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20 One-Liners | Principles of Lending & Credit Appraisal: The Complete 2026 JAIIB PPB

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20 One-Liners to Remember

Quick-fire facts for last-minute revision.

1 The three core principles of lending are Safety, Liquidity and Profitability.

These three goals shape every loan sanction decision a bank makes.

2 Safety in lending means the borrower must have both the ability and the intention to repay.

Adequate collateral, guarantees and sound cash flows all support the safety of a loan.

3 Liquidity in lending means the funds lent out must be recoverable in time.

A bank cannot lock all its money in long-term assets since depositors may demand their money back.

4 Profitability in lending means the loan must earn enough to cover cost of funds, operating costs and risk.

A loan should add to the bank's profit even after covering these costs.

5 Fund-based credit facilities involve an immediate outflow of money, such as cash credit and term loans.

Actual money leaves the bank the moment a fund-based facility is used.

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- 6 Non-fund-based credit facilities, such as bank guarantees and letters of credit, involve no immediate cash outflow.**

The bank lends its name and creditworthiness rather than disbursing funds immediately.

- 7 A Bank Guarantee creates a contingent liability that becomes real only when the guarantee is invoked.**

Until invocation, the bank's liability under a guarantee stays off the balance sheet.

- 8 A Letter of Credit is a primary payment undertaking where the bank pays once compliant documents are presented.**

This makes an LC different from a bank guarantee, which is a secondary, contingent promise.

- 9 The Nayak Committee method for working capital assessment is built for small borrowers, linked to projected turnover.**

It simplifies working capital assessment for smaller business units.

- 10 The Tandon Committee introduced lending norms based on current assets and current liabilities.**

These norms include prescribed methods for margin and bank finance.

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11 The Kannan Committee's Cash Budget Method is suited to seasonal industries and the service sector.
It assesses finance using projected cash inflows and outflows rather than fixed balance-sheet ratios.

12 Working Capital Gap is Current Assets minus Current Liabilities, excluding bank borrowings.
It shows the funding shortfall that the bank may bridge for the borrower.

13 Net Working Capital is Current Assets minus Current Liabilities.
A positive NWC signals short-term stability while a negative NWC signals dependence on external finance.

14 Maximum Permissible Bank Finance is the ceiling on bank finance against working capital after deducting the borrower's required margin.
This keeps the borrower financially committed to the business rather than fully bank-funded.

15 MCLR stands for Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate, an internal benchmark for loan pricing.
It replaced older systems to make lending rates more responsive and transparent.

16 MCLR components include marginal cost of funds, negative carry on CRR, operating costs and a tenor premium.
These components together determine how a bank prices a loan internally.

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17 Letters of Credit are governed by UCPDC 600 guidelines.

These uniform guidelines standardise how documentary credits are handled in trade finance.

18 Credit appraisal evaluates a borrower's character, capacity, cash flows, DSCR, collateral and credit risk rating.

These factors together decide whether, and on what terms, a loan gets sanctioned.

19 CMA Data stands for Credit Monitoring Arrangement data, used to compute MPBF and check feasibility.

It presents projected turnover, costs, working capital and profits for appraisal purposes.

20 A willful defaulter is a borrower who can repay but chooses not to, or who diverts funds to non-permitted uses.

Identifying such cases is central to a bank's credit risk management.

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