

Household Bills

Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can before you look at some examples of household bills.

- | | | | |
|-------|----|---------------|--|
| _____ | 1. | bill | a) a tax or fee |
| _____ | 2. | parcel number | b) one portion of a full payment |
| _____ | 3. | levy | c) the amount that is used |
| _____ | 4. | installment | d) the highest point |
| _____ | 5. | premises | e) an instrument for measuring usage |
| _____ | 6. | peak | f) a building and the land it's located on |
| _____ | 7. | usage | g) a number that references a property |
| _____ | 8. | meter | h) a reduction in the cost |
| _____ | 9. | discount | i) the amount you must pay for products and services |

Example 1

PROPERTY TAX BILL

A. Reading

Read the bill. Then answer the questions.

T City of Tennyson		<h2>Tax Bill</h2>		Tax Year 2020 Billing Date Jan 10, 2020	
Assessed Owner MARY RYDELL TONY RYDELL 22 GEORGE ST TENNYSON, VT 05555		Assessed Property 22 GEORGE ST TENNYSON, VT 05555		Parcel Number 090-070-07800-0000	
Total \$250,000		Total \$1,828.50		Total \$181.00	
Total \$0.00					
Summary		This is the only bill you will receive. Please forward to the new owner if the property has sold.			
Special Charges/Credits		\$0.00			
Municipal Levy		\$1,828.50			
Education Levy		\$181.00			
Past Due		\$0.00			
Total Amount Due:		\$2,009.50			

B. Questions


1. What type of bill is this?
2. Who has to pay this bill?
3. How much is the home assessed at?
4. What year does this bill cover?
5. What should the Rydells do if they have sold the property?

Example 2

UTILITY BILL

A. Reading

Read the bill. Then answer the questions.

 <p>89 MAIN ST SPRINGSTON, NC 28000 www.cityutilities.gov</p>	Customer Name		AMY WU	
	Account Number		009-007-834	
	Premises		778 HANSON AVE	
	Amount Due		\$137.79	
Due Date		Nov 06, 2020		

Electricity				
Meter Number	Service From	To	Reading Date	Usage
897HB8	Sept 05, 2020	Oct 04, 2020	Oct 04, 2020	525 KWH
Basic Charge	Usage Peak	\$49.55		
	Usage Off-Peak	\$30.25		
	Tax	\$10.15		
			Electricity Charges	\$89.95

Water				
Meter Number	Service From	To	Reading Date	Usage
0034578	Sept 03, 2020	Oct 03, 2020	Oct 03, 2020	10 CCF
Basic Charge	Usage Peak	\$35.35		
	Usage Off-Peak	\$7.09		
	Tax	\$5.40		
			Water Charges	\$47.84

B. Questions


1. What two utilities does this customer owe money for?
2. Did the customer consume more electricity during peak or off-peak hours?
3. When was the last reading of the water meter?
4. What is the address of the customer?
5. When is the due date of the bill?

Example 3

INTERNET BILL

A. Reading

Read the bill. Then answer the questions.

January 12–February 12, 2020	
	
<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">CUSTOMER SERVICE INFORMATION</p> <hr/>	
<p>RON MAXWELL 890 WESTCHESTER AVE New York, NY 10013</p>	<p>Website www.savvyit.org For account inquires, call 1-809-470-6791</p>
<hr/> <p>Service Charge Summary</p> <hr/>	
<p>Account Number: 897689-01 Reference #: 778PJ9</p>	
Opening Balance	\$0.00
Unlimited Hi-Speed Package B	\$98.50
2-Yr Loyalty Discount	-\$11.00
Taxes & Fees	\$8.55
TOTAL New Charges	\$96.05
Due Date: February 28, 2020	
<hr/> <p>THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING SAVVY INTERNET Page 1 of 2</p>	

B. Questions

1. Who is the client?
2. What type of bill is this?
3. Why did the customer get a discount?
4. Did this client owe the business money before receiving this bill?
5. What should the client do to inquire about the fees?

Assessment

HOUSEHOLD BILL

A. Reading

Read the bill.

City Cable TV

NIA YUNG

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 897767
 BILLING #: 77807T
 SERVICE ADDRESS: 90 MINDEN ST
 RICHMOND, VA 23226
 DUE DATE: **May 30, 2020**

Need help?

Visit: www.citycabletv.abc
 For customer service, call: 1-805-480-3731

Monthly Statement (April 12 - May 12, 2020)

Balance forward	\$53.70
Sports Fan Package	\$50.00
Family/Friends Discount	n/a
Tax	\$5.45
Late payment fee	\$4.75
TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$113.90

+ Unemployed due to COVID-19?
 Contact customer service for information about paying in installments.

Assessment cont.

B. Questions

Use the bill on the previous page and what you have learned in this lesson to answer these questions.




1. What type of bill is this?
2. What does this number refer to: 897767?
3. What type of client does this company give a discount to?
4. What do you know about this client's TV viewing habits?
5. Did this client pay her last bill? How do you know?
6. How often does this client receive a bill from this service company?
7. Approximately what date do you think the customer will owe the next payment?
8. This client is unemployed due to COVID-19. What can she do?

Assessment Tool

Student: _____

Resource Used: Household Bills (Real-World Reading, Ellii)




Theme	Skill	Date Completed	Level
House & Home	Reading		

✓	Criteria Assessed	Achieved 	Achieved with Help 	Needs Improvement 
	identifies reading layout			
	identifies reading purpose			
	demonstrates an understanding of vocabulary found on household bills			
	finds specific details on household bills			
	uses information on household bills			

Score	Success	Teacher Feedback

Self-Assessment

Add check marks (✓) to show what you've learned.

Can I...	Yes (very well) 	Yes (with help) 	Not yet 
understand vocabulary on household bills?			
recognize a household bill?			
understand the purpose of household bills?			
find important information on household bills?			
use information on household bills?			

Answer Key

Vocabulary Preview

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. i | 3. a | 5. f | 7. c | 9. h |
| 2. g | 4. b | 6. d | 8. e | |

Example 1

1. This is a property tax bill.
2. Mary and Tony Rydell have to pay this bill.
3. The home is assessed at \$250,000.
4. This bill covers 2020.
5. The Rydells should forward the bill to the new owner if they have sold the property.

Example 2

1. This customer owes money for electricity and water.
2. The customer consumed more during peak hours.
3. The last water meter reading was on October 3, 2020.
4. The customer's address is 778 Hanson Ave.
5. The due date is November 6, 2020.

Example 3

1. The client is Ron Maxwell.
2. This is an Internet bill.
3. The customer received a discount because he has been a client for 2+ years.
4. No. The client did not have an opening balance.
5. The client should contact customer service at 1-809-470-6791 to inquire about the fees.

Assessment

Ask your students to read the bill in Part A and write the answers to Part B in their notebooks. Use the assessment tool on page 7.

Answers:

1. This is a cable TV bill.
2. 897767 is the customer's account number.
3. The company gives a discount to friends and family.
4. This client is a sports fan.
5. No, this client did not pay her bill. She has an outstanding balance similar to the amount owed this month. As a result, she has to pay a late payment fee.
6. The client receives this bill once a month.
7. This client will owe the next payment around June 30.
8. This unemployed client can call customer service at 1-805-480-3731 to find out about paying in installments.

Assessment Tool

Use this assessment tool to record each student's reading abilities. In the Success column, add Success = 70–80% (or adapt to your own success requirements).

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Self-Assessment

When your students have completed these tasks, have them reflect on their learning by filling in the chart.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Note that the terminology (e.g., parcel number, account number, etc.) for some cities and states across the US may differ.

ABOUT THE EMOJI:

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