

Spend It Wisely

Use goals, costs, and benefits to make a careful choice.

S.3.g “using economic decision-making models to make informed economic decisions;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the class goal, circle each choice, and draw a box around one cost or benefit for each choice. Your marks will help you compare the choices before deciding.

A Reading Corner Choice

- ① Ms. Rivera’s class wanted a reading corner. The class had \$20 from a pencil sale. First, they named their goal: make a cozy place for students to read. Next, they listed choices. They could buy two floor pillows for \$18, a small rug for \$20, or a lamp for \$12. They could not buy everything, so they needed a careful decision.
- ② Then the class looked at the cost and benefit of each choice. The pillows would give two readers a soft seat, but they would leave only \$2. The rug would cover more floor space, but it would use all the money. The lamp would help readers see words on cloudy days and would leave \$8 for later. The class also considered what the reading corner needed most.
- ③ After comparing the choices, the class chose the lamp. They decided that better light was the biggest benefit for their goal. The \$8 left could be saved for books later. This decision used a simple model: goal, choices, costs, benefits, and a final choice. Using these steps helped the class spend its limited money on what mattered most.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

What was the class’s goal before it spent any money?

2

What were the three choices, and how much did each one cost?

3

What was one benefit of buying the lamp? What was one cost or trade-off?

4

Which choice did the class make? Use two details from the passage to explain why it fit the class goal.

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

You have \$15 from chores to spend on rainy-day fun. Think of two things you could buy. In the table, list each choice, its cost, and its benefit. In the last column, choose the better option and explain why.

CHOICE	COST	BENEFIT	FINAL DECISION AND REASON

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the class goal, circle each choice, and draw a box around one cost or benefit for each choice. Your marks will help you compare the choices before deciding. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What was the class's goal before it spent any money?	The class wanted to make a cozy place for students to read.
2	What were the three choices, and how much did each one cost?	Two floor pillows cost \$18, a small rug cost \$20, and a lamp cost \$12.
3	What was one benefit of buying the lamp? What was one cost or trade-off?	The lamp would help readers see words on cloudy days. Buying it would cost \$12, although it would leave \$8.
4	Which choice did the class make? Use two details from the passage to explain why it fit the class goal.	The class chose the lamp because better light was the biggest benefit for reading, and \$8 could be saved for books later.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

CHOICE	COST	BENEFIT	FINAL DECISION AND REASON
Puzzle	\$8	I can play it many times.	Choose the puzzle because it leaves \$7 for later.
Art kit	\$15	I can make pictures.	

Accept reasonable choices, costs, benefits, and a final decision that uses the student's stated goal or compares trade-offs. Costs and benefits should make sense for the choices listed.