Project: a staying-power profile of one company

This free project guide has Class 12 students build a staying-power profile of one listed company from its filings. Students record its borrowings, cash, debt-equity ratio, interest coverage, debt due within a year and credit rating, with a source for every number.

5-minute prep

- Decide whether students may choose any listed company (not a bank) or must choose from a list. A list makes checking quicker.
- Decide consolidated or standalone for the class.
- Print the profile planner (the worksheet) and the marking checklist.
- Find one company's balance sheet, borrowings note and rating report yourself, to show students where they sit.

Class	Senior secondary, Class 11–12 (Commerce)
Time	Three 40-minute periods in class, or two periods plus homework.
Edition	2026–27 first edition v1.0
Lesson page	cityfort.in/teachers/debt-cash-and-staying-power/staying-power-profile

Objective

Students can build a dated profile of one listed company's borrowings, cash, solvency ratios, repayment dates and credit rating, cite every number to its filing and show their working, without a verdict on the company or its shares.

CBSE units the lesson supports

- Accountancy (055), Class XII, Project work (CBSE Accountancy (055))
- Accountancy (055), Class XII, Part B: Analysis of Financial Statements (CBSE Accountancy (055)), in part
- Business Studies (054), Class XII, Unit 9: Financial Management (CBSE Business Studies (054)), in part

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Timing

Minutes	Step	What happens
0–40	**Period 1: choose and find**	Students choose a company, download its annual report, and find the balance sheet, the statement of profit and loss and the borrowings note. They fill Part A and start the number log in Part B.
40–80	**Period 2: calculate**	In Part C, students work out net debt, the borrowed share of total funds, the debt-equity ratio (textbook and all borrowings), interest coverage and the share of borrowings due within 12 months. They show every step.
80–120	**Period 3: read the rating and present**	From the company's rating report, students fill the rating card in Part D. They write the profile in Part E, then swap with a partner who checks three numbers against the filing.

Materials

- The profile planner (one per student): the worksheet for this lesson
- The company’s annual report for the chosen year and, if wanted, its quarterly results for a later quarter, from nseindia.com or bseindia.com
- The company's credit rating report from the agency's website, or the rating named in its annual report
- The marking checklist from this page
- A calculator

Discussion questions

1. Why does every number in the profile need a date as well as a page?
2. Which of your numbers would change most if you used quarterly results six months later?
3. Your rating agency named one or more rating sensitivities. What would you need to check in next year's annual report to see if anything changed?
4. What can your profile not tell you about the company?

Adapting the lesson

Students still building their English: Give students the word bank from Lessons 1 to 4 and the sentence frames from the planner. Let them write the profile as a table with one sentence per row.

Students who need more support: Pre-select a company with a short annual report and mark the balance sheet, statement of profit and loss and borrowings note. Students fill Parts A to C only and present the table.

Students ready for more: Students build the profile for two financial years and explain one change between them, using a reason the annual report or the rating report gives, quoted with its page.

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Extension: Students build a second profile of a company in a different industry. They write three sentences on how the two businesses' needs explain the difference in their debt, without saying which company is ahead.

Teacher background

Which formulas does the profile use?

The same as Lessons 1 to 3: net debt = borrowings − cash and liquid investments; borrowed share = borrowings ÷ (borrowings + equity) × 100; debt-equity ratio = long-term borrowings ÷ shareholders' funds (textbook) and all borrowings ÷ shareholders' funds; interest coverage = (profit before tax + finance costs) ÷ finance costs; due within 12 months = current borrowings ÷ all borrowings × 100.

Which statements should students use?

Use the consolidated statements (the whole group) unless the class has agreed on standalone. Whichever students use, they say so at the top of the profile and use the same set throughout.

Which companies work least well?

Banks and other lenders borrow as their main business, so these ratios do not describe them in the same way. Ask students to choose a company that makes or sells goods or services.

Where does Cityfort fit in?

Each Cityfort stock page has a "Financial strength" section with borrowings, cash, debt to equity and, where worked out, interest cover, with the sources. A teacher can use it as a quick check. Students cite the filing itself, never the Cityfort page.

If your class runs a stock-market simulation, these lessons can come before it: they explain what a company does and how it reports results. They do not suggest which companies to choose, and Cityfort does not run, rank or judge simulation picks.

Teaching notes

- Check the number log first: if every number has a page and a date, the rest is quick to mark.
- Units differ between companies: some report in ₹ crore, some in ₹ lakh. Students keep one unit per table and say which.
- Students often copy the rating report's own ratios into their calculations. Ask them to keep the agency's figures on the rating card and their own working in Part C.

A worked example with a made-up company

Made-up company, Example Cement Ltd, 31 Mar 2026: long-term borrowings ₹600 crore, current borrowings ₹200 crore, cash ₹150 crore, shareholders' funds ₹1,000 crore. FY26: profit before tax ₹240 crore, finance costs ₹60 crore.

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Net debt ₹800 − ₹150 = ₹650 crore. Borrowed share 800 ÷ 1,800 × 100 = 44.4%. Debt-equity (textbook) 600 ÷ 1,000 = 0.6 : 1; on all borrowings 0.8 : 1. Interest coverage (240 + 60) ÷ 60 = 5 times. Due within 12 months 200 ÷ 800 × 100 = 25%.

A sentence a student might write: "A quarter of its borrowings fall due within a year; the annual report says it plans to repay them from operating cash and new bank loans (page 112)." The made-up numbers and page show the method only.

Marking checklist

Company and date (2), inputs cited (4), working shown (5), accuracy spot-check (3), rating card (3), explanation and limits (3): 20 suggested points. Map them to your school's marking scheme. No points for a verdict on the company or its shares.



student page

Scan the code or type: **cityfort.in/class/staying-power**

Sources

1. S1: Accountancy (Code 055), Senior School Curriculum 2026–27 (dated 13 Mar 2026 by the CBSE server, checked 15 Nov 2026), Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), 13 Mar 2026. https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/CurriculumMain27/SecPart2/Accountancy_SecP2_2026-27.pdf

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