
	Over-18s only	
	Interest if the bill is not paid in full	

5 What would you do? 6 points

Read the story, then answer the questions.



Leo ends March with **£27.31**. He spots headphones for **£35**. His account has **no overdraft**, so if he tries to pay, his card will be declined. His sister Maya offers to buy them on her **credit card** if Leo pays her back.

a) How much more money does Leo need? 1 mark

> £7.69 (£35.00 − £27.31).

b) Maya's account has an arranged overdraft. Explain what an overdraft is. 2 marks

> It lets your balance go below zero, up to an agreed limit. It is borrowing from the bank, so it usually costs interest or fees. Over-18s only.

c) What would you do if you were Leo, and why? 3 marks

> No single right answer. He could wait and earn the £7.69 (one more car wash pays £15), which costs nothing extra. If Maya pays, Leo is borrowing: he owes her £35, and she must pay her card bill in full or she could be charged interest.

6 Banking crossword

8 points

Use the clues to fill in the grid.

Penny says: A debit card is a key to your own money. A credit card is a key to someone else's.

	1 O							
	V		2 P					
3 C	R	E	D	I	T		4 B	5 C
	R		N				A	U
	D						L	R
	R						A	R
	A		6 I				N	E
	F		N				C	N
7 S	T	A	T	E	M	E	N	T
			E					
			R					
		8 D	E	B	I	T		
			S					
			T					

Across

3. Money coming in to your account. Also a word for borrowing (6)

7. A list of everything paid in and out of your account (9)

8. Money going out of your account (5)

Down

1. Borrowing by letting your balance go below zero (9)

2. The secret four-digit number for your card (3)

4. How much money is in your account right now (7)

5. The everyday account: a ___ account (7)

6. The extra charged when you borrow, or paid when you save (8)

7 Before you go

One thing I learned today

One question I still have

How sure do I feel?

Not yet | Getting there | Got it

Take it home

Ask an adult at home to show you a bank statement or banking app (they can hide the numbers). Can you spot a **debit** and a **credit**?

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Age rules checked November 2026. Education, not financial advice.