1. The convenience store on the corner is open **24/7.**
2. It was **a tough break** for us when Caroline quit. She was one of our top performers.
3. We're investing a lot of money in research and development so we can stay **ahead of the curve.**
4. If we want to stay **ahead of the pack**, we're going to have to work hard and continue to innovate.
5. I need to finish these reports. My boss needs them **ASAP.**
6. I'm a little nervous about giving this presentation. There's **a lot at stake.**
7. Our programmers identified what they thought the problem was with the software. After working for several hours, it turns out that the problem is something different. We're **back to square one**, unfortunately.
8. I think they got the government contract because of **a backroom deal.**
9. I'm not sure what a Super Bowl commercial costs, but to give you **a ballpark figure** I'd say about three million dollars.
10. They make it look so effortless, but they do a lot of hard work and planning **behind the scenes.**

A. **As soon as possible**

B. **Not visible**

C. **Ahead of the competition**

D. **A bad piece of luck**

E. **A lot invested**

F. **To the beginning**

G. **A general figure**

H. **All day all week**

I. **Ahead of general knowledge or progress**

LIVEWORKSHEETS