WAJD Academy: The £100 Weekend Challenge

A real-world mission, not a worksheet

Free to print

You have £100. Plan the best weekend you can for four people.

You are in charge. Two days, four people (you and three others), and a budget of exactly £100 for everything you do, eat and travel to. Research the real prices, make the plan, keep inside the money, and then explain why your weekend is a good one. There is no single right answer. A great plan is one you can defend.

The rules

1. Every penny is counted: travel, food, drinks, tickets, parking, everything. Food already in the cupboard still costs what it cost in the shop.
2. At least one activity must be something your four people have never done together.
3. Use real prices. Look them up (a website, a timetable, a menu, a receipt) and write down where each price came from.
4. Saturday and Sunday both need a plan, with start and finish times.
5. Finish with your case: three reasons this is a good weekend for all four people, not just for you.

Step 1: Who is coming, and what do they like?

Person	Likes	Dislikes or needs

Step 2: The plan

Day	Time	What we do	Getting there

Step 3: The budget

Item	How many	Each	Total	Where the price came from
Total spent (must be £100 or less)			**£**	
Left over			**£**	

Step 4: Make your case

The part that matters most

Three reasons this is a good weekend for all four people. Use a number in at least one reason (a price, a time, a share of the budget).

Stretch, if you want it

- The weather forecast changes to heavy rain on Sunday. What do you swap, and what does it do to the budget?
- One person can only join on Saturday. Does the plan still work? What changes?
- What share of the £100 went on food? Give it as a fraction and a percentage.

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Notes for the adult running it

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What this exercises, and how to run it

This is a real decision with a real budget, so the maths and the reading happen because they are needed, not because a question asked for them. Expect it to take two or three sittings of about half an hour. Let your child lead; your job is to ask questions, not to fix the plan.

What the 11 Plus tests that this mission uses

In the mission	In the test
Costing the plan, keeping to £100	Money, multi-step word problems, addition and subtraction with decimals
Timings, journeys, timetables	Time, reading tables, duration and speed
The share spent on food	Fractions, percentages, ratio
Reading menus, prices and timetables	Comprehension: finding the fact you need in a busy page
Making the case in three reasons	Writing to persuade; explaining and justifying an answer
The rain swap, the missing person	Logic: what changes when one condition changes

How to run it

1. **Read the brief together, then step back.** The first plan will probably not add up. That is the point: let the total come out wrong and let your child find it.
2. **Ask, do not tell.** Good questions: “Where did that price come from?” “What happens if the bus is late?” “Is that fair on everyone?” “Show me how you got that total.”
3. **Insist on real prices.** A menu photo, a ticket website, a bus fare. Writing down the source is a habit the test rewards: it is the same as finding the line in the passage.
4. **Make the case out loud first.** Three reasons, spoken, then written. If a reason has no number in it, ask for one.
5. **If the plan is good, do the weekend.** Nothing teaches budgeting like the moment the real receipt differs from the plan.

What to look for

Signs of strong thinking

- Checks the total more than once, and corrects it without being told.
- Notices a hidden cost (parking, a return fare, a booking fee).
- Changes the plan when a fact changes, and says why.
- Gives reasons that mention the other three people.

Where to help next

- Totals wrong by the decimals: practise column addition with money.
- Times do not add up: practise durations across the hour.
- Reasons without numbers: practise “explain how you know” answers.
- Prices guessed: practise reading tables and timetables.

After the mission

Each row of the first table points to free practice on WAJD Academy: targeted 11 Plus questions in maths, English, verbal and non-verbal reasoning, marked instantly with a worked answer, at **wajd.co.uk/eleven-plus-practice**. If your family did the challenge, we would like to know what happened: write to **hello@wajd.co.uk** with the subject line “£100 challenge”. A line or two is plenty. It tells us whether to make more missions like this one.

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