

PYRAMID SCHEMES

VOCABULARY: match 1-8 to a-h to make complete sentences

1. She is the best salesperson in the company. She brings
2. We need to recruit
3. If you want to join us, you need to pay
4. Can you pay
5. This business is so good that it
6. We are in an excellent position to invest, so it's clear we need to capitalize
7. I must accept that the idea was compelling, but
8. Only the first members benefit from the system at first. However, all of them

- a) a membership fee
- b) can entice anyone.
- c) on this opportunity.
- d) I didn't buy into it
- e) in about 300 new customers per month.
- f) more members if we want to get some return on investment.
- g) in this cheque for me?
- h) will lose out in the end.



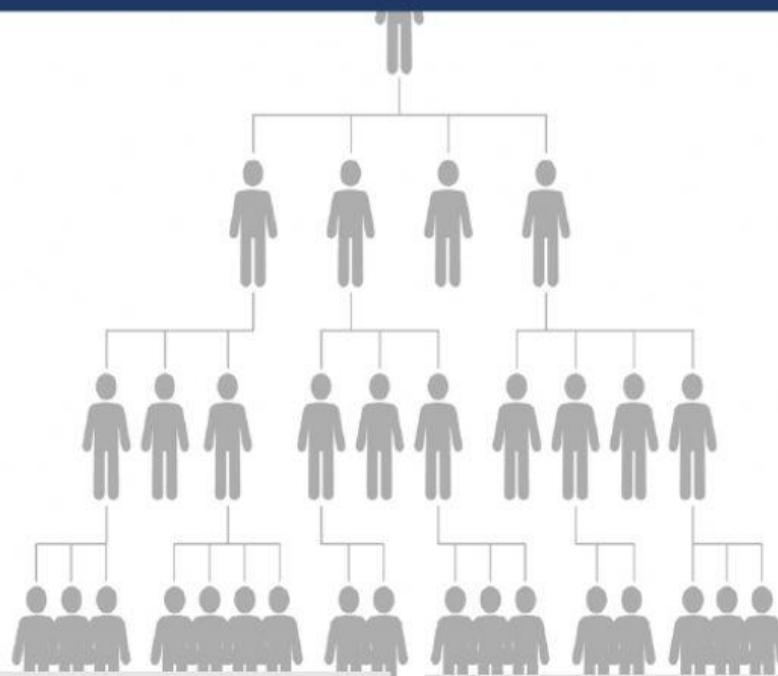
GRAMMAR: select the correct option to complete the sentences

- 1) This scheme is _____ than the traditional business models.
- 2) This may be _____ way to make money, but it's definitely _____ one, too.
- 3) Andrey brings in _____ than anyone else in the company, so he is _____ salesman.
- 4) As time went by, his memories have become _____ than ever.
- 5) They own 55% of the company, so they have _____ share.
- 6) In my opinion, Ponzi Schemes are _____ Pyramid Schemes. They are the same.
- 7) With more than 23 million dollars in revenues per month, this is _____ company in the industry.



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VIDEO: Watch the video and select the correct option to answer the questions



1) When was the term Ponzi scheme used for the first time?

- a) In 1920
- b) In 1934
- c) In 2009

2) How much did Charles Ponzi's investment operation cost his clients?

- a) Approximately 20 million dollars
- b) More than 20 million dollars
- c) A little more than 20 million dollars

3) Who was the mastermind behind the largest investment fraud operation in the history of the USA?

- a) Charles Ponzi
- b) Bernie Madoff
- c) Donald Trump

4) When was Bernie Madoff sentenced to prison?

- a) In 150
- b) In 2009
- c) In 1920

5) What happens as the pyramid grows?

- a) The returns increase
- b) The returns remain stable
- c) The returns get smaller

6) Who end up with the biggest losses?

- a) Those at the top
- b) Those at the bottom
- c) The scheme owners