

1 ▶41.1 Read through the following questions. Listen to four people talking about their money worries. Write the number of the speaker who makes the statement.

- a Who has seen their standard of living drastically reduced in the last few years?
- b Who has a student loan to pay off?
- c Who didn't think about what they were spending when they were younger?
- d Who believed they'd done the right kind of financial planning from the beginning?
- e Who is concerned that they will never be able to get on the housing ladder?
- f Who was forced to cut down on their spending after losing their job?
- g Who has had a large part of the value of their investment wiped out since 2008?
- h Who is worried about paying their mortgage?

2 ▶41.1 Listen again and complete the gaps in each sentence with one word.

- 1 ... my salary kept increasing, so I never felt the
- 2 I just never made any effort to my spending.
- 3 I only get paid 8.50 an hour, a sort of wage job.
- 4 I won't have made a in my student loan till my fifties ...
- 5 My original pension based on my investment should have given me.
- 6 I have a personal pension almost two thirds less...
- 7 We're in with our mortgage.
- 8 ... the house is only worth half of what we paid for it, so we're in equity.

Language focus

1 In pairs, complete the gaps with words from the box.

limit cash advance default pay off afford debt funds purchase interest

Credit cards are a convenient way to goods. They also come in handy when you have a shortage of If you need a little extra money for the weekend, you can take out a In spite of these benefits, credit card can also cause serious problems for people. People spend more than they can and because of the high on money borrowed, the credit card debt becomes harder and harder to Eventually, some people are forced to on their payments. This is why credit card companies put a on the amount that people can borrow.