27 Noun confusion 1 – money and work

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Those who do manual work often earn less money.
  b Those who do manual work often earn less wages.
2 a People without computer skills find it difficult to get a job nowadays.
  b People without computer knowledge find it difficult to get a job nowadays.

- A *salary* is the total amount that a professional person is paid each year: *The marketing job offers opportunities to travel and an attractive* ***salary****.*
- A *wage* is the amount of money earned each week/month for casual or manual work: *Tim got a painting job with a* ***wage*** *of $400 per week.*
- We use *money* in a more general sense: *Nowadays people need to earn a lot more* ***money*** *to be able to buy a house.* (not ~~*earn a lot more wages*~~)

- *Job* refers to the type of work you do: *My* ***job*** *is to manage the staff.* or a particular task: *At home, my* ***job*** *is to do the ironing.*
- *Work* can be a noun or a verb and is used in a general sense: (uncountable noun) *It took a lot of* ***work*** *but I finished the project.* (verb) *My dad* ***works*** *in a bank. Workplace* is the place where you work: *It is better to train in the* ***workplace*** *rather than at a college.*
- *Knowledge* refers to facts you have studied over time, and *skills* refer to practical ability. Compare: *His* ***knowledge*** *of history is amazing. I have good typing* ***skills****.*

- We use *employment* and *unemployment* to talk about general work trends: ***Unemployment*** *figures fell this week. Employee* = a worker, *employer* = a boss.

2 Correct the mistake below.



Conditions at the factory ..... .

3 Fill in the blanks with a suitable noun from this unit.

1 I paid more tax last week because of the extra ..... I earned.
2 I know a lot about cars but I don't have the mechanical ..... to fix them.
3 I read a book on the life and ..... of Louis Pasteur, the famous scientist.
4 Joe's ..... gave him a promotion and a higher ..... .
5 The problem of ..... is a key issue for this year's election.
6 Moving house is such a big ..... that I don't ever want to do it again.
7 Many workers can become ill if the conditions in their ..... are not good.
8 I gave up my part-time ..... as it was affecting my school ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS