

Date: _____

Unit 7: Personal Finance

7.3 Compound Interest

Interest: Money earned on an investment OR money owed on a loan

Simple Interest

- Interest calculated as a percentage of the original amount

$$I = Prt$$

I = interest

P = principal (original amount)

r = rate (yearly) in decimal form

t = time (years)

Ex. Calculate the simple interest earned on a \$2000 investment for 2 years at 7.2% per annum.

$$I = Prt$$

$$I = (2000)(0.072)(2)$$

$$= \$288$$

Compound Interest

- Interest is added on to the principal at preset periods (called compounding periods)

Ex. Track an investment of \$1000 earning interest at 1% per annum compounded annually for 6 years.

year 0 1 2 3 4 5 6
 \$1000, \$1010, \$1020.10, \$1030.30, \$1040.60, \$1051.01, \$1061.52

$\times 1.01$ $\times 1.01$ $\times 1.01$ $\times 1.01$ $\times 1.01$ $\times 1.01$

$A = P(1 + i)^n$

A = total amount (not just interest)
 P = principal (original amount)
 i = interest rate per compounding period
 n = total number of compounding periods

1000 $(1.01)^6$

Ex. Calculate the interest earned on a \$2000 investment for 3 years at 7.2%/a compounded semi-monthly.

24 compounds/a

$$A = 2000 (1.003)^{72}$$

$$= \$2481.40$$

$$- 2000.00$$

$$\text{interest } \$481.40$$

$i = \frac{0.072}{24} = 0.003$
 $n = 24(3) = 72$

Ex. Calculate the final value of a \$5000 investment after 10 years at 8%/a compounded quarterly.

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{4 \text{ compounds/a}} \\ & A = 5000 (1.02)^{40} \\ & i = \frac{0.08}{4} = 0.02 \\ & n = 4(10) = 40 \\ & = \$11,040.20 \end{aligned}$$

Ex. You need to borrow \$15,000 which you will pay back after 2 years. Which of the following options should you take?

Option A: 12%/a compounded annually

$$\begin{aligned} & i = 0.12 \\ & n = 2 \\ & A = 15000 (1.12)^2 \\ & = \$18816 \\ & (\text{extra } \$3816 \text{ in interest}) \end{aligned}$$

Option B: 11.7%/a compounded bi-weekly

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{26 \text{ compounds/a}} \\ & i = \frac{0.117}{26} = 0.0045 \quad \leftarrow \text{NEVER !!! round } i \\ & n = 26(2) = 52 \\ & A = 15000 (1.0045)^{52} \\ & \text{OR } 15000 \left(1 + \frac{0.117}{26} \right)^{52} \\ & = \$18944.72 \\ & (\text{extra } \$3944.72 \text{ in interest}) \end{aligned}$$

Option A is better because of less interest to pay back