

# Balanced Budgets Board Game

## Activity Type

Vocabulary Exercises:  
matching, binary choice

Vocabulary Game: gap-  
fill, controlled practice  
(group work)

## Focus

Finance and budget  
collocations

## Aim

To learn and practice  
collocations related to  
finance and budgets.

## Preparation

Make one copy of the  
worksheet for each  
student.

Also, make one copy  
of the game board and  
cards for each group of  
three. Cut the cards as  
indicated and provide  
a dice and counters for  
each group.

## Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

## Time

40 minutes

## Introduction

Here is a business collocations board game and worksheet to help students learn and practice collocations related to finance and budgets.

## Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

To begin, students match finance and budget collocations with their definitions.

Exercise A - Answer key

1. b 2. i 3. l 4. j 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. e 9. h 10. o  
11. n 12. k 13. f 14. g 15. m

Students then complete sentences by underlining the correct collocation.

Exercise B - Answer key

1. finance regulations	5. attracted investors
2. increase revenue	6. tracking spending
3. secure funding	7. net profit
4. pay taxes	8. balance a business's budget

Next, divide the students into groups of three.

Give each group a copy of the game board, a set of sentence cards, a dice and counters.

Ask the students to shuffle the cards and place them face-down in a pile next to the game board.

Students begin by placing their counters on the start square.

Students then take turns picking up a card from the top of the pile and reading the sentence to the student on their right using the word 'blank' for the missing collocation, e.g. 'Businesses have to BLANK on their profits to the government.'

The other student listens to the sentence, chooses a suitable collocation from the game board, and says it aloud in its correct form to complete the sentence, e.g. pay taxes.

If the student says the correct collocation shown on the card, they roll the dice and move their counter along the board.

If the student gives a wrong answer, they don't roll the dice.

The card is then put at the bottom of the pile and the next student picks up a card, and so on.

The first student to reach the finish wins the game.

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

## Balanced Budgets Board Game




### A. Match the finance and budget collocations with their definitions.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <b>Finance regulations</b> .....     | a. Get sources of money to support a business.              |
| 2. <b>Net profit</b> .....              | b. Government rules that control financial activities.      |
| 3. <b>Manage costs</b> .....            | c. Make careful decisions about how to grow your money.     |
| 4. <b>Increase revenue</b> .....        | d. Ensure income is equal to or greater than expenses.      |
| 5. <b>Balance a budget</b> .....        | e. Give a part of your profits to the government.           |
| 6. <b>Invest wisely</b> .....           | f. Totally repay money that was borrowed.                   |
| 7. <b>Secure funding</b> .....          | g. Achieve the money-related goals of a business.           |
| 8. <b>Pay taxes</b> .....               | h. Convince people to give money to support a business.     |
| 9. <b>Attract investors</b> .....       | i. Total money gained after all expenses and taxes.         |
| 10. <b>Track spending</b> .....         | j. Generate more money for a business.                      |
| 11. <b>Reinvest profits</b> .....       | k. Discuss and agree on the cost of buying something.       |
| 12. <b>Negotiate prices</b> .....       | l. Control spending to save money.                          |
| 13. <b>Pay off a debt</b> .....         | m. Money moving into and out of a business's accounts.      |
| 14. <b>Meet financial targets</b> ..... | n. Returning profits into a business to develop it further. |
| 15. <b>Cash flow</b> .....              | o. Keep a careful record of the money a business spends.    |

### B. Underline the correct collocation to complete each sentence.

- The government made new *finance regulations* / *cash flow* to control how banks lend money.
- The restaurant introduced a new menu to attract more customers and *invest wisely* / *increase revenue*.
- The charity organisation managed to *secure funding* / *reinvest profits* for their new project from several big companies.
- Every year, individuals and businesses need to *pay off a debt* / *pay taxes* to the government.
- The small company *negotiated prices* / *attracted investors* by showing them their plans for growth.
- The company avoids overspending by *tracking spending* / *meeting financial targets*.
- After all expenses were paid, the *cash flow* / *net profit* for the company was \$1 million.
- One of an accountant's main roles is to *secure a business's funding* / *balance a business's budget* by making sure that the money spent is equal to or less than the money received.

# Balanced Budgets Board Game

			Move Back One Space		FINISH
					
	Move Forward Two Spaces				
<div>  <p><b>Finance and Budget Collocations</b></p> <p>negotiate prices    pay off a debt    meet financial targets</p> <p>cash flow    attract investors    track spending</p> <p>reinvest profits    invest wisely    secure funding</p> <p>manage costs    increase revenue    balance a budget</p> <p>net profit    finance regulations    pay taxes</p> </div>					
					Move Back Two Spaces
Move Forward One Space					
					START

## Balanced Budgets Board Game



The government's **finance regulations** make sure business conditions are fair for all companies.

After all expenses were paid, the **net profit** for the month was enough to invest in a new company vehicle.

**Managing costs** means finding ways to spend less without reducing the quality of the product.

Adding new products helped the shop **increase revenue** by attracting more customers.

Because expenses were higher than profits this year, the company could not **balance their budget**.

By **investing wisely** in new technology, the company increased productivity and profits.

Businesses cannot grow unless they **secure funding** from investors for new projects.

Businesses have to **pay taxes** on their profits to the government.

A well-thought-out business plan can **attract investors** by showing the company's potential for growth and profitability.

By **tracking spending**, businesses can understand if they are wasting money or not.

The quickest way to develop a business is to **reinvest profits** back into the company.

The buyer **negotiated prices** with suppliers to get the best deal for the company.

After **paying off a debt** to a bank, a company is in a better position to start making a profit.

The finance team worked hard to **meet financial targets** set by the board of directors.

The company monitors its **cash flow** to avoid running out of cash.

**Finance regulations** help keep businesses honest and protect people's money.

## Balanced Budgets Board Game



Having a **net profit** at the end of the year shows that a business is successfully getting more money than it is spending.

When making large orders, companies often try to **negotiate prices** with the seller to save money.

The company asked its marketing team to find ways to **increase revenue** by improving online sales.

Companies **balance a budget** by making sure costs are lower than money received through sales.

**Investing wisely** means putting money where it is most likely to grow.

The new company needs to **secure funding** from investors before it can make its product.

The company did not **pay taxes** to the government last year because it failed to make a profit.

The company's exciting new idea **attracted investors** who wanted to help make it happen.

Modern software systems help companies **track spending**, carefully recording money that is used by the business.

The company decided to **reinvest profits** into growing the business, spending money on hiring staff and increasing production.

The company **managed costs** by buying only what was needed.

After years of hard work, the business finally **paid off the debt** to the bank.

Even though the sales team increased its sales for the year, the company did not **meet financial targets** it hoped to achieve.

The company suffered **cash flow** problems because it used most of its money to invest in property and didn't have enough cash left.