

# Use of English

## Finding Hope in Financial Hardship



Read the text below, choose the correct answer (A, B, C, D)

Money (1)\_\_\_\_\_! We all know that. And never more so than when you don't have enough of it to pay your debts. If you find yourself in this unenviable position, there probably (2)\_\_\_\_\_ very much to cheer you up. However, it may make you feel a bit better to know that history is full of people who have faced bankruptcy and then gone on (3)\_\_\_\_\_ successful.

No fewer than three US Presidents have filed for bankruptcy. The most famous was Abraham Lincoln. He declared himself bankrupt in 1833 after a business venture failed. He then spent the next 17 years working hard to pay off the debts he owed to friends who'd (4)\_\_\_\_\_ him the money to start his unsuccessful business. And it took him (5)\_\_\_\_\_ 10 years after that to get elected president. Indeed, Lincoln's career was one of almost constant failure until he reached the White House, but the great man never (6)\_\_\_\_\_ up. He famously said of his life, "The path was worn and slippery. My foot slipped from under me, knocking the other out of the way, but I recovered and said to myself, 'It's a slip and not a fall.'"

The music business has had more than its fair share of bankrupts. One reason that so many old groups suddenly reform and go on tour again is that the members (7)\_\_\_\_\_ out of money. Even The Beatles were not immune. Rumour has it that George Harrison only agreed to take part in the Anthology project because he was strapped for cash after his film company (HandMade Films) had gone disastrously wrong. Other pop stars manage to become bankrupt even before becoming famous. Cyndi Lauper was in a band (8)\_\_\_\_\_ Blue Angel in (9)\_\_\_\_\_. The band lost money, and the members were sued by their manager for \$80,000; and in 1980, Cyndi was forced to declare bankruptcy. But later, her song "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" was one of the biggest hits and she became a star.

Actors seem just as prone to financial problems as musicians. (10)\_\_\_\_\_ famous bankrupt is probably Kim Basinger. She had to declare herself bankrupt in 1993. A judge ordered her to pay a film company \$8.1 million because she'd backed out of a verbal agreement to star in *Boxing Helena*.

1	A matter	B matters	C are mattering	D have mattered
2	A doesn't	B isn't	C wasn't	D won't
3	A being	B to be	C to being	D be
4	A received	B got	C borrowed	D lent
5	A another	B the other	C others	D the others
6	A took	B got	C gave	D made
7	A run	B leave	C go	D move
8	A was called	B called	C calling	D calls
9	A 1970s	B the 1970	C the 1970s	D the 1970th
10	A Hollywood more	B the Hollywood's most	C Hollywood's the most	D Hollywood's most

