

Assignments

1. Read the passage and write three sentences by using the *-ing/-ed* forms of the given words to express your feelings of and opinions on Zhong Yang. The sentences should include effective supporting reasons and details.

Late Professor Honored for Devotion to Work

Zhong Yang, a biologist who spent much time and effort on education and biology research, was honored as an “Excellent Party Member”.

Zhong was famous for spending 16 years to assist Tibet’s development. He collected about 40 million plant seeds to build a genetic bank of plants that grow exclusively in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, and helped to develop education of ecology in Tibet.

At an early age, Zhong developed a curious attitude to learning. In 1979, Zhong, who was then 15, joined a class for gifted students at the University of Science and Technology of China, and he studied radio electronics. After graduating, Zhong was assigned to the Chinese Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Botany in Wuhan, as the institute was building a computer laboratory.

Zhao Bin, Zhong’s close friend, couldn’t understand Zhong’s decision to move to Wuhan. “But he was confident in the job,” Zhao recalled. “He said he had spent only three years to learn about radio electronics at the university, but he had more time to learn botany in his life.”

Zhong took an interest in botany so that it became his life’s career. His approaches to research differed to those of other botanists because of his academic background, Zhao said. In 2000, he became a deputy director of the Institute of Botany.

But he resigned the position and left for Shanghai for a professorship at Fudan University because he had been dreaming of being a teacher like his parents. Zhong treated every student like “a seed of hope”, said Zhao. Xu Yiqin, a former student, said Zhong’s classes were quite instructive and he was always the navigator when they conducted research in the wild and he made sure the roads were safe.

1) (devote) _____

2) (impress) _____

3) (inquire) _____

4) (confuse) _____

5) (interest) _____

6) (inspire) _____

Assignments (With possible answers)

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- 1) (devote) In my opinion, Zhong Yang was a devoted biologist, and he was honored as an “Excellent Party Member” for his contributions on education and biology research.
- 2) (impress) I am impressed by his efforts to promote Tibet’s development. Throughout the 16 years, he collected about 40 million plant seeds to build a seed bank and he was committed to developing education of ecology in Tibet.
- 3) (inquire) Zhong developed an inquiring attitude to learning. He was so talented that he joined a class for gifted students at the age of 15 and he devoted himself to botany.
- 4) (confuse) Zhong Yang’s decision to move to Wuhan was confusing, because he studied radio electronic in the universality, but his job was not closely related to it.
- 5) (interest) Zhong was so interested in botany that it became his life’s career. He had an undying passion for the development of botany.
- 6) (inspire) According to Xu Yiqin, a former student of Zhong, Zhong’s classes were quite inspiring, and Zhong was always the navigator leading his students to explore science.

2. Write a paragraph in about 60 words of your feelings of and opinions on the scientist of your choice. Use details from the important fact and the quote you have chosen to support your viewpoints and use *-ing/-ed* forms where appropriate. Assess your writing with the checklist.

(Answers may vary)