



Using Money Matters Case Studies



Money Matters case studies are designed to provide an opportunity for students to work with the concepts they have encountered in the modules. They provide scenarios that require the students to make financial decisions and justify those decisions as well as negotiate an outcome with their fellow students.

The case studies for two of the modules, “Understanding Credit Card Offers” and Jetta to Jaguar?: Buying Your Ideal Car”, have two parts presenting the same financial situation from two different perspectives. Students are assigned to scenario A or scenario B. We suggest that this is best done in small groups so that students can discuss their ideas with their group members. The groups research, discuss and prepare their arguments. Later (such as at the next class period) mixed groups may be given the task to negotiate a final outcome that is satisfactory to both parties.

Modules with a single scenario case study may be handled in the same manner. We suggest that these are also best done in small groups so that students can research, discuss and prepare their recommendations. Later groups may present their solutions to the rest of the class. We have found that groups will come up with a variety of ways to resolve the case studies, which will provide a rich basis for a class discussion following the presentations.

The purpose of such a structured case study is to highlight the interplay among practical, emotional, and quantitative considerations in financial decision making.