

# Solutions for Personal Finance Tax Update 13th Edition by Garman

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# Solutions

## SOLUTIONS MANUAL

### CHAPTER 1

## Understanding Personal Finance

### ANSWERS TO CHAPTER CONCEPT CHECKS

#### LO1.1

1. There are five fundamental steps to the personal financial planning process: (1) Evaluate your financial condition relative to your education and career choice; (2) define your financial goals; (3) develop a plan of action to achieve your goals; (4) periodically develop and implement spending plans to monitor and control progress toward your goals; and (5) review your financial progress and make changes as appropriate.
2. Financial success is the achievement of financial aspirations that are desired, planned, or attempted. Success is defined by the individual or family that seeks it. Financial success may be defined as being able to actually live according to one's standard of living. Financial security is that comfortable feeling that your financial resources will be adequate to fulfill any needs you have as well as your wants. Financial happiness is the experience you have when you are satisfied about money matters. People who are happy about their finances will see a spillover into positive feelings about life in general.
3. Several things can be accomplished by studying personal finance. Recognize how to manage the unexpected and unplanned financial events. Pay as little as possible in income taxes to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Understand how to effectively comparison shop for vehicles and homes. Protect what you own. Invest wisely. Accumulate and protect wealth that you may choose to spend during your non-working years or donate.
4. The building blocks for achieving financial success include a foundation of regular income that provides the means to support your lifestyle and save for desired goals in the future. The foundation supports a base of various banking accounts, insurance protection, and employee benefits. Then you can establish goals, a recordkeeping system, a budget, and an emergency savings fund. You will also manage various expenses such as for housing and transportation and the payment of taxes. You will also need to handle credit, savings, and educational costs. Finally, you invest in various investment alternatives such as mutual funds, stocks, and bonds, often for retirement. As a result of all of these building blocks, you are more apt to have a financially successful life.

#### LO1.2

1. The business cycle entails a wavelike pattern of economic activity as measured by the gross domestic product with phases including expansion, peak, contraction, downturn, trough and recovery.
2. Forecasting the state of the economy involves predicting, estimating, or calculating what will happen in advance. You need to be able to forecast the state of the economy, inflation, and interest rates so that you have advance warning of the directions and

strength of changes in economic trends since they will affect your personal finances. Two statistics you could watch are the consumer confidence index and the index of leading economic indicators.

3. Inflation reduces the purchasing power of the dollar. This means that your income will not go as far and, thus, in real terms will be lowered by inflation. Because items cost more, you will have to consume less and may cut back on some expenditures in order to be able to afford those with a higher priority.

### LO1.3

1. The opportunity cost of a decision is measured as the value of the next-best alternative that must be forgone. If you, for example, put your retirement savings in a regular savings account instead of in a tax-sheltered retirement account, you may be forgoing the tax benefits associated with investing in retirement accounts such as IRAs or 401(k) plans. In another example, if you decide to borrow the maximum student loan amount for which you qualify in order to live a bit more comfortably while in college, you will not be able to live as nicely, save as much for the down payment on a home or save for retirement once you graduate because of the higher loan payments.
2. Marginal analysis focuses on the next increment of usefulness or cost when making financial decisions. Marginal utility is the extra satisfaction derived from having one more incremental unit of a product or service. Marginal cost is the additional cost of that unit. When marginal utility exceeds marginal cost, and we compare the two, we can make better financial decisions. As an example, if you must fly to some destination, is the marginal cost of checking a bag rather using carry-on worth the marginal utility?
3. As your income rises, you will find yourself in higher and higher tax brackets. One type of decision that is affected by income taxes is how you should invest for retirement. You might want to invest through a 401(k) plan instead of keeping your retirement money in a savings account, which is taxable. Since most types of income are taxable, it is important that you understand the impact of income taxes on financial decisions. Of particular importance is the marginal tax rate (the tax rate at which your last dollar earned is taxed). If you are in the 25 percent marginal tax bracket, you will get to keep 75 percent (100 percent minus 25 percent) of your last taxable dollar earned. If the income is tax-free income, on the other hand, you would get to keep 100 percent of it. Therefore, it is important to know your marginal tax rate as well as what types of income are subject to federal income taxes. It is also important to remember the impact of state income taxes and Social Security taxes.

### LO1.4

1. The two common questions about money are its future value and present value. Future value is what an investment or series of investments will be at a point in the future. Present value is how much you would need to invest today and/or in a series of future investments in order to provide some particular amount in the future.
2. Simple interest is money paid on a principal amount for a given number of years. The interest is paid only on the principal. For example, you might put \$1000 in a bank savings account at 5 percent interest for one year. You would have accumulated \$50 in that year. Compound interest is interest paid on interest and principal. For example, if you leave

your \$1000 on deposit and don't withdraw the \$50 interest at the end of the year, you will earn interest on both the deposit and the interest earned during the first year. This difference in the types of interest paid is important as compound interest is the basic principle of accumulating wealth. If you invest regularly over time, your money will grow due to the power of compound interest.

2.

- a. \$2000 at 5 percent for four years would equal \$2431 ( $\$2000 \times 1.2155$ ).
- b. \$4500 at 9 percent for eight years would equal \$8966.70 ( $\$4500 \times 1.9926$ ).
- c. \$10,000 at 6 percent for 10 years would equal \$17,908 ( $\$10,000 \times 1.7908$ ).

#### LO1.5

1. A flexible spending account (FSA), also called a flexible spending arrangement, is a sum of money that the employee sets up at the start of each year that can then be used during the year to pay for health care- and/or dependent-care related items. Such an account relates to pretax dollars because the money put into the account is sheltered from income taxation because it is not included in one's taxable income for the year.
2. A high-deductible health plan would lower your health care premiums. To take advantage of this you would want to also set up and fund a health savings account (HSA) where you can place pre-tax dollars to await any deductibles or uncovered health care expenses that might occur later.
3. One example could be depositing \$4000 into a 401(k) plan annually. Doing so would reduce your taxes for the year by \$1000 if you were in the 25 percent tax bracket ( $\$4000 \times 0.25$ ). Thus, in effect, you are only contributing \$3000 and the government is providing the other \$1000.
4. The first way would be to tax shelter any funds put into the programs. The second would be a sheltering of the income earned over the years from the interest or dividends earned by the assets invested in the plan.

#### LO1.6

1. A professional financial planner differs from a local lawyer or insurance person in that they are professionally trained and certified in all areas of a client's financial life and develops plans and strategies that take all areas into account.
2. Financial planners can be compensated solely from the commissions from the sale of financial products. They can be compensated by an up-front fee plus commissions from financial products they might sell. They can be compensated by an annual or hourly fee that might be offset if the client purchases financial products from the planner. Finally, they can be compensated solely from the fee they charge their clients for the services provided.
3. Two professional certification programs for financial planners are the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor (NRFA) programs. Both require passage of an exam or exams, a minimum number of years of experience, continuing education in the field, and adherence to a code of ethics.

4. Answers may vary, but three of the most important questions are the professional experiences of the planner, how the planner is compensated, and the planner's qualifications to practice financial planning.

## **WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND NOW?**

1. Jing should participate in her employer's plan because her contributions reduce her taxable income and will grow tax sheltered until withdrawn at retirement. By doing so, she will qualify for her employer contributions, thereby receiving additional tax-sheltered income that will go directly into her retirement account. If Jing contributed 8 percent of her salary, her employer would match it with 4 percent for a total of 12 percent. Her total contribution would be \$9600 based on her salary of \$80,000.
2. Jing should use her marginal tax rate to assess how changes in her income and the financial decisions she will make would be affected by taxes. For every extra dollar that she contributes to her retirement plan for example she will save \$0.25 in taxes if she is in the 25 percent tax bracket. Also, if she earns an extra dollar it will be taxed at her marginal rate.
3. Jing should stay informed about economic trends as indicated in changes in the gross domestic product, index of leading economic indicators, and consumer price index. She should also keep track of the federal funds rate as an indicator of interest rates in the economy. She should be able to make her own estimate for economic growth, inflation, and interest rates over the next couple of years.
4. Jing could use Appendix A.1 to calculate how much her IRA fund (currently \$2000) would grow in 40 years. She would need to assume a rate of return on the funds. An 8 to 10 percent rate would be appropriate given the investment opportunities available to her in her IRA. At 8 percent, her account would be worth about \$43,450 ( $21.7245 \times \$2000$ ).
5. Jing could use Appendix A.3 to calculate how much her contributions would grow in 40 years. She would need to assume a rate of return on the funds. An 8 percent rate would be appropriate given the investment opportunities available to her in her 401(k). At 8 percent, her account would be worth about \$2,486,942 ( $259.0565 \times \$9600$ ; \$6400 of Jing's money and \$3200 from her employer).

## **LET'S TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Answers will vary depending on the student's own financial situation. Tax cuts may help students in the lower tax brackets. Efforts to revive the economy will help students keep or obtain jobs. Education related credits will help college students. Efforts to help people buy their first home will help students who might be so interested.
2. The economy is in a period of slow growth at the time this edition was published. The gross domestic product is edging up and inflation is low. Interest rates are low but credit is not so easy to obtain for persons with a poor credit history. The unemployment rate is declining slightly. Many people are concerned that many of the newly created jobs are low wage or part-time.

3. Eleven mistakes that people make in personal finance are failing to (1) engage in long-term personal financial planning, (2) engage in long-term budgeting, (3) engage in short-term budgeting, (4) establish a cash reserve in case of emergencies, (5) save at a rate that is sufficiently high, (6) establish adequate insurance protection, (7) manage income tax liabilities advantageously, (8) limit credit card debt, (9) manage expenditures so as to prevent unexpected expenditures on a credit card, (10) engage in investment planning, and (11) engage in retirement and estate planning. All eleven mistakes are important. The three most important mistakes are saving at a rate that is too low, and inadequate retirement and estate planning. Americans generally save at a rate that is very low. If you save just 1 percent more of your pay, you will reap a high return at retirement. Also, if you withdraw money from your tax-sheltered retirement plan before retirement, you will have a substantial shortfall when it comes time to retire.
4. This is a potential “*Do It In Class*” exercise related to page 12 in the text.

The Federal Reserve Board might be persuaded to lower interest rates if the economy is in a downturn, a trough or even in the early stages of a recovery. The goal would be to make borrowing easier and provide a boost to the economy.

5. Students examples of decisions in personal finance that have opportunity costs will vary. Each should focus not on the direct cost of the decision but the lost opportunity that resulted from making the decision.
6. Students options will vary by their financial circumstances. Common options might include paying off debt, paying future schooling costs or beginning a retirement savings program.

## DO THE MATH

1. This is a potential “*Do It In Class*” exercise related to page 12 in the text.

Joshua received a \$1800 raise. As a percentage of his pre-raise income that was a raise of 4.1 percent ( $\$1,800/\$44,000 \times 100$ ). His real inflation adjusted income after the raise is \$45,552 ( $\$45,800/1.028$ ). As a percentage his real raise was 1.3 percent ( $4.1\% - 2.8\%$ )

2. This is a potential “*Do It In Class*” exercise related to page 19 in the text.

Assuming an average inflation rate of 3 percent and an equal cost-of-living raise, Chun’s salary in 10 years will be \$72,570 ( $\$54,000 \times 1.3439$ ). In 20 years she could anticipate earning \$97,529 ( $\$54,000 \times 1.8061$ ). To make real economic progress, Chun must receive raises greater than each year’s rate of inflation. Otherwise, Chun is essentially standing still because his raises will be required to compensate for the inflationary increase in the cost of living.

3.
  - a. Assuming a 4 percent increase over the next 3 years, Megan’s tuition, fees, and books will cost \$24,748 ( $\$22,000 \times 1.1249$ ).
  - b. Assuming an inflation rate of 3 percent, the scholarship is really worth \$4854 in today’s dollars ( $\$5000 \times 0.9709$ ).



- c. With an annual contribution of \$2400 and an expected return of 4 percent, in 3 years Megan's savings will total \$7492 ( $\$2400 \times 3.1216$ ).
  - d. Assuming a 2 percent interest rate, the stream of payments from Megan's aunt is presently worth \$2884 ( $\$1000 \times 2.8839$ ).
4. This is a potential "*Do It In Class*" exercise related to page 19 in the text.
- e. The future value of \$4000 in 4 years, assuming a 5 percent rate of return, would be \$4862 ( $\$4000 \times 1.2155$ ).
  - f. Assuming a 6 percent return, \$1500 saved each year for 3 years would be \$4775 ( $\$1500 \times 3.1836$ ).
  - g. The \$1200 would grow to \$5020 ( $\$1200 \times 4.1836$ ) after four years at 3 percent and \$5096 ( $\$1200 \times 4.2465$ ) at 4 percent. The difference is \$76.
  - h. One would need to invest \$1727 now in order to have \$2000 in 3 years, assuming a 5 percent return ( $\$2000 \times 0.8638$ ).
- 5.
- a. One would need to invest \$44,160 now in order to withdraw \$6000 per year for 10 years, assuming a 6 percent return ( $\$6000 \times 7.3602$ ).
  - b. \$8,000 in 5 years is the better choice because the future value of \$5000 in 5 years, assuming an 8 percent return, is \$7347 ( $\$5000 \times 1.4693$ ).
  - c. One would need to invest \$2376 now in order to have \$3000 in 4 years, assuming a 7 percent return ( $\$3000 \times 0.7921$ ).
  - d. The \$50,000 investment will last approximately 12 years if it earns 6 percent and \$6000 is withdrawn annually ( $\$50,000/\$6000 = 8.33$ —look for the factor 8.33 in the 6 percent column of the present value of a stream of equal payments table; Appendix A-4).
6. This is a potential "*Do It In Class*" exercise related to page 12 in the text.
- The 3.5 percent inflation resulted in a \$1820 reduction in purchasing power for Laureen ( $1.035 \times \$52,000$ ) minus \$52,000. The 1 percent deflation would result in \$420 increase in purchasing power for Lauren ( $0.01 \times \$52,000 = \$520$ ).
7. This is a potential "*Do It In Class*" exercise related to page 23 in the text.
- Ramon will save \$570 ( $\$3000 \times 0.19$ ) if he is in the 15 percent federal income tax bracket and with a state income tax of 4 percent. He would save \$870 ( $\$2000 \times 0.29$ ) if he was in the 25 percent federal income tax bracket. Note that there are no savings related to the Social Security payroll taxes when one tax-shelters income.
8. To calculate the years until an investment would double, divide the rate into 72. For 2 percent it would be 36 years, 4 percent would be 18 years, 6 percent would be 12 years, 8 percent would be 9 years, and 10 percent would be 7.2 years.
9. This is a potential "*Do It In Class*" exercise related to page 21 in the text.

The investment would double in about 10.3 years ( $72/7$ ). It would take about 15 years for the investment to triple. For this tripling time use Appendix A-1 and in the 7 percent column look for the year that most closely approximates a factor of 3.

## FINANCIAL PLANNING CASES

### CASE 1: Harry and Belinda Johnson Consider Inflation and Children

- a)  $\$2232 = \$3000 \times 0.7441$ .
- b)  $\$374,630 = \$16,000 \times 23.4144$ .

### CASE 2: Victor and Maria Hernandez Look at Future Income

- a)  $\$132,264 = \$4000 \times 33.0660$ .
- b)  $\$151,518 = \$85,000 \times 1.8061$

### CASE 3: Julia Price Thinks about the Economy

The response to this question will vary depending upon the state of the economy when the students respond to this question. The student's response should include valid rationale, such as recent changes in the inflation rate, rising/lowering gross domestic product data, increasing/decreasing unemployment rate, and changes in the consumer confidence index.

### CASE 4: Reasons to Study Personal Finance

Samantha will benefit from acquiring financial knowledge because this knowledge will enable her to make more intelligent decisions about how to spend or invest money and help her to eventually acquire some degree of personal wealth. Samantha will learn about recordkeeping and budgeting, banking and credit use, saving and borrowing, protecting her income and assets, and planning for retirement and estate transfer.

### CASE 5: A Closer Look at Financial Success

Financial success is defined by the individual or family that seeks it. Success is the achievement of financial aspirations that are desired, planned, or attempted. Financial happiness is the experience you have when you are satisfied about money matters. People who are happy about their finances will see a spillover into positive feelings about life in general.

A speaker could discuss the financial building blocks as including a foundation of a regular income to support your lifestyle and save for desired goals in the future. The foundation supports a base of various banking accounts, insurance protection, and employee benefits. Then you can establish goals, a recordkeeping system, a budget, and an emergency savings fund. You will also manage various expenses such as for housing and transportation and the payment of taxes. You will also need to handle credit, savings, and educational costs. Finally, you invest in various investment alternatives such as mutual funds, stocks, and bonds, often for retirement. As a result of all of these building blocks, you are more apt to have a financially successful life.



## **ACTION INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS**

1. Student should prepare a summary of the interview with a financial planner. Expect responses to at least 5 of the questions listed on page 25. Should provide contact information about the planner and his/her business card.
2. Responses are likely to be lacking in detail because workers are more likely to recall that they are enrolled in certain benefits at work rather than the amount of dollars involved. Students should report responses of each person interviewed.
3. A written paragraph about each person should include their thoughts about both opportunity costs (could have spent the money on XYZ?) and marginal costs (for X dollars I obtained Y options on the vehicle).
4. Show table of responses but since people are not likely to know the meaning of each of the 5 terms utilized the summary may be a bit muddled with misconceptions about the terms.

# CHAPTER 1

## Understanding Personal Finance

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize the keys to achieving financial success.
2. Understand how the economy affects your personal financial success.
3. Think like an economist when making financial decisions.
4. Perform time value of money calculations in personal financial decision making.
5. Make smart decisions about your employee benefits.
6. Identify the professional certifications of providers of financial advice.

### LECTURE OUTLINE

Introduction:

Distinguish between being financially literate and being financially responsible.

To-do-soon!

1. Get up to date on future economic conditions by going to [www.conference-board.org](http://www.conference-board.org) to read their expectations for economic growth.
  2. Do some time value of money calculations until you are comfortable using them.
  3. Harness the power of compounding by starting early to save a consistent amount each month for a long-term goal.
  4. When employed take advantage of tax sheltering through your employer's benefits program.
  5. Use marginal and opportunity costs when making an important financial decision.
- 
- 1.1. Achieving personal financial success.
    - 1.1a. The five fundamental steps in the financial planning process.
    - 1.1b. You must plan for financial success and happiness.
    - 1.1c. You must spend less so you can save and invest more.
    - 1.1d. What you will accomplish studying personal finance?
      - >Figure 1-1 shows the building blocks to financial success
      - >Figure 1-2 shows how to get your financial house in order by age 30
    - 1.1e. Replace you obsolete knowledge.

#### Concept Check 1.1

1. Explain the five fundamental steps in the financial planning process.
  2. Distinguish among financial success financial security, and financial happiness.
  3. Summarize what you will accomplish studying personal finance.
  4. What are the building blocks to achieving financial success?
- 
- 1.2. The economy affects your personal financial success.
    - 1.2a. How to tell where we are in the business cycle.
    - 1.2b. The business cycle
      - >The great recession
      - >The economic future will be expansion
      - >Figure 1-3 shows the phases of the business cycle

## Chapter 1: Understanding Personal Finance

- 1.2c. How to tell the future direction of the economy.
  - >Procyclical indicators
  - >Countercyclical indicators
  - >Leading indicators
- 1.2d. The future direction of inflation and interest rates.
  - >Inflation is the typical economic condition
  - >How inflation is measured
  - >How inflation affects your income
  - >How inflation affects your consumption
  - >Deflation can be bad
  - >Inflation affects borrowing, saving and investing
  - >Track the federal funds rate

### Concept Check 1.2

1. Summarize the phases of the business cycle.
2. Describe two statistics that help predict the future direction of the economy.
3. Give an example of how inflation affects income and consumption.

- 1.3. Think like an economist when making financial decisions.
  - 1.3a. Consider opportunity costs.
  - 1.3b. Identify marginal utility and costs in your decision making.
  - 1.3c. Factor your marginal tax rate into your financial decisions.
  - 1.3d. The very best kind of income is tax-exempt income.
  - 1.3e. Tax-sheltered income is second best.
    - >Figure 1-4 shows the benefits of tax-sheltered returns

### Concept Check 1.3

1. Define opportunity cost and give an example of how opportunity costs might affect your financial decision making.
2. Explain and give an example of how marginal utility and marginal cost makes some financial decisions easier.
3. Describe and give an example of how income taxes can affect financial decision making.

- 1.4. Perform time value of money calculations.
  - 1.4a. There are only two common questions about money.
    - >Simple interest
    - >Compounding is the basis of all time value of money considerations
  - 1.4b. Calculating future values.
    - >Future value of a lump sum
    - >Table 1-1 can be used to make calculations
    - >Figure 1-5 illustrates the future value of a lump sum
    - >Future value of a stream of payments (an annuity)
    - >Figure 1-6 illustrates the future value of a series of deposits
  - 1.4c. Finding present values is called discounting.
    - >Present value of a lump sum
    - >Present value of a stream of payments (an annuity)

### Concept Check 1.4

1. What are the two common questions about money?
2. Explain the difference between simple interest and compound interest, and describe why that difference is critical.

## Chapter 1: Understanding Personal Finance

3. Use Table 1-1 to calculate the future value of (a) \$2000 at 5 percent for four years, (b) \$4500 at 9 percent for eight years, and (c) \$10,000 at 6 percent for ten years.

- 1.5. Make smart money decisions at work.
- 1.5a. Open the new employee orientation package.
  - 1.5b. Choosing tax-free cafeteria plan benefits.
  - 1.5c. Making decisions about employer's flexible spending accounts.
  - 1.5d. Making decisions about employer-sponsored health care plans.
  - 1.5e. Making decisions about participating in employer insurance plans.
  - 1.5f. Making decisions about participating in your employer's retirement plan.
    - >First advantage: Tax-deductible contributions
    - >Second advantage: Employer matching contributions
    - >Third advantage: Employer contributions are not current taxable income
    - >Table 1-2 shows the tax benefits of employer plans
    - >Fourth advantage: Tax-deferred growth
    - >Fifth advantage: Borrowing lets you tap your funds without income taxes
    - >Sixth advantage: Starting early really pays you one million dollars

### Concept Check 1.5

- 1. What is a flexible spending account and what do pretax dollars have to do with it?
- 2. Summarize the benefits of participating in a high-deductible health care plan at work.
- 3. Create a math example of why many employees participate in a tax-sheltered employee benefit plan, such as an HSA or 401(k) plan.
- 4. List two ways you can maximize the benefits from a tax-sheltered retirement program.

- 1.6. Where to seek expert financial advice.
- >Table 1-3 outlines the various providers of financial advice
  - 1.6a. Not every financial advisor has your best interests in mind.
  - 1.6b. How financial planners are compensated.
  - 1.6c. Questions to ask a financial planner.

### Concept Check 1.6

- 1. How does a professional financial planner differ from a local lawyer or insurance person in your community?
- 2. What are the four different ways financial planners may be compensated?
- 3. Describe two professional certification programs for financial planners.
- 4. List three questions that you think every person should ask a financial planner.

### Conclusion:

Engaging in financial planning and implementing those plans, rather than simply earning a high income, is necessary for financial success.

What Do You Recommend Now?

Now that you have read this chapter, what do you recommend to Jing Wang regarding:

- 1. Participating in her employer's 401(k) retirement plan?
- 2. Understanding the effects of her marginal tax rate on her financial decisions?
- 3. Considering the current state of the economy in her personal financial planning?
- 4. Using time value of money considerations to project what her IRA might be worth at age 63?
- 5. Using time value of money considerations to project what her 401(k) plan might be worth at age 63 if she were to participate fully?

## Chapter 1: Understanding Personal Finance

Never ever!

1. Spend more than you earn.
2. Only think about money matters when you have a financial problem.
3. Believe and act upon financial advice from amateurs rather than trust professional sources.

## ENHANCING THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

In addition to the various exercises and discussion items in the text chapter, you might consider the following suggestions for improving student outcomes:

### Application Exercises

1. Allocate classroom time to have the students work in groups or individually on one or more of the end-of-chapter exercises highlighted by the “Do It In Class” icons on pages 33-34 of the Garman/Forgue text. These activities are designed to foster enhanced understanding and analytical skill. To ensure maximized outcomes you can assign reading of the pages indicated in the icons for the chosen exercise(s).
2. Engage in a classroom discussion of one or more of the “Let’s Talk About It” exercises found at the end of the chapter on page 33 of the Garman/Forgue text.
3. Assign as homework one or more of the “Be Your Own Financial Manager” exercises found at the end of the chapter on page 32 of the Garman/Forgue text.
4. Assign as homework one or more of the “Action Involvement” exercises found at the end of the chapter on page 35 of the Garman/Forgue text.
5. Explore the current state of consumer confidence at <http://www.conference-board.org/>.
6. Explore the current state of the economy at the BLS “Economy At a Glance” web page ([www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm](http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm)).
7. Check the most recent report of the index of leading economic indicators at <http://https://www.conference-board.org/data/bcicountry.cfm?cid=1>
8. Have students explore of the time value of money using the Excel templates available on the Garman/Forgue Website at [www.cengage.com/finance/Garman](http://www.cengage.com/finance/Garman). Have them play “what-if” scenarios using different rates, time periods, payments, and so on. For example, implication of saving \$100 versus \$150 a month in a tax-deferred account at 8 percent. See “Do the Math” exercise #3 for more examples.
9. Have the students complete Do the Math exercise #1 but substitute their own projected salary for the figures in the exercise.
10. Review the 14 examples of good financial behaviors listed on page 22 in the Garman/Forgue text. Ask the students to write a short paper on three of the examples that they already practice and three that they plan to put into practice in the next year.
11. Ask the students to write a short paper on how they would personally know that they have attained financial success.
12. Visit the Web site of the Jump\$tart Coalition and explore its reality check interactive assessment of what it costs to live various life styles (<http://www.jumpstart.org/reality-check.html>). Work through various scenarios with your students to illustrate the costs involved.

### Video Clips

Search YouTube, Hulu, Kiplinger.com or Bankrate.com for clips to show in class using terms from this chapter such as those below and others:

Inflation  
Business cycle

## Chapter 1: Understanding Personal Finance

Meet a financial planner  
Leading economic indicators  
Future value of money  
Pay yourself first  
Tax-sheltered retirement plan  
Marginal tax bracket  
Opportunity cost economics  
Federal funds rate  
Consumer price index  
Financial literacy

### Just for Fun

Play some music before and after class. The following songs fit this chapter:

Money by Pink Floyd  
You Never Give Me Your Money by The Beatles  
Money by Jerry Lee Lewis  
Piggy Bank! by Denny Dey