



English 9 U5 Money



Today, more and more people credit cards to buy things. You don't have to take real money with you. With a credit card the bank its customer money to buy The customer signs a small slip of paper and the shop assistant sends it to the bank and gets his money at once. A weeks later the customer pays the money back to the bank. In 1991 the leaders of the European Union got in Maastricht, the Netherlands, and agreed create a single currency for all of Europe. On January 1, 2002, the Euro became the official currency in twelve of the fifteen EU nations. Only Great Britain, Sweden and Denmark wanted to with their old currency. When banks and stock exchanges began with the Euro in 1999 it was worth \$1.17. Shortly afterwards it became weaker and fell to \$0.80, but since then its has risen constantly. The colourful euro banknotes were designed by the Austrian Robert Kalina. They range from € 5 to € 500 and have a map, the EU flag, as well as arches,, and windows on them. There are eight coins – ranging from 1 cent to 2 Euros. One side of the coins looks the same in each country, but on the other side each individual country has its own design.

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