



CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC

GRADE LEVEL 10-12



“ACTIVE LEARNING TOOL”

Original Source: Tracey Newman, Family Consumer Sciences, Ste. Genevieve High School, Ste. Genevieve, MO
Time to complete: 149 minutes (104 minutes for the movie and 45 minutes for additional work)

NATIONAL CONTENT STANDARDS

Family and Consumer Science Standards: 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.6, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.3, 1.2.6, 1.2.8, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.4, 2.5.1, 2.5.3, 2.6.1, 2.6.3, 3.2.6, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.5, 3.3.6, 3.5.2, 3.5.3, 3.5.6

National Council of Economic Education Teaching Standards:

National Standards for Business Education:

- Career Development: I.A.2, I.A.3, I.B.1, I.B.2, III.A.2, III.B.3
- Economics:
- Personal Finance: I.1, I.2, II.1, II.2, V.I

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Understand how financial decisions made can affect other areas of life.
- Explain how a desired standard of living relates to the choices made within a career path.
- Examine personal needs and wants in relation to choices in life.
- Understand how workplace conflicts can be overcome in a positive manner.

INTRODUCTION

Financial distress often causes stressors that affect multiple areas of life that include, but are not limited to, one's career, personal values, and relationships. Balancing needs and wants and the financial means to provide the necessary items, acquire what is wanted, and attain personal satisfaction in a career can be a challenge. Rebecca Bloomwood identifies just how challenging this can be while attempting to be a journalist at a magazine that incorporates the positive financial practices she has yet to implement within her own life. While working at a financial magazine, the main character is working to overcome her own struggle by having to decide between a need and a want in the context of her shopping obsession that has landed her with a pile of credit card debt.

In this lesson, participants will evaluate how Rebecca makes and handles her decisions concerning her finances. A discussion of whether the financial decisions were positive or negative, how Rebecca's personal relationships were affected, and how a career choice can provide more resources than monetary amounts for an individual will occur. Participants will consider their financial decisions from the past, present, and in the future to analyze personal behavior styles influencing purchasing decisions, assess the value of material goods to them individually, and learn about the consequences of poor financial decisions resulting in adverse situations.

FACILITATION

**Note to educator:* This movie is rated PG for some mild language and thematic elements. Please review this movie in advance to decide if it is appropriate.

1. Ask participants to complete the *What Activities Make You Feel Good* worksheet 5.0.44.A1 prior to viewing the movie.
 - a. Allow approximately five minutes to complete the worksheet.

- b. Have participants share answers with the rest of the class.
- c. Discuss
 - i. How many had \$ signs? What activities were these?
 - ii. How many had ♥ signs? What activities were these?
 - iii. How many had both? What activities were these?
 - iv. What does this say about money?
 - v. Is money needed for all things or all activities listed on the worksheet?
 - vi. Are the things on your list wants or needs?
 - vii. Do you participate in this activity as much as you would like?
 - viii. When do you want to do this activity again?
2. Tell participants they will be watching a movie to learn about risky financial behaviors which may result in financial stress which can affect all areas of life including but not limited to financial security, career opportunities, individual happiness, relationships, and have a long-term impact on future opportunities.
3. Hand out *Confessions of a Shopaholic* worksheet 5.0.44.A2 for participants to complete while watching the movie.
4. Have participants watch “Confessions of a Shopaholic” movie.

CONCLUSION

Ask participants to brainstorm a list of all of the financial mishaps that are addressed within the movie. Discuss what behaviors caused each occurrence to happen, the consequences, and potential long-term impact.

Or

Discuss the short answer questions that participants completed for their *Confessions of a Shopaholic* worksheet 5.0.44.A2

ASSESSMENT

In small groups, have participants accomplish the goals that are listed on *Magazine Creation* worksheet 5.0.44.A4. Following the creation of their magazine, have them write a news article that will be featured in their magazine based upon the content learned throughout the movie about Rebecca’s financial struggles. The *Magazine Article Creation* rubric 5.0.44.B1 should be used for grading this assignment.

**Note to educator:* Once the magazine cover and/or articles are created, consider displaying them in the school or community newspaper, a bulletin board, or other public area for individuals outside of your classroom to learn more about financial education.

Or

Have participants complete the *Confessions of a Shopaholic Review* worksheet 5.0.44.A3 to emphasize some of the key concepts addressed throughout the movie.

MATERIALS

What Activities Make You Feel Good worksheet – 5.0.44.A1
 Confessions of a Shopaholic worksheet – 5.0.44.A2
 Confessions of a Shopaholic Review worksheet – 5.0.44.A3
 Magazine Creation worksheet – 5.0.44.A4
 Magazine Article Creation rubric – 5.0.44.B1
 Confessions of a Shopaholic movie

RESOURCES

This movie can be purchased for approximately \$10.00 - \$15.00

Other FEFE Units that will supplement this movie include:

Career Development 1.0

Consumer Decisions 2.0

Consumer Protection 3.0

Credit 4.0

Decision Making 5.0

Depository Institutions 7.0

Housing 9.0

Introduction to Finance 11.0

Paychecks & Taxes 13.0

Savings 14.0

Spending Plans 15.0

Values, Needs vs. Wants, and Goal Setting 17.0

WHAT ACTIVITIES MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD

Original Source: Jerry Mason, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors,
Author of Financial Fitness for Life

	Total Points Earned
10	Total Points Possible
	Percentage

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Directions: List ten activities that you enjoy doing. Then, place a dollar sign by those activities that cost \$10⁰⁰ or more and a heart by the activities that you enjoy doing with someone else that cost no money. Place both a \$ and a ♥ for those activities that both cost money and are more enjoyable when done with someone else. Finally, list the date when you last did each activity.

**\$ = ACTIVITIES THAT COST
\$10⁰⁰ OR MORE,**

**♥ = ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY
DOING WITH SOMEONE ELSE
THAT COST NO MONEY,
OR BOTH A \$ AND A ♥**

**DATE YOU
LAST DID
ACTIVITY**

ACTIVITY

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC

	Total Points Earned
30	Total Points Possible
	Percentage

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Directions: Complete the following questions while watching the movie “Confessions of a Shopaholic.”

- When Rebecca is young, she indicates there is a difference between adult prices and mom prices. What accessory is she referring to when she is discussing this topic? (1 point)
 - Shoes
 - Belts
 - Bags
 - Shirts
- Explain what Rebecca meant by adult prices vs. mom prices. (2 points)

Directions: Match the following statements with the correct answers on the left by placing the letter of the correct answer next to the statement. (Each question is worth 1 point)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 3. _____ Rebecca starts the movie by admitting she has how many credit cards? | A. 12 |
| 4. _____ Rebecca has the dream of working for this magazine. | B. <i>Allette</i> |
| 5. _____ Rebecca accepts a job working for this magazine while trying to obtain her dream job. | C. <i>Successful Savings</i> |
| 6. _____ Rebecca must pay for her green scarf in how many different ways before she could purchase it? | D. 2 |

Directions: The following questions are to be answered with a short answer. Please answer the following questions in complete sentences. (Each question is worth 3 points)

- Rebecca and her roommate avoid answering a phone call from a particular gentleman. Why do they do this?
- Indicate three times in the movie where Rebecca may get her needs and her wants confused.

9. Would you consider the magazine that Rebecca decides to apply to be a journalist for a good fit for her? Why or why not?
10. The receptionist at the magazine corporation indicates to Rebecca that there is a yellow brick wall. What does this mean to her?

Directions: Please indicate if you feel that the following statements are true or false by indicating a T or an F on the line. **If the statement is false, please explain why.**

11. _____ Rebecca made a good first impression during her interview with *Successful Saving* magazine.
12. _____ By the end of the movie, Rebecca learned strategies to help get her on track financially.

Directions: Using complete sentences please complete the following short answer questions. (Each question is worth 3 points)

13. Luke announces to his boss that he was hired to create a product that sells, not sell a product. What does this mean to you?
14. Why do you feel that Rebecca turns down her dream job at *Allette* magazine?
15. Identify three ways that Rebecca attempts to make situations better among those individuals she hurt.

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC REVIEW

	Total Points Earned
48	Total Points Possible
	Percentage

Name_____

Date_____

Class_____

Personal Finance Confessions of a Shopaholic Assignment:

Use complete sentences and examples from the movie when writing your responses to these questions. Please choose only the number of questions indicated for each section.

Section 1: (Choose 2 questions, 6 points each)

- Describe how Rebecca's spending at the start of the movie reflected each of the following: needs, wants, values, and goals.
- Choose three examples of how Rebecca's spending decisions and money management caused disruption to her relationships and career.
- Compare and contrast Luke's and Rebecca's shopping styles.
- What steps did Rebecca take to try to change her spending behavior?
- Provide three examples of how Rebecca allows other people to influence her spending decisions.
- Describe the difference between cost and worth.

Section 2: (Choose 2 questions, 9 points each)

1. Rebecca made many decisions related to her finances in this movie. Choose two that you consider to be wise decisions and two that were unwise. Explain in four sentences or more, why you consider these to be positive or negative decisions.

2. Rebecca makes several references to her mother in relationship to her spending behaviors. Rebecca tends to have the opposite values and behaviors of her parents. Describe, in four or more sentences, one example of a behavior related to money that you have learned from your parents (or an example involving a friend and their parents)?

3. Rebecca and her parents are very different when it comes to spending and saving money. In four sentences or more, give your opinion on whether there is a happy medium between the two extremes, or do all people fall into one category or another?

4. Allette makes the comment towards the end of the movie, "What are credit cards for?" In your opinion, what are credit cards for? Use at least four sentences to describe your opinion.

5. Should Rebecca have taken the money when her parents offered to sell their RV? Should they have offered it? Explain your response with at least four sentences.

Section 3: (18 points)

Rebecca made a lot of money with her sale. While it was a great ending for a movie, do you think in real life she could sell clothing she had paid full price for in order to pay off thousands of dollars in credit card debt? Explain your reason for your response with at least four sentences.

MAGAZINE CREATION

	Total Points Earned
50	Total Points Possible
	Percentage

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Directions:

Part 1: Complete each of the following steps to create a new magazine that will be distributed to help consumers learn more about financial practices. Focus upon the credit distress that Rebecca had in the movie while creating your magazine.

Part 2: Following the creation of your magazine and cover, proceed to the second portion of the assignment which will include writing an article based upon credit. The information included in the article will be the information that you learned in the movie. Reference the *Magazine Article Creation* rubric 5.0.44.B1 for the guidelines for part two of this assignment.

1. Pick a name for your magazine that will focus on financial practices, primarily credit. (2 points)
 - o Keep in mind that the title of the magazine should be creative to catch the reader's attention, however, newsworthy appropriate.

Write the name of your new magazine here: _____

2. Identify 3 features included in the magazine this month that will address financial topics from the movie and help consumers, such as Rebecca, improve their financial decisions. (3 points)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
3. Provide 1-2 brief sentences to give a summary or overview of what will be included within the articles for each of the topics that you decided would be featured above. (9 points)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
4. On the back of this page, design your magazine cover to attract the attention of consumers walking past a magazine stand. Consider highlighting your key stories on the cover to make individuals want to read more. (6 points)

MAGAZINE ARTICLE CREATION

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions:

Rebecca is not alone when dealing with the financial issues that face her on a daily basis. Imagine you are called by a financial magazine, similar to the one that you created, to write a news article to provide information to the readers regarding credit from what you learned in the movie. Write a one page, typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font with 1-inch margins informational news article on credit to be featured in a financial magazine.

1. Within this article you should address at least two aspects of credit that Rebecca struggled with in the movie.
2. Within this article you should address at least two tools or tips that can help individuals who are in situations similar to Rebecca's.

	Exemplary - 3	Satisfactory - 2	Unsatisfactory - 1	Rating	Weight	Score
Content	News article identifies two or more issues that Rebecca encountered and learned about during the movie.	News article identifies one or more issues that Rebecca encountered and learned about during the movie.	News article identifies no issues that Rebecca encountered and learned about during the movie.		3	
Content	The article provides at least two tips for readers to prevent financial distress similar to Rebecca's	The article provides at least one tip for readers to prevent financial distress similar to Rebecca's	The article provides at least no tips for readers to prevent financial distress similar to Rebecca's		3	
Motivation Level	The article grabs the audience's attention, engages them throughout, provides educational materials, and is motivating.	The article has little motivation, education, or engagement.	The article has no motivation, education, or engagement.		2	
Grammar and Punctuation	Minimal amount (0-3) of errors regarding grammar and punctuation within the article	A fair amount (4-5) of errors regarding grammar and punctuation within the article	Multiple (6 or more) errors regarding grammar and punctuation within the article.		2	
				Total Points Earned		
				Total Points Available		30
				Percentage		