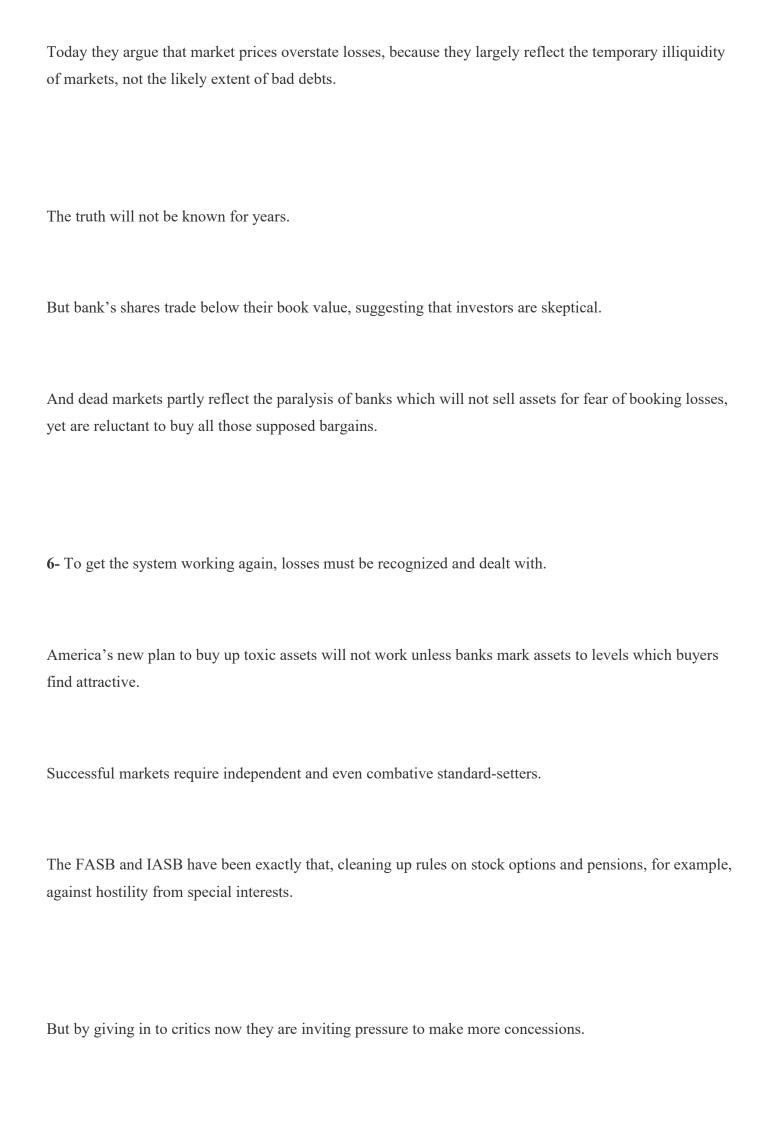
2010-1 Text 4

1- Bankers have been blaming themselves for their troubles in public.
Behind the scenes, they have been taking aim at someone else: the accounting standard-setters.
Their rules, moan the banks, have forced them to report enormous losses, and it's just not fair.
These rules say they must value some assets at the price a third party would pay, not the price manager and regulators would like them to fetch.
2- Unfortunately, banks' lobbying now seems to be working.
The details may be unknowable, but the independence of standard-setters, essential to the proper functioning of capital markets, is being compromised.
And, unless banks carry toxic assets at prices that attract buyers, reviving the banking system will be difficult.
3- After a bruising encounter with Congress, America's Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) rushed through rule changes.





36. Bankers complained that they were forced to
[A] follow unfavorable asset evaluation rules
[B] collect payments from third parties
[C] cooperate with the price managers
[D] reevaluate some of their assets.
37. According to the author, the rule changes of the FASB may result in
[A] the diminishing role of management
[B] the revival of the banking system
[C] the banks' long-term asset losses
[D] the weakening of its independence
38. According to Paragraph 4, McCreevy objects to the IASB's attempt to
[A] keep away from political influences.
[B] evade the pressure from their peers.
[C] act on their own in rule-setting.
[D] take gradual measures in reform.
39. The author thinks the banks were "on the wrong planet" in that they
[A] misinterpreted market price indicators
[B] exaggerated the real value of their assets
[C] neglected the likely existence of bad debts.
[D] denied booking losses in their sale of assets.
40. The author's attitude towards standard-setters is one of
[A] satisfaction.
[B] skepticism.
[C] objectiveness

[D] sympathy