Lesson Description

This lesson focuses on features and costs associated with checking accounts. Students will learn about overdraft protection options and how to record and calculate checking account transactions which include debit cards, checks, transfers, fees, and deposits. Once the students understand how to record transactions, they will play a game that simulates real-life transactions while keeping a running balance in a check register. Through this simulation, students will learn the value of keeping track of their money.

Students will then compare the features and costs of specific checking accounts offered by four different financial institutions and decide which choice is best for each given fictional character.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (Target standards)

- PFL Math 6.14A: compare the features and costs of a checking account and a debit card offered by different local financial institutions;
- **PFL Math 6.14C:** balance a check register that includes deposits, withdrawals, and transfers

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (Prerequisite standards)

- Math 6.1 Mathematical process standards
- Math 6.3D Add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers fluently

National Standards (Supporting standards)

 CCSS Math 6.NS.2: fluently add and subtract multi-digit decimals using the standard algorithm for each operation.

CCSS - Common Core State Standards

Time Required

Three 45-minute classes

PFL Terms

- Check register
- Debit
- Deposit
- Balance
- Transaction
- Withdrawal
- Insufficient funds
- Overdraft fee
- ATM Surcharge

Materials Required

- A copy of Visual 6.2-1, 6.2-2 and 6.2-3
- A copy for each student of **Activity 6.2-1** for each student
- A copy for each student of Activity 6.2-2a for each student
- A copy for each student of **Activity 6.2-2b** for each pair of students





- A copy for each student of Activity 6.2-3 for each student
- An Exit Ticket for each student
- A pair of scissors for students

Procedure

Engage

- 1. Have the students take out two blank sheets of paper. Model each step as directions are given. Direct them to draw a financial institution in the center of the first page. On the left side of the page write "Deposit". On the right side of the page write "Withdrawal". (See sample drawing after step 3.)
- 2. Explain that consumers open checking accounts at financial institutions to keep their money safe. When the account owner puts money into the account, it is called a deposit. Draw an arrow from the word "Deposit" to the bank. Ask: What do you think happens to the account when a deposit is made? (The money in the account increases.) Why? (Since you are putting money in the account, the amount increases.) Write the word "in" on the arrow. What mathematical operation does a deposit represent? (addition) Write a plus sign below the arrow. Explain that deposits can be made in several ways. Then read the examples below.
 - Cash or check(s) is given to a bank teller with an account number on a deposit slip.
 - Cash or check(s) is inserted into a night deposit box with an account number on a deposit slip.
 - Money is transferred into an account. For example, many working people have their paycheck automatically deposited.

Explain

- 3. Explain that when the account owner takes money out of the account, it is called a withdrawal. Draw an arrow from the bank to the word "Withdrawal". Ask: What do you think happens to the account when a withdrawal is made? (The money in the account decreases.) Why? (Since you are taking money out of the account, the amount decreases.) Write the word "out" on the arrow pointing to the word "Withdrawal". What mathematical operation does a withdrawal represent? (subtraction) Write a minus sign below the arrow. Explain that money can be withdrawn many ways. Then read the examples below.
 - An account owner writes a check to purchase a good or service.
 - An account owner makes a purchase with an ATM or debit card.
 - An account owner gets money out of an ATM.
 - An account owner uses online banking to pay bills.







4. For the second blank sheet, have the students fold a crease down the shortest line of symmetry. Direct them to write a large "W" for withdrawal on one side of the crease and write a large "D" for deposit on the other side. Tear the paper along the crease.

Evaluate

- 5. Display **Visual 6.2.1** and cover up the bulleted items. Tell students that when money is withdrawn or deposited from a checking account, it is called a transaction. As each transaction is read, they are to hold up the appropriate sign: "W" or "D". Uncover one bulleted item at a time and read to the students. Scan the signs to check for understanding. To follow-up on each response, have students identify code words that support their response.
 - Debbie paid her rent by writing a \$400 check to her landlord. (Withdrawal)
 - Money is automatically transferred into Debbie's checking account for earnings from her job. (Deposit)
 - Debbie went shopping for some treats for her dog, Bruno, and a new leash at Pet City. When she checked out, she entered her personal identification number (PIN) at the register and paid with the debit card. (Withdrawal)
 - Debbie wanted cash to pay for the cost of a movie ticket and popcorn. She stopped at an ATM machine, entered a code and took cash out of the machine. (Withdrawal)
 - Debbie received two checks for her birthday. She went to her bank, filled out a slip and gave the check to the bank teller. (Deposit)

Explain

- 6. Display **Visual 6.2.2.** Discuss each vocabulary term with the students. Use the graphic organizer to explain what could happen if there are not enough funds in the account to pay for a transaction. Use the descriptions below to explain the graphic organizer.
 - Overdraft protection with overdraft fee When a checking account is opened, the account owner chooses if he or she wants overdraft protection. With overdraft protection, an overdraft fee will be charged if the payment with a check, debit card or online transfer is greater than the amount in the account. The bank will cover the transaction for a fee between \$20 and \$30 for each time there is an overdraft. Let's say Debbie had \$395 in her checking account when the \$400 rent check was processed. If she has overdraft protection, her financial institution will loan her the \$5 overdraft to cover the payment and charge her an overdraft fee. If her financial institution charges \$25 for each overdraft, what is Debbie's balance? (negative thirty dollars; \$395 - \$400 = -\$5; -\$5 - \$25 = -\$30) If Debbie then used her debit card to purchase supplies for her dog without making a deposit, her financial institution would charge her another \$25. So, why is this called an overdraft protection? In the case with the landlord, the financial institution has protected Debbie from having a returned check fee. A returned check fee is fee a landlord or store charges for a bounced check. In the case with the pet store, the financial institution gave her the ability to make a purchase.
 - Overdraft protection linked to a savings account With this option, given that there





are insufficient funds to cover a payment, money is transferred from the account owner's savings account to cover the payment.

- Transaction denied If the account owner chooses not to have overdraft protection, payments from the checking account with insufficient funds will be denied. Read the examples below.
 - If there are insufficient funds and the account owner tries to withdraw cash from an ATM with his or her debit card, a message will appear on the ATM screen indicating that there are insufficient funds and the transaction will be denied.
 - o If there are insufficient funds and the account owner tries to make a purchase with his or her debit card, the cashier will receive a message that there are insufficient funds and the transaction will be denied.
 - If there are insufficient funds and the account owner writes a check or makes an online payment, the payment will be denied. The account owner may be charged a return check fee from the merchant.
- To better understand overdraft protection and bounced checks go to: http://www.federalreserve.gov/pubs/bounce/ and http://www.federalreserve.gov/consumerinfo/wyntk overdraft.htm
- 7. Explain that each of these options has its advantages and disadvantages. The account owner will need to decide which option works best for him or her. The best option for the account owner is not to make a purchase if there is not enough money in the account. How can an account owner avoid having insufficient funds? (The account owner should keep track of the money going in and out the account.)

Explore

- 8. Distribute a copy of **Activity 6.2-1** to each student and display a copy for modeling. Tell the students that they will practice how to keep track of the money in a checking account. Read the directions to the students. Then ask the following questions:
 - a. What is a check register? (A check register is a record of checks, debits, fees, withdrawals, and deposits that are in a checking account. It keeps track of money going in and out of the account.)
 - b. What is the purpose of the balance column? (The balance tells you how much money remains in the account after each transaction.)
 - c. When is an amount subtracted from the balance? (Transactions that involve a withdrawal/payment or fee are subtracted from the balance.)
 - d. Which amounts are added to the balance? (Transactions that involve a deposit are added to the balance.)
- 9. Explain each of the fees listed for SafeMoney Bank and the ATM surcharges for the other financial institutions as they are listed on **Activity 6.2-1**. Use the explanation below to elaborate on each fee.
 - Many financial institutions charge a fee for providing services. Explain that
 SafeMoney charges a \$15 monthly fee for accounts that fall below \$100 and a \$1





monthly fee for debit card service. SafeMoney applies these fees on the last day of each month.

- Consumers who have checking accounts are allowed to choose if they want overdraft protection. Explain that in Max's case, he chose to have overdraft protection. SafeMoney will charge Max \$20 each time the bank pays an overdraft for Max.
- Some financial institutions will offer overdraft protection for ATM withdrawals. In Max's case, SafeMoney will deny any cash withdrawal in which there are insufficient funds.
- An ATM surcharge is a fee that financial institutions charges for using their ATM.
 Most financial institutions only charge non-clients this fee. SafeMoney will not
 charge a transaction fee for using their ATM. However if Max uses another financial
 institution's ATM, that financial institution will charge a fee. This is called a
 surcharge. Go over the surcharges in column 2 for other area ATMs.
- 10. Have different students read a description of the transactions one at a time and identify if the transaction is a withdrawal or a deposit. Require students to explain how they made this determination. Model the recording of each transaction and calculation to determine the balance while students record and balance their copy of the check register. After each transaction is recorded, ask the students to review the fees to determine if a fee is applicable. Record the fee if applicable and recalculate the balance. You may refer to **Key 6.2-1** for answers.
- 11. Reinforce that the last calculated balance in the check register is the amount left in the account and the amount available to spend or save.

Explore

- 12. Divide the class into pairs. Distribute to each student a copy of **Activity 6.2-2a** and a pair of scissors. Distribute one copy of **Activity 6.2-2b** to each pair of students. Have the students cut the cards on **Activity 6.2-2b**, shuffle the cards, and put them face down in one stack on their desk.
- 13. Display Visual 6.2-3 and read the game rules. Then explain each of the special rules.
 - If you write a check for more money than you have in your account, the bank will charge you a fee which is called an overdraft fee. For this game, the charge will be \$20. This means that will you have a negative balance and that you owe money to the bank. Demonstrate the following example. Let say you have a balance of \$12 in your account. You write a check for \$13. The bank uses your \$12 to pay the check and lends you \$1. The bank then charges you \$10 for the loan. Your account balance is now \$-11. (\$12 (balance) \$11 (to pay part of the check transaction) \$1 (for bank loan) \$20 (overdraft fee for insufficient funds) = \$-21.)
 - Point out that for this game, you choose not to have overdraft protection for your debit card. If you use your debit card to purchase goods or service or to withdraw money and you do not have sufficient money in your account, the bank will decline the card. This means you cannot complete the transaction. Put the card in in the discard pile. You lose your turn.





- The surcharges only apply to cash withdrawals. For this game, you will not be charged for using your debit card to purchase goods or services. However, some banks or credit unions may charge for each transaction. The game cards will disclose any surcharge.
- 14. Explain that the goal is to have the greatest account balance. The game ends after all the cards have been drawn or when a player has filled the check register.

Explain

Grade Level: 6

15. At the end of the game, ask: What happens when your checking account balance is low? (You may not be able to make purchases. Or you may be charged an overdraft fee if you make a purchase greater than the balance.) Why is it so important to keep a record of your transactions and balance? (Knowing your balance will help you avoid overdraft fees.)

Elaborate

- 16. Distribute **Activity 6.2-3** to students. Place students in groups of 4-5. Assign each group a name such as A, B, C, etc.
- 17. Tell students that this activity will enable them to compare the features and costs of a checking account offered by different local financial institutions. They will read about the needs and financial habits of each character. Then as a group, they will analyze each financial institution to determine the best choice for each character. Each student will write a rationale for each choice. Although there is no one correct answer, a sample key has been provided.
- 18. Write Ryan, Kalie and Mrs. Rios across the top of the board. Have each group write their group name and the financial institution selection below the name of each character. Lead a class discussion where groups explain their choices. Encourage groups to provide justification why their choice was the best. Challenge students to identify the disadvantages of the selection for their character.

Evaluate/End

19. To end lesson, have students complete **Exit Ticket**.

Extensions:

- Using resources such as the internet and/or flyers from area banks or credit unions have each student create small posters which explain the features and fees for that institution.
 Have the students showcase the benefits that financial institution offers students.
- Students select one of the local financial institutions and set up a mock checking account. Then, search sales circulars in a local newspaper to make mock purchases with a debit card, keeping a record of the account balance as a result of each transaction. In addition, the students would consider any associated fees with the mock transactions.
- Students create and act out a skit, acting as a consumer and bank representative. Using play money, one student attempts to set up a checking account (paying any fees necessary), is granted a debit card, and performs mock transactions (such as deposits, withdrawals, and purchases) keeping a record of the balance in the account throughout the scenario.





Visual 6.2-1

Identify the Bank Transaction

- Debbie paid her rent by writing a \$400 check to her landlord.
- Money is automatically transferred into Debbie's checking account for earnings from her job.
- Debbie went shopping for some treats for her dog, Bruno, and a new leash at Pet City. When she checked out, she entered her personal identification number (PIN) at the register and paid with the debit card.
- Debbie wanted cash to pay for the cost of a movie ticket and popcorn. She stopped at an ATM machine, entered a code and took cash out of the machine.
- Debbie received two checks for her birthday. She went to her bank, filled out a slip and gave the check to the bank teller.





Visual 6.2-2

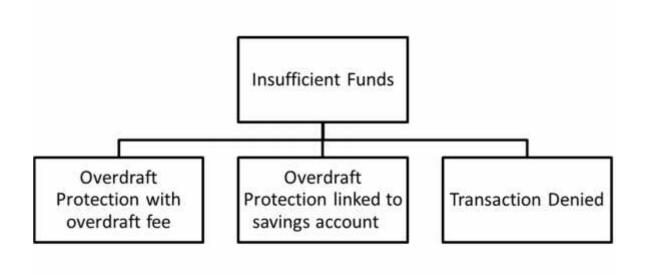
Vocabulary

Transaction: Any activity with money such as a deposit, a withdrawal, or a transfer.

ATM Surcharge: An Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) fee financial institutions charge for withdrawing money.

Insufficient Funds: This term describes the circumstance of not having enough money in a checking account to make a payment or to withdraw money.

Overdraft fee: This is a fee charged by the financial institution for making a purchase against your checking account in which there is not enough money in the account to cover the payment.







Activity 6.2-1

Name

Class Period

Directions: Max has a checking account at SafeMoney Bank. He chose to have overdraft protection. Help Max complete the check register by documenting all of his transactions, dates and check numbers and calculating the balance after each transaction. Be sure to apply the applicable fees charged by SafeMoney Bank. If Max withdraws cash from an ATM other than SafeMoney Bank, he must apply the fees charged for that financial institution.

SafeMoney Bank Terms:

- Monthly service fee of \$15 is applied if the account falls below \$100
- Monthly debit card fee of \$1
- An overdraft fee of \$20 for each overdraft.
- ATM cash withdrawals will be denied if the account has insufficient funds.

ATM Surcharge for Local Financial Institutions:

• MY Credit Union: \$3.00

Wise Bank: \$2.00

Transactions:

- 1. On April 1, Max had a balance of \$62.00.
- 2. On April 5, Max withdrew \$20.00 cash at MY Credit Union ATM.
- 3. On April 11, Max made an online payment to Cell Phone Services for \$42.00.
- 4. On April 13, Max deposited his paycheck for \$88.00.
- 5. On April 16, Max wrote check number 113 to Skate Inc. for \$43 to purchase a skateboard.
- 6. On April 25, Max made a debit card purchase for \$12 at Style Cut to pay for his haircut.
- 7. On April 25, Max deposited \$42. This is the money he received for his birthday and mowing the lawn.
- 8. On April 26, Max withdrew \$20 cash from the ATM at Wise Bank.





Checks and Balances

Max's Check Register

Number or Code	Date	Description of Transaction	Withdra Paymen (-)	t/Fee	-	Depos Credit	sit/ (+)	Balanc	e

Part B

On May 1, Max went to the SafeMoney ATM and tried to withdraw \$40. He was surprised that he didn't have enough money in his account to make this withdrawal. Why might Max think he had enough money?

What advice would you give Max to help him avoid paying unnecessary fees?





Key 6.2-1

Max's Check Register

Number or Code	Date	Description of Transaction	Withdrawal/ Payment/Fee (-)		Deposit/ Credit (+)		Balanc	e
	4/1	Balance					62	00
	4/5	ATM withdrawal at MY C.U.	20	00			42	00
		Surcharge fee	3	00			39	00
	4/11	Cell Phone Services	42	00			-3	00
		Overdraft fee	20	00			-23	00
	4/13	Paycheck			88	00	65	00
113	4/16	Skate Inc	43	00			22	00
	4/25	Style Cut	12	00			10	00
	4/25	Cash			42	00	52	00
	4/26	ATM withdrawal at Wise Bank	20	00			32	00
		Surcharge fee	2	00			30	00
	4/30	Monthly Service fee	15	00			15	00
	4/30	Debit card fee	1	00			14	00

Part B (Sample answers below.)

On May 1, Max went to the SafeMoney ATM and tried to withdraw \$40. He was surprised that he didn't have enough money in his account to make this withdrawal. Why might Max think he had enough money? Max may have forgotten to subtract the monthly service fee or the ATM surcharges for Wise Bank and MY Credit Union. He may have also not subtracted the \$20 overdraft fee on April 11.

What advice would you give Max to help him avoid paying unnecessary fees? <u>Max could</u> use only SafeMoney ATM to avoid unnecessary surcharges. He also needs to keep better records so that he does not pay overdraft fees.





Visual 6.2-3

My Credit Union Game Rules

Shuffle game cards and place them face down in one stack. Each player should have a check register to record his or her transactions. The person with the birthdate latest in the year goes first and the turn to play passes to the next player. Choose the top card in the stack. Document the transaction on your check register. For each transaction, write today's date. For each check withdrawal write a 2-digit check number beginning with 01. Then calculate your balance. Place this card in the discard pile.

The game ends after all the cards have been drawn or when a player has filled the check register. The person with the greatest balance is the winner.

Special rules:

- 1. If you draw a card that is a check withdrawal and you do not have enough money for the transaction, you must subtract the payment as well as an overdraft fee of \$20. Use an additional line to record this overdraft fee if applicable.
- 2. If you use your debit card to purchase a good or service or to withdraw money and you have insufficient funds, the credit union will decline the card. Put the card in in the discard pile. You lose your turn.
- 3. If you withdraw cash using your debit card at a bank or credit union that is not My Credit Union, subtract an additional \$2.00 for ATM surcharge. Use an additional line to record this surcharge if applicable.





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Checks and Balances

Lesson: 2

Activity 6.2-2a

Name

Class Period

MY Credit Union Check Register

Number or Code	Date	Description of Transaction	Withdraw Payment	/al/ (-)	Deposi Credit (t/ +)	Baland	ce
		Beginning balance					150	00
								<u> </u>





Activity 6.2-2b

Name

Class Period

Directions: Cut out game cards.

Received weekly allowance from parents Deposit: \$10.00	Purchased ticket to movies with debit card \$6.00	Automatic withdrawal for gym membership \$12.00
Earnings for mowing neighbor's yard Deposit: \$25.00	Withdrew cash at MY Credit Union's ATM to purchase school supplies and lunch \$20.00	Wrote check for charity donation \$2.00
Debit card purchase for birthday gift for friend \$16.00	Debit card purchase for popcorn and drink at movies \$12.00	Received loan payment from your brother Deposit: \$9.00
Withdrew cash at MY Credit Union's ATM to purchase lunch \$10.00	Debit card purchase for toiletries \$9.00	Wrote check for spirit t-shirt \$12.00
Received birthday money	Withdrew cash at Good Bank's ATM for weekend	Earnings for keeping room clean



Deposit: \$25.00



Deposit: \$3.00

spending money

\$10.00

Electronic purchase for music downloads \$12.00	Earnings for walking neighbor's dog Deposit: \$5.00	Used debit card to rent DVD from store \$3.00
Earnings for babysitting Deposit: \$25.00	Withdrew cash at MY Credit Union's ATM for pocket money \$20.00	Earnings for mowing parents yard Deposit: \$15.00
Monthly bank fee deducted for banking services \$5.00	Withdrew cash at Smile Credit Union's ATM for pocket money \$20.00	Debit card purchase for soccer game tickets \$5.00
Electronic transfer to pay bank loan \$10.00	Wrote check to pay for pet food \$6.00	Received money for birthday Deposit: \$25.00
Withdrew cash at Good Bank's ATM for pocket money \$20.00	Used debit card to buy lunch at sandwich shop \$7.00	Automatic transfer to college savings account \$15.00





Earnings for selling books and toys at garage sale Deposit: \$22.00	Debit card purchase for school supplies \$6.00	Withdrew cash at MY Credit Union's ATM for pocket money \$20.00
Electronic transfer to pay bank loan \$10.00	Debit card purchase for gym shoes \$32.00	Withdrew cash at Smile Credit Union's ATM for pocket money \$10.00
Automatic transfer to college savings account \$15.00	Bought lunch with debit card \$4.00	Wrote check for food drive at school \$4.00
Electronic transfer to pay bank loan \$10.00	Wrote check to pay for school field trip \$8.00	Received money for birthday Deposit: \$20.00
Debit card purchase for calculator purchase \$12.00	Used debit card to buy backpack \$21.00	Received weekly allowance from parents Deposit: \$10.00





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Class Period

Directions: Ryan, Kalie, and Mrs. Rios are shopping for either a new bank or a new credit union in which to open a savings and checking account. Listed below are the financial institutions that are located in their area. Read about Ryan, Kalie, and Mrs. Rios. Then choose the best financial institution for each person. Explain why this is the best choice for this person.

Financial Institution #1:

- Basic Checking with a \$15 monthly service fee
- Senior Checking with a \$5 monthly service fee
- Student Checking with no monthly service fee
- Check fee of \$0.50 for each check processed
- Savings account with a minimum of \$25 to open
- Online bill pay: Free
- Debit cards: Free with all accounts
- Fee of \$1 for using other institutions ATM
- Overdraft Protection option: \$30 overdraft fee

Financial Institution #2:

- Senior Checking: \$10 monthly fee if the monthly average falls below \$100
- Basic Checking with a \$10 monthly fee if the account falls below \$500
- No additional charges for automatic deposit or online banking
- Check fee of \$0.20 for each check processed
- Debit Cards: No monthly fee
- Overdraft Protection option: \$20 overdraft fee for each overdraft

Financial Institution #3:

- Basic Checking with a \$5 monthly service fee
- Check fee of \$0.50 for each check processed
- For each added feature, there is a \$2 per month fee. Possible added features include: savings account, debit card, ebanking, automatic deposit
- Savings account with a minimum of \$100
- Debit Cards: no transaction fee
- Overdraft Protection option: \$30 overdraft fee per overdraft

Financial Institution #4:

- Basic checking account is free with a small \$0.30 fee for each check.
- Gold checking account has a \$5 per month fee with unlimited check writing.
- Savings account with a minimum of \$5 to open
- On-line banking is available for any account for no additional cost
- Debit Cards: \$0.50 charge for each purchase, \$2 fee for each ATM transaction at another location
- Overdraft Protection option: \$25 overdraft fee per overdraft





Ryan is 28 year old plumber. Twice a week he withdrawals cash from his checking account using his debit card. Since he is limited in time, he uses the ATM nearest to him. Ryan pays his bills on the computer. He is looking for a financial institution that accepts automatic deposits. He will also need a savings account. Ryan does a poor job keeping up with his account balance, therefore he sometimes gets overdrawn.



Financial Institution:	Why?	

Kalie is a 19 year old college student who also works parttime as a computer operator. She spends most of her freetime on the computer. She also pays her bills online. She rarely writes checks and enjoys the convenience of using a debit card to pay for items at the store. Once a month, Kalie withdrawals cash for spending money using the ATM at her financial institution. She would like the ability to transfer money from her checking to her college savings account. Kalie has never been overdrawn.



Financial Institution:	Why?	





Mrs. Rios is a retired teacher. She prefers to pay her bills using checks. She prefers to go to the bank and talk to a human teller when making transactions. She visits his financial institution about twice a month to deposit her retirement pension or to withdraw cash. She would like a savings account. Mrs. Rios keeps accurate records of her checking account. When her account gets low, she immediately transfers money from her savings account.



Financial Institution:	Why?	



Sample Key 6.2-4

Ryan: Financial Institution: #2 – Why? Since Ryan uses his debit card, he needs a financial institution that has no fees for debit cards. To use a debit card, Ryan will need a checking account. The fee for basic checking is only \$10 if his monthly balance falls below \$500. There is no charge for online banking and automatic deposit. This financial institution has low overdraft fees.

Kalie: Financial Institution: #1 – This financial institution offers free checking account for students and free online bill pay. Since Kalie has never been overdrawn, the high overdraft fee should not matter.

Mrs. Rios: Financial Institution: #4 – If Mrs. Rios gets the gold check account for \$5 per month, she will not have to worry about how many checks she writes. Since she does not use a debit card, the charges for debit cards will most likely not affect her.





Exit Ticket

List three checking account features that are important to you.

1.

2.

3.

Would overdraft protection be a smart option for a high school student who has a checking account? Explain.

Name:

Period:

Exit Ticket

List three checking account features that are important to you.

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List three checking account features that are important to you.

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Name: Period:

Exit Ticket

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1.

2.

3

Would overdraft protection be a smart option for a high school student who has a checking account? Explain.

Name:

Period: