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Question: 1

The high-profile _____ catastrophes had another consequence for future nuclear development: stricter safety standards, which require greater outlays during construction and operation.

- A. catastrofies
- B. catastrophies
- C. catastrofes
- D. catastrophes

Answer: D

Explanation:
Catastrophes is the correct spelling.

Question: 2

Some _____ estimate that the cost of building and maintaining a nuclear power plant has more than quadrupled because of increased regulation.

- A. analists
- B. anylists
- C. analysts
- D. anylysts

Answer: C

Explanation:
Analysts is the correct spelling.

Question: 3

At the same time, the United States government has been less willing to subsidize an unpopular industry, so utility companies have had to _____ the costs of new plants alone. A final driver of costs for nuclear power plants has been the shorter-than- expected lifespan of the plants that already exist. In the heyday of nuclear plant construction, it was believed that these plants would last about forty years, but, in practice, they have only lasted an average of seventeen.

- A. bare
- B. bear
- C. bar

D. beare

Answer: B

Explanation:

Bear is the correct spelling and word choice here. Bear in this context means "to hold up, or support."

Question: 4

The scientists who oversaw the construction of the first plants did not know that steady bombardment by neutrons would _____ the reactor vessel, a process known as embrittlement, or that corrosive chemicals would gradually degrade the pipes used for generating steam.

- A. weak
- B. weakened
- C. weakens
- D. weaken

Answer: D

Explanation:

Weaken is the correct word to use in this context.

Question: 5

No matter the cause, when plants operate for less than half of _____ anticipated lives, the power they produce becomes much more expensive. Shutting these plants down can be quite expensive, as well.

- A. there
- B. they/ re
- C. their
- D. theyre

Answer: C

Explanation:

There, their, and they're often get confused and used wrongly. In this sentence, the possessive there is needed preceding "anticipated lives".

Question: 6

This process, _____ as decommissioning, can run into the hundreds of millions of dollars and is often much more than the cost of building the plant in the first place. In some cases, the facilities can be

converted into natural gas power plants, but there are many former nuclear plants that sit idle for years as owners struggle to cover the costs of properly disposing of material and equipment.

- A. known
- B. know
- C. knows
- D. knowing

Answer: A

Explanation:

Known is the correct conjugation of the word know for this sentence.

Question: 7

Materials may be classified as _____ or conductors, depending on the ease with which they allow the passage of charges. An insulator may have a charge generated in one area, without the charge being distributed throughout the rest of the object. Amber and rubber are two classic examples of insulators.

- A. insulators
- B. insolaters
- C. insulators
- D. insolaters

Answer: C

Explanation:

Insulators is the correct spelling.

Question: 8

A conductor, meanwhile, is a material through which a charge can move _____ freely. Almost all metals are excellent conductors: of the metals most commonly used as conductors in industry are copper and aluminum. Some gases, such as ionized plasma, are also useful conductors.

- A. quiet
- B. quite
- C. quit
- D. quiete

Answer: B

Explanation:

Quite is the correct word for this sentence, meaning "to a considerable extent."

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