B Facts and figures

1 Approximations

CB Section B1

Do these approximations make logical sense? Give each sentence either a tick (✓) or a cross (✗).

a The company was worried when the majority of people interviewed, almost 20 percent, could not remember seeing its adverts on TV. ____

b Very few students, about four out of five in the survey, expect to get a job immediately after graduating. ____

c About 5 percent of students, that's one in 20, say the long-term prospects are more important when choosing their career than the starting salary. ____

d Nearly a third (63 percent) were satisfied with the careers counselling they had received. ____

e Getting on for half (49 percent) of respondents gave location near to home as a reason for choosing their present employment. ____

f We were very surprised when we read that nearly a quarter of local residents (14 percent) had complained about teenagers making a noise at night. ____

2 Questioning and criticising statistics

CB Sections B2 and B3

Write the correct number (1–8) in the box to match the halves to make complete sentences. There is one extra 'second half'.

a The government investigation pleased everyone, as it finally exposed the facts about ☐

b We were angry when the politicians said that teenagers are happy to be out of work because ☐

c Local people feel annoyed about the closure of the clinic, and a public meeting has been called so that they can ☐

d We were furious when we read the article claiming that young people are to blame for the problems in the community. It's a total ☐

e The bus company's report is distorting the truth when it claims a high level of satisfaction with the bus service. Everyone ☐

f It's ridiculous to say that no limit should be set on working hours. Who on earth ☐

g The report, which claims that doctors in poorer districts are not as good as those who work in affluent areas, is misleading because it is ☐

1 explain why they are upset.

2 distortion of the truth.

3 how much water contamination there had been in the town.

4 it hides the real truth about lack of jobs.

5 I know thinks it's terrible.

6 dreamt that idea up?

7 didn't provide the truth about the results.

8 not comparing like with like.

LIVEWORKSHEETS