I. In each pair, which sentence seems more informal?

A
1. The program was set up to improve maternal health in developing countries.
2. The program was established to improve maternal health in developing countries.

B
1. Researchers found out adult second language acquisition processes follow predictable stages.
2. Researchers determined adult second language acquisition processes follow predictable stages.

C
1. America’s economic growth rate has been fluctuating for the last five years.
2. America’s economic growth rate has been going up and down for the last five years.

D.
1. The aim of pronunciation instruction is not to completely get rid of the learner’s accent.
2. The aim of pronunciation instruction is not to completely eliminate the learner’s accent.

II. In each pair, what do you notice about the underlined verbs?

A
1. The program was set up to improve maternal health in developing countries.
2. The program was established to improve maternal health in developing countries.

B
1. Researchers found out adult second language acquisition processes follow predictable stages.
2. Researchers determined adult second language acquisition processes follow predictable stages.

C
1. America’s economic growth rate has been fluctuating for the last five years.
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D.
1. The aim of pronunciation instruction is not to completely get rid of the learner’s accent.
2. The aim of pronunciation instruction is not to completely eliminate the learner’s accent.

III. Can you develop a general rule or guideline based on this information?