You guess Inflation will be 3% during the life of a loan

If your guess turns out to be correct:

Nominal interest (7%) – Inflation (3%) = Real interest (4%)

If your guess turns out to be wrong and inflation was 5%:

Nominal interest (7%) – Inflation (5%) = Real interest (2%)

If your guess turns out to be very wrong and inflation was 26%:

Nominal interest (7%) – Inflation (26%) = Real interest (-19%)

Borrower pays you back less money in real terms than what s/he borrowed!

You should charge a **Nominal** Interest Rate = 3+4 = 7%

You want to earn a 4% real return on that loan

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