Match the words in the box to the definitions 1 to 6 below.

equity stake	recession	shares	debt	stock market	forecast

1. equal parts into which the capital or ownership of a company is divided
2. a period of time when business activity decreases because the economy is doing badly
3. money risked when a business owns part of another company
4. a place where company shares are bought and sold
5. a description of what is likely to happen in the future
6. money owed by one person or organisation to another person or organisation

Match the sentence halves.

1 **Profit margin** is	a) a part of a company's profits paid to the owners of shares.
2 **Investment** is	b) the difference between the price of a product or service and the cost of producing it.
3 **Bankruptcy** is	c) money which people or organisations put into a business to make a profit.
4 **A dividend** is	d) the amount of money which a business obtains (in a year) from customers by selling goods or services.
5 **Pre-tax profits** are	e) when a person or organisation is unable to pay their debts.
6 **Annual turnover** is	f) the money a business makes before payment to the government.

Complete this news report with the terms from Exercises A and B.

And now the business news ...

There was a further downturn in the economy this month as the ....[1] in the United States and Asia-Pacific region continues. Yesterday was another day of heavy trading on the ....[2], with big losses in share values. The ....[3] for the near future is not good, as market confidence remains low.

Paradise Lane, the struggling luxury hotel group, is seeking new ....[4] to try and avoid ....[5], following the announcement of disastrous interim results. It currently has a ....[6] of nearly $5 billion. There are rumours of rivals GHN taking a large ....[7] in the troubled hotel group.

Phoenix Media announced a 15% increase in ....[8] on an ....[9] of $4.5 million. Added to the strong performance in the last quarter, this is likely to result in an increased ....[10] of over 14 cents per share, well up on last year, which will certainly please shareholders*. Following a rise in sales in the emerging markets of ...

* the people who own shares in a business