Student ID Investment
Comparison Instruction Sheet

1. Enter the Column Headings as shown in row 1.

2. Enter the last three digits of your student ID in cell **E3**.

3. In cell **F3**, enter the formula =E3+2000. This should give you a reasonable yearly investment value. On the sample spreadsheet, the last three digits of an ID of 400 were used to give an annual investment of $2400 which equals a monthly investment of $200 which is considered fairly reasonable. Your yearly and monthly values will be different based on using your last three digits of your own student ID.

4. Enter a formula in cell **G3** to calculate the monthly investment from the yearly investment.

5. Enter Jan-**2003** in cell **A4** and be sure to use the four digit year since you need the value to go up by months when we copy drag down the months of the year.

6. Since cell B4 is the first month of investments all you will have in your investment is that first deposit. So, in cell **B4** enter the formula =G3 to give you the same value of your monthly investment.

7. Now comes the tricky part. You must enter a formula in cell **B5** to calculate the value after *one month* of interest plus another monthly investment.

    Determining this formula takes some good logical thought and perhaps some trial and error attempts. You should have a bit more than double the first month since you will have two months of deposits and one month worth of interest from the previous month. Also, do you remember what we did in the expense report project to prevent a number from changing when we did a copy drag? If you don't remember, open that file and look at your formula for transportation dollars. There is a special character in the formula that tells Excel to not change the number when the formula is copy dragged down the sheet. This becomes relevant in this project when using cell G3, the monthly investment value, in this formula. The value in cell G3 is a quasi variable in that it is a constant for you but it is different for each student.

8. Copy drag cell **B5** to obtain 30 years of values (this should end on Dec-32, row 363).

9. Do the same thing for columns "C" and "D" that you did in column "B" but just skip one year for each column as shown.

10. Enter a formula in cells **H3** and **I3** as noted by the column headings.

11. Highlight the months and all the values for the months.

12. Insert a line chart and make it look pretty.

13. Save your file as **"yourname" Student ID Investment**.