(The story by Oiwan Lam originally appeared on Global Voices, on December 2, 2020)

Over a dozen journalists resigned on December 1 from Hong Kong Cable Television Limited, a major subscription-based TV station in Hong Kong, in protest after the media company fired 40 editorial staff in what is perceived as a political crackdown. Those laid off include the head of the China desk and the entire team of the award-winning News Lancet program. The broadcaster cited financial reasons for the layoff, a claim the newsroom staff rebukes. The entire China desk, a total of 12 people, has since resigned in protest, along with the heads of the international and finance desks and the newsroom's chief assignment editor.

The layoffs were sudden and took immediate effect — those who were sacked were told to leave the office on the same day. In shock, members of staff gathered outside the room of the news director demanding an explanation. Among those laid off is Wong Lai-ping, former deputy news editor at the China desk. On a radio interview aired on December 2, she rebuked the management's claim that the decision was made out of financial difficulties, remarking that in August, the management fired the then-executive director Fung Tak-hung and replaced him with four new managers. Wong said that the new management often made editorial requests, such as live broadcasts of China's foreign minister's regular press conference, or modifying headlines. According to Wong, the newsroom staff refused to comply with such requests.

The Hong Kong Journalists Association commented on the layoffs, "Given the [New Lancet] team's coverage of the police and administration, it's difficult not to see this as minimizing sensitive reporting in the name of cost-cutting".

1. Based on the text, the trigger of this resignation en masse is the belief that ….
   A. The previous layoffs were politically motivated
   B. Financial reasons affected the layoffs the most
   C. The journalists could demand for higher salary
   D. Political crackdown barely prompted the layoffs
   E. The management's disapproved of staffs' refusal of demands
2. The word "Layoffs" In the passage means…
   A. Postponed
   B. Dismissal
   C. Applied
   D. Recruited
   E. Suspension
3. Which of the following statements is TRUE accorsing the passage…
   A. Dozen of journalist got fired on 2nd December.
   B. Wong Lai-Ping is the head of Hong Kong Cable Television.
   C. The office fired its journalist due to the goverment's rebuke.
   D. The former news room staffs worked proffesionally.
   E. The Hong Kong Journalist Association agreed about the reason for walking papers.
4. Children, I forbid you _____ in the street. There's too much traffic.
   A. To playing
   B. Play
   C. To play
   D. Played
   E. Playing
5. Mrs. Freeman can't help _____ about her husband.
   A. To worrying
   B. Worrying
   C. To worry
   D. Worried
   E. Worry

LIVEWORKSHEETS