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# Unit 4 - They Want Money

compensate / courteous / dedicate / kin / luxurious / major / minor / obsolete / pardon / seldom

## 4A Introduction

People love money in our society. Bankers want to get paid more and more; rappers brag about the nice cars they have. There's nothing wrong with money, but just remember: If you sit in a giant, beautiful mansion all alone, you're still all alone.

## 4B Song Lyrics

*Breathe in, breathe out, let your body move,  
Money isn't everything; know that it's true.  
These people want "ka-ching"; they want cash,  
But they don't really know what they already have.*

Listen when I'm spitting, man, it's not funny,  
Some people, they only care about money.  
This one dude, Jim, only cares about gems,  
Hardly cares about his **kin**, the people he's related to.  
He's a big lawyer, I mean he's **major**, dude,  
More important than the others; yeah, he paid his dues.  
He's trying to run things like Suge Knight,  
He's got three kids who barely know what he looks like.  
He's **seldom** home, barely ever  
Is he with his family? No, almost never.  
He's like, "Kids, I'll make it up to you and **compensate**  
For the fact that you haven't seen me in eight days.  
I'll take you to Disneyland this spring,  
Just as soon as I finish up a few big things."  
Then spring comes, and now Jim is so rich,  
But he still has no time to take a trip with his kids.  
"Kids, won't you **pardon** me, forgive me, please,  
Let me off the hook, I'll buy you DVDs.  
I'll buy you new iPods; just don't feel bad,"  
But the kids just want to spend time with their dad.



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*Hook*

I know this lady named Bree, and she doesn't have much,  
Just a few **minor** things, pretty small, not much.  
She cleans houses for a living, mopping the floors,  
Her own home is probably smaller than yours.  
But she has **dedicated**, promised and given  
Her whole life to chilling with friends and children.  
She's more than **courteous**, more than polite,  
She shows people love; yeah, she's just that nice.  
She's not just chasing paper with presidents' faces,  
She's taking time to chill in the quietest places.  
She's not bothered  
By the fact that she can't wear Gucci and Prada;  
She doesn't even want to.  
She's like: Why chase fashion on the streets,  
When it just gets dropped in a couple weeks?  
Then it's **obsolete**, doesn't work anymore,  
Then you have to take your money, head back to the store.  
She doesn't get angry and furious  
At people who are making their lives **luxurious**,  
You know, rich foods, fancy cars,  
But money won't make you a star.  
So go ahead and chase money, but know this fact:  
Money's not your friend; it doesn't have your back.  
Money's not your friend; it doesn't have your back.  
Money's not your friend; it doesn't have your back.

*Hook*

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## 4C Words Defined

compensate / courteous / dedicate / kin / luxurious / major / minor / obsolete / pardon / seldom

### compensate

**(verb)** To make up for; to pay in exchange for work. *The movie started 30 minutes late, but the theater **compensated** for that by giving us all free popcorn.*

Other forms: You deserve **compensation** (noun) for all the hard work you've been doing.

### courteous

**(adj)** Considerate toward others; polite. *Renald is the kind of **courteous** guy who always holds open the door.*

Other forms: When the mayor visited our classroom, we showed him a lot of **courtesy** (noun).

### dedicate

**(verb)** 1. To set aside for a certain purpose. *My mom has **dedicated** her whole life to helping blind people lead normal lives.* 2. To offer something (like a piece of music, an award, or a book) to a certain person or cause. *I'd like to **dedicate** this next song to my cat, Mr. Snuggles.*

Other forms: The goalie played for two hours in the rain, which showed her amazing **dedication** (noun) to the sport.

### kin

**(noun)** A person's relatives. *Jimmy, Joey, Johnny, Jeffy, Jenny, and I are all **kin**.*

### luxurious

**(adj)** Providing ease and comfort far beyond what is necessary. *Once my album starts selling, I'm going to move out of this little house and into a **luxurious** mansion in Hollywood.*

Other forms: To me it's just normal, but my grandfather thinks that TV is a **luxury** (noun).



**luxurious**

### major

**(adj)** Great in size, number, or importance. *The election of Barack Obama as the first African-American president of the United States was one of the most **major** events I've ever lived through.*

**(noun)** A rank in the military. *Dennis saluted the **major** as she walked into the room.*

### minor

**(adj)** Small, unimportant. *It's just a **minor** thing, but could you please stop tapping your foot?*

**(noun)** Someone who is not legally an adult. *Because we are **minors**, we aren't allowed to vote yet.*

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**obsolete**

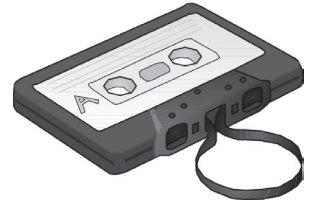
**(adj)** No longer in wide use because it is out of date. *Some people think that CDs made cassette tapes and records obsolete.*

**pardon**

**(verb)** To forgive. *Please pardon me for being so late.*

**seldom**

**(adverb)** Not often; rarely. *Salvatore seldom plays sports; he prefers to read books instead.*

**obsolete**

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## **4D Synonyms**

*Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.*

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1. no longer in use	obsolete	courteous	luxurious
2. relatives	compensation	kin	courtesy
3. rarely	minor	major	seldom
4. to make up for	compensate	pardon	dedicate
5. great in importance	minor	obsolete	major

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### **4E Fill in the Blank**

*Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.*

1. Virgil has decided to \_\_\_\_\_ his life to being a superhero.

**compensate****dedicate****pardon**

2. Our bus had a \_\_\_\_\_ accident on the way to school, but it's okay—no one was hurt.

**luxurious****obsolete****minor**

3. My grandmother thinks it's \_\_\_\_\_ to keep your elbows off the table, but that seems like a silly rule to me.

**courteous****seldom****luxurious**

4. Chico refuses to \_\_\_\_\_ Jessica for hurting his feelings until she apologizes to him.

**pardon****dedicate****compensate**

5. Karen gets on my nerves because she's such a \_\_\_\_\_ whiner; I have no idea what it takes to make her happy!

**major****seldom****courteous**

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## **4F Connections**

*Each sentence has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.*

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1. I forgave my brother for breaking my baseball bat.

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2. If you give me some candy today, I'll pay you back tomorrow.

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3. The Fourth of July is a very important date in American history.

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4. Mr. Collins is the most devoted teacher I've ever seen.

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5. Brittany rarely has to do any housework ever.

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## **4G Applying Meanings**

*Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.*

1. What would be a **luxurious** birthday present?

- (A) nothing
- (B) a pair of socks
- (C) a diamond necklace
- (D) a donation to a charity

2. Who would be **kin** to a kitten?

- (A) the kitten's mother
- (B) a mouse
- (C) a pet store worker
- (D) a dog

3. Which of these machines is **obsolete**?

- (A) the pickup truck
- (B) the computer
- (C) the telegraph
- (D) the lawn mower

4. What is a **courteous** thing to say?

- (A) "See you later."
- (B) "I love to play tennis!"
- (C) "You are such a jerk."
- (D) "Thank you very much!"

5. Which of these is a **minor**?

- (A) a steam shovel
- (B) a two-year-old
- (C) a parrot
- (D) a teacher



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## 4H Reading

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

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# We Need Help!

The United States of America is one of the richest nations in the world. Many people move here from other countries. They know that their children will have a better life if they live in America. Most Americans believe that if you work hard, you will be well **compensated**. And most of the time, that is true.

However, it is not true for everyone. There are many people in our country who do not make enough money. They are often people just like you and me who have had some bad luck. Maybe they have had a **major** accident that prevents them from working. Or maybe they made some bad choices in their lives. Whatever happened to them, or whatever they did, they deserve to be treated like human beings.

The government has programs for people who do not make much money. People can get money from the government to help pay for food and a place to live. The government does not give people enough to live **luxuriously**, but it is usually enough to help a little. Unfortunately, the government needs help, too. It costs a lot of money to help people. There is a solution, though: volunteers!

To volunteer is to **dedicate** your time to something without asking for money in return. There are many ways to volunteer. You can work in a place that feeds homeless people. You can visit older people who do not have any **kin** left.

Today, 27% of Americans help others by volunteering. This figure is pretty high, but it could be much higher. Even if you are a **minor**, you can still make a difference. There are many ways to volunteer to help your community. And whatever you do, it will be appreciated!



1. According to the passage, why do many people move to America?

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2. What are two reasons explaining why people might not have enough money?

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3. What are some things the government can help pay for?

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4. According to the passage, what are some ways to volunteer?

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5. What percentage of Americans volunteer?

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## **4I Thinking Creatively**

Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

1. What's a **luxury** item that you wish you owned?

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2. What are some slang words that you think are **obsolete**?

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3. What is a **minor** miner?

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4. What would be a good song to **dedicate** to your best friend and why?

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5. What famous person do you wish were your **kin**?

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## **Word Breakdown**

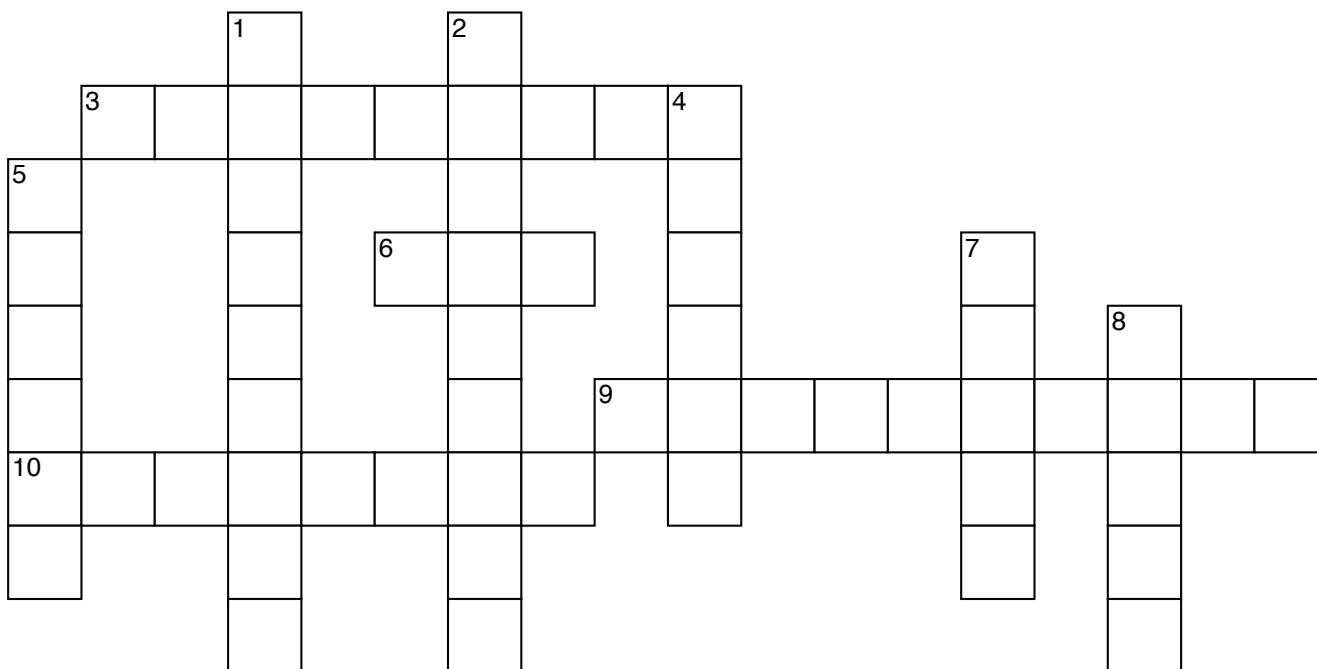
Does it seem like your electronics only last a few years? This might not be an accident! The word *obsolescence* means "the state of becoming *obsolete*." Some electronics companies build their equipment with *planned obsolescence* in mind. This means they purposefully make their electronics stop working after a few years so that you will have to buy new ones. How sneaky is that?

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## Bonus: Crossword Puzzle

Solve this crossword puzzle. Note: Some answers may be different forms of the vocab words from this unit.

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### ACROSS

- 3 It would be \_\_\_\_\_ if you sent your cousin a "thank you" note for her nice present.
- 6 Family.
- 9 If you have to pay for a doctor with your own money, your health insurance company should \_\_\_\_\_ you.
- 10 No longer in use; out of date.

### DOWN

- 1 Mandy lives in the most \_\_\_\_\_ house I've ever seen; she has two bedrooms all to herself!
- 2 The singer \_\_\_\_\_ the birthday girl's favorite song to her.
- 4 Grant is \_\_\_\_\_ bored because he has a great imagination.
- 5 Some people say, "\_\_\_\_\_ me!" when they sneeze.
- 7 I'm not allowed to see the R-rated movie because I'm a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 It was a \_\_\_\_\_ victory when I brought my grade from a D to an A.