

Vocabulary practice

1 Choose the best answer

Choose A, B, C or D to complete each sentence.

- A senior _____ approved the company's plan to expand into overseas markets.
A. executive B. industry C. assertion D. origin
- Researchers traced the _____ of the fault to a damaged component in the engine.
A. margin B. reference C. origin D. efficiency
- Rapid technological change can lead to the _____ of devices that still function perfectly.
A. motivation B. assertion C. reference D. obsolescence
- The report makes no _____ to the costs of maintaining the new equipment.
A. origin B. reference C. lifespan D. margin
- All laboratories used a _____ procedure so that their results could be compared reliably.
A. leading B. influential C. standardized D. continuous
- Because of a reporting error, the article _____ stated that the factory had closed.
A. erroneously B. intentionally C. continuously D. efficiently
- The authors _____ that their findings apply to all age groups, although their sample included only adults.
A. distinguish B. reduce C. shorten D. assert
- Her research was highly _____, shaping government policy for the next decade.
A. standardized B. influential C. intentional D. erroneous

2 Match the expressions to their meanings

Write the correct letter beside each expression. Use each meaning once.

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| 1. assertion ____ | A. among the most important or successful in a particular field |
| 2. industry ____ | B. the length of time something lives, lasts or remains usable |
| 3. efficiency ____ | C. made to follow a shared set of rules or specifications |
| 4. lifespan ____ | D. a statement presented confidently as true, sometimes without proof |
| 5. margin ____ | E. a person with senior management responsibilities in an organisation |
| 6. leading ____ | F. a sector of economic activity, such as manufacturing or tourism |
| 7. executive ____ | G. the difference between a product's selling price and its cost |
| 8. standardized ____ | H. the ability to achieve results with little waste of time or resources |

Vocabulary in sentences

3 Complete the sentences

Use the words and phrases in the box. Two are extra. Use each answer once.

distinguish • intentionally • more often than not • reduce • shorten • influential • continuously
• motivation • establish • obsolescence

1. The service is unreliable: _____, the bus arrives at least ten minutes late.
2. Using a faster route would _____ the journey by half an hour.
3. The pump must operate _____, without stopping, throughout the experiment.
4. The player admitted that he had _____ broken the rules to prevent a goal.
5. Giving employees more control over their work can increase their _____ to perform well.
6. Switching off unused equipment can _____ the amount of electricity a building consumes.
7. The investigators need to _____ whether the two incidents are connected.
8. It can be difficult to _____ reliable information from misleading claims online.