

READING

Read the article and compare yourself with Emil and Freya.

Where does all the money go?

A recent survey shows that, on average, America's 25 million teenagers spend \$104 a week each—that's over \$5,000 a year. And over 45% of teenagers have cell phones.

We asked two teenagers four questions:

- How much money do you get a week?
- What do you spend your money on?
- Do you have a cell phone?
- How much do you think the average American teenager spends a year?



Emil, 15

I get \$50 a week allowance from my parents. I have a lot of friends and spend most of my money on going out with them. We go to the movies, hang out at the mall, things like that. I know people who get a lot more money than me.

I have a new cell phone, and there's a TV in my room. I use my parents' PC and go online every day. I don't have a game console, so I use my best friend's. We buy new video games almost every week.

How much does the average teenager spend? Around \$2,500 a year—but really that's just a guess.

Freya, 13

My parents give me \$25 a week—that's about the same as most of my friends. But on weekends I also help my dad, who has a car wash, and I get paid \$10 an hour for that. Most weekends I work three or four hours in the car wash.

Yes, I have a cell phone, but it's pretty old. I can't get a new one right now because I don't have much money in the bank. I spent it all on an iPad®! I have an MP3 player and spend half an hour a day downloading music. I go to the mall once a week with all my friends, but we don't usually buy anything, except maybe candy or a soda.

Some people have a lot of money—so my guess is that teenagers spend maybe \$7,000 a year?



AFTER READING

Match the questions with the answers. There is one wrong answer.

- 1 Do Emil and Freya both have a television in their room?
- 2 Does Emil have a game console?
- 3 Who doesn't have a new phone?
- 4 Who has a job?
- 5 Do Emil and Freya both have a lot of friends?
- 6 Who thinks teenagers spend half of what they really spend?
- 7 Does Freya have an iPad®?

- a Freya.
- b Yes, she does.
- c Yes, they do.
- d Emil does.
- e Yes, he has.
- f No, they don't.
- g No, he doesn't.
- h Freya does.