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What makes cash, banknotes and anything else count as money? And why do we all trust it?

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Money has existed since long before the first coins were made, and over the centuries it has taken on many unusual forms. How did all this come about?

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Almost every adult has a bank account – but why? What do banks actually do? Are there any alternatives? And was it really the banks' fault that the world suffered a financial meltdown in 2008?

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Don't have any money? No problem! Almost anyone can get hold of *some* money, by working for it, or borrowing from someone who has it.

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Some people spend everything they have very quickly. Others prefer to save up. If you have money to spare, you should give it away to charity – shouldn't you?	
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