

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

REFLECTION

Kai's Cost Comparison

What + Why: Reflect on the risks of borrowing and why understanding credit terms matters before making a borrowing decision.

Credit can make it possible to get something now and pay for it later. But borrowing money also creates responsibilities and potential risks. Understanding how credit works helps people evaluate their options and avoid unexpected costs.

It's time to answer **Supporting Question 1:** What are the key differences between Kai's laptop financing options in how credit works and what it costs?

**Instructions:**

1. Choose two of Kai's laptop financing options, one that seems manageable, and one that seems risky.
2. Explain to Kai the key differences between them based on how credit works, what it costs, and what repayment flexibility looks like if circumstances change.
3. Use specific evidence from the case study materials to support your explanation, and use the Kai's **Cost Comparison Rubric** to help support your writing.

Kai's Cost Comparison Rubric

Criteria	4 - Strong	3 - Proficient	2 - Developing	1 - Beginning
Selection & Framing	Clearly identifies two options and frames the entire response around credit structure and cost differences, not personal preference or recommendation.	Identifies two options and mostly frames the response around credit structure and cost; minor lapses into preference language.	Identifies two options but framing is inconsistent and shifts between observation and recommendation.	Does not clearly identify two options or frames the response as a personal choice rather than a structural comparison.
How Credit Works	Accurately explains how credit works differently for both options; including repayment structure, who provides the money, and when the obligation begins.	Explains how credit works for both options with mostly accurate details; one structural element may be incomplete.	Explains how credit works for one option clearly but not both, or provides a surface-level explanation for both.	Shows limited or inaccurate understanding of how either option works as a credit product.
What It Costs	Accurately compares total cost for both options using specific numbers from the case materials; including interest, fees, repayment timeline, and what financial flexibility looks like if repayment becomes difficult.	Compares total cost for both options with mostly accurate figures; may omit one cost element such as fees, timeline impact, or repayment flexibility.	References cost for both options but relies on monthly payment rather than total repayment cost, or only analyzes one option fully.	Provides little or no cost comparison, or confuses monthly payment with total cost.
Use of Evidence & Reasoning	Consistently cites specific details from the case materials (figures, terms, or fine print) to support every claim made.	Cites evidence from the case materials for most claims; one or two claims may lack specific support.	Uses vague or general references to the case materials rather than specific figures or terms.	Provides opinions or observations with no reference to the case materials.