

Read the examples and write original sentences using the words in bold to demonstrate their meaning.  
Focus on creating sentences that show how the words are used in real-life situations.

1. I found a **listing** for a beautiful house in the countryside, and it had all the features I'd been dreaming of.
2. His actions throughout the day didn't **add up** to his usual behavior; something was off.
3. After not seeing each other for years, my old friends and I decided to meet up and **catch up** on our lives over a cup of coffee.
4. She has her **fingers crossed** that she'll get the job she interviewed for last week.
5. The restaurant's quality used to be excellent, but lately, it seems to be **going belly-up** with poor service and food quality.
6. The school had to **disband** the after-school art club due to a lack of funding and low participation.

Read the text and fill in the gaps with words from the box

fingers crossed   going belly-up   listing (\*)   catch up   add up   disband

Once upon a time in a small, cozy town, there was a group of coworkers who decided to try their luck with a lottery syndicate. They discovered an enticing online \_\_\_\_\_ for a syndicate promising riches and decided to give it a shot. With \_\_\_\_\_ and dreams of a life of luxury, they each contributed a bit of money.

Every Friday, they'd \_\_\_\_\_ in the office break room, chatting about what they would do if they struck it rich. Sarah wanted to travel the world, Frank wished for a pet elephant, and John had a vision of owning a mansion with a giant swimming pool.

But as time passed, something didn't \_\_\_\_\_. Their lottery tickets seemed to bring nothing but disappointment. It appeared that their "foolproof" plan from the online \_\_\_\_\_ was anything but, and their dreams of a lavish lifestyle were on the verge of \_\_\_\_\_.

Disappointment started to creep into the group, but they decided to stick together, their sense of humor intact. They laughed about Sarah's future adventures, Frank's quirky pet elephant, and John's grand mansion plans.

One day, they decided to throw a "We Almost Won the Lottery" party right there in the break room. They ordered pizza, and Frank showed up with an elephant-shaped party hat. Laughter filled the room as they celebrated their shared dreams and realized that they were the real winners all along - winners in the game of friendship.

As they shared stories and enjoyed the party, they made a collective decision. They might not have won the lottery, but they had gained something far more valuable – a friendship that would never \_\_\_\_\_, no matter how many lotteries they tried.

