

Money and Happiness

Discussion Topic Pack

A warm-up, vocabulary, and graded discussion questions for talking about **Money and Happiness**.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____ Score _____

Warm-up: If you could receive a \$100 gift card for anything you want, what would you buy and why?

1 · Vocabulary

Word	Meaning	Example
wealth	A large amount of money or valuable possessions.	<i>Many people believe that wealth brings security, but it doesn't always bring peace of mind.</i>
prosperity	The state of being successful or thriving, especially financially.	<i>During the 1990s, the country's prosperity allowed families to travel abroad more often.</i>
contentment	A feeling of happiness and satisfaction.	<i>She found contentment in simple daily routines rather than expensive hobbies.</i>
materialism	A tendency to consider material possessions and physical comfort as more important than spiritual values.	<i>His strong materialism made him constantly chase the latest gadgets.</i>
affluence	The state of having a great deal of wealth or riches.	<i>The neighborhood's affluence is evident from the large houses and luxury cars.</i>
fulfilment	A feeling of happiness because of fully developing one's abilities or character.	<i>Volunteering gave her a sense of fulfilment that a high salary could not match.</i>
frugal	Careful with money; avoiding wasteful spending.	<i>Being frugal doesn't mean you never enjoy yourself; it means you spend wisely.</i>
extravagant	Exceeding what is reasonable or appropriate; lavish.	<i>They threw an extravagant party that cost more than they could afford.</i>

2 · Discussion Questions

Take turns asking and answering — try to give a full answer, not just yes or no.

- 1 What does money mean to you in your daily life?
- 2 How often do you think about your financial situation?
- 3 Can you describe a time when you felt happy because of something you bought?
- 4 Do you prefer saving money or spending it on experiences? Why?
- 5 How do your friends or family influence your attitudes toward money?
- 6 In your opinion, can having a lot of money guarantee happiness? Explain.
- 7 What are some non-material things that bring you joy?
- 8 How does society's view of wealth affect people's sense of self-worth?
- 9 If you could design a society where money was not the main measure of success, what would it look like?
- 10 Do you think governments should intervene to reduce income inequality to improve overall happiness? Why or why not?

3 · Extension

Try this: *Role-play: One student acts as a financial advisor, the other as a client who believes that money equals happiness. The advisor must explore the client's beliefs, challenge assumptions, and suggest alternative ways to achieve fulfilment.*