

“What’s the matter?” asked Janna’s mother.

“Mom, I’ve got a terrible problem in November and May when I pay my car insurance. I don’t want to choose between an apartment and my car!” exclaimed Janna.

Janna’s mom told Janna to calm down. “Janna, she said. It’s not as bad as it appears. You have a surplus of -518.42. That’s a negative surplus or a deficit. Let’s think about a solution to your problem.”

Eventually Janna thought that she could save \$100 each month so that she could pay for the car insurance when it was due. Mom thought that she had a great idea and told Janna to revise her budget one more time.

Janna said, “Boy, I’m glad that I learned how to use a spreadsheet. I would have to keep doing the WHOLE budget over and over again if I were doing this with paper and pencil. Thank goodness for computers!”

After a while, Janna reappeared. “I can’t believe it! I’ve still got a problem! What’s next? Now I have a negative surplus every month!”

Revise Janna’s spreadsheet one more time to see what she’s talking about.

- Janna has \$1200 in car expenses. Insert a row above FIXED EXPENSES and under Internet access for “saving.” Janna should save every month for car insurance, based on 9 months.
- In November and May, Janna’s savings withdrawals will be \$600 more than usual so she can pay her car insurance.
- Janna’s deficit should be -51.75 every month.
- Save your file.

Part II

Just one more revision.

Make a decision for Janna so that she has a positive surplus once again. Janna really can’t earn any more money. She’s a full-time college student who already works as much as possible. As Janna said, “I guess that I’ll just have to cut some expenses.”

Enter your changes into the spreadsheet. Be prepared to explain and defend your changes to the class.