

### Handout 4.6: Maria's Story Assessment

Maria is one of your best friends. She keeps complaining that she runs out of money each month before she gets paid. She's asked you to help her make a budget based on her income from her part-time job. She handed you a crumpled paper with the following record of her expenditures for last month. Before you help her make a budget, first help her balance her monthly transactions by filling in the last column on the table below. To obtain the balance, add income and subtract expenditures and withdrawals.

Date	Transaction	Expenditure	Income or Withdrawal	Balance
2/1	Paycheck-Direct Deposit		\$168.43	
2/1	ATM cash + fee		-\$21.50	
2/1	Movie and soft drink	\$9.50		
2/3	Gasoline	\$22.97		
2/5	Music CD	\$17.99		
2/10	Old Navy clothes	\$43.47		
2/12	ATM cash		-\$40.00	
2/15	Jewelry	\$14.99		
2/19	Gasoline	\$16.02		

**Handout 4.6: Maria’s Story Assessment cont.**

Using the information on the previous page, help Maria make a budget so that her expenditures do not exceed her monthly income of \$168.43. Also, be sure to allocate at least \$35 per month for gasoline since Maria has to use her car to get to work. Use the form below. If your first budget attempt goes over her income, use the second budget attempt column.

Income	1st Budget Attempt	2nd Budget Attempt
Earnings		
Other (gifts, etc.)		
<b>Total Income</b>		
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Total Expenses</b>		
<b>Total Income Less Expenses</b>		

On the back of this page, write one paragraph explaining what a budget is and identifying at least three savvy spending and saving principles.