

## Special Topic: Success

### “7 Ways to be Successful”

Many people want to be successful in life, but it's easier said than done. There are so many **distractions** in life that it can be challenging to accomplish our goals. By keeping the following advice in mind, however, you can dramatically increase your chances of becoming successful in whatever you choose to **pursue**.

1. *Imagine yourself being successful.* Einstein said that the imagination is more important than knowledge. The more **vividly** and accurately you imagine your success, the easier it will be to be successful.

2. *Surround yourself with other people who are successful.* When you're surrounded with people who are **highly-driven**, it's encouraging.

3. *Stay away from distractions.* There are so many distractions in this world that you really don't need. Whenever you are doing something which is not useful or productive, imagine yourself as a **loser** with **shattered** dreams and push yourself away.

4. *Set a time* for when you want to achieve your goal. If you don't know when you will achieve your dream then you will never know when you will achieve it

5. *Take risks.* Step out of your **comfort zone**. Successful people think big and act big. It can be a scary thing to do, but if you don't, then will you ever be successful? Successful people make big **investments** (in their careers, in their businesses, in their education) and all investments involve risk. But don't be **reckless**. Study your risks, make sure the odds are in your favor, then **take a leap**.

6. *Be persistent.* Don't give up. If your first **attempt** didn't work, don't quit. Always keep in mind the following sentence: "If you don't give up, you cannot fail".

7. *Remove fear and doubt* from your way of thinking, and **focus** on keeping positive in every situation. You will be more effective if you keep a positive mind and stay focused on your goal. Remember, you can be your own best friend or your own worst enemy.

### Vocabulary

- |                          |                                                                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Distraction (     )   | A. to try to achieve something over a long period of time                     |
| 2. Pursue (     )        | B. to completely destroy someone's hopes, beliefs, or confidence              |
| 3. Vivid (     )         | C. when you spend a large amount of time, energy, emotion on something        |
| 4. Highly-driven (     ) | D. not caring or worrying about the bad or dangerous results                  |
| 5. Loser (     )         | E. trying to do something, especially something difficult                     |
| 6. Shattered (     )     | F. someone who is never successful in life, work, or relationships            |
| 7. Comfort Zone (     )  | G. something that stops you paying attention to what you are doing            |
| 8. Investment (     )    | H. to give special attention to one particular person or thing                |
| 9. Reckless (     )      | I. to have a lot of motivation                                                |
| 10. Take a leap (     )  | J. very clear, seeming real                                                   |
| 11. Attempt (     )      | K. go for something, take a chance                                            |
| 12. Focus (     )        | L. the range of activities or situations that you feel happy and confident in |

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2. *Surround yourself with other people who are successful.* When you're surrounded with people who are **highly-driven**, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
3. *Stay away from distractions.* There are so many distractions in this world that you really don't need. Whenever you are doing something which is \_\_\_\_\_ or productive, imagine yourself as a **loser** with **shattered** dreams and \_\_\_\_\_ yourself \_\_\_\_\_.
4. *Set a time* for when you want to achieve your goal. If you don't know when you will achieve your dream then you will never know when you will achieve it
5. *Take risks.* Step out of your **comfort zone**. Successful people think \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ big. It can be a scary thing to do, but if you don't, then will you ever be successful? Successful people make big **investments** (in their careers, in their businesses, in their education) and all investments involve risk. But don't be **reckless**. Study your risks, make sure the \_\_\_\_\_ are in your \_\_\_\_\_, then **take a leap**.
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7. *Remove fear and doubt* from your way of thinking, and **focus** on keeping \_\_\_\_\_ in every situation. You will be more effective if you keep a positive mind and stay focused on your goal. Remember, you can be your own best \_\_\_\_\_ or your own worst \_\_\_\_\_.

**2) Questions** - Answer these questions with your partner.

1. What is this article about?
2. Why is it difficult to be successful? Describe a time when you had a difficult time being successful.
3. Can you describe the 7 ways to be successful? Why is each a good idea?
4. Which do you think is the most important way? Which is the least important? Why?
5. What are some other things you can do to be successful? Try to think of 3 more ideas together:

**3) Rank** - What would make you feel the most successful?

Rank these successes in order from 1(the best) – 8 (not so amazing). Use each number once!

|                         |                        |                     |                          |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ Getting a job       | ___ Looking attractive | ___ Having children | ___ Accomplishing a goal |
| ___ Getting a promotion | ___ Receiving an award | ___ Getting married | ___ Winning a race       |

**Talk about your ideas with your partner.**

**Ask:** “Which would make you feel the most successful?”

“Which would make you feel the least successful?”

“What would make you feel the next most/least successful?”

**Talk more:**

What are some things not listed that make you feel successful?

**4) Free Discussion** - Discuss these questions with your partner.

1. What is your biggest success in life? What small successes do you have every day?
2. Would you sacrifice happiness, love, or family for the opportunity to be successful? Why/Why not?
3. Who do you think are the three(3) most successful people in history? Why do you consider them the most successful?
4. What would you do with 5 Million dollars?

**5) The Secrets of Success** - Read each statement and discuss your feelings with your group. Explain your opinion.

What do you think about this statement, “\_\_\_”?

I think there's some truth to it because\_\_\_\_\_.  
I think that's completely wrong because\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Money is the best measure of success.
2. Happiness is the best measure of success. Do whatever makes you feel good.
3. Finding a good partner is the best measure of success. Having a beautiful, interesting, and fashionable boyfriend or girlfriend means we must be successful.
4. Success is winning at whatever you decide to do.
5. Success is conquering oneself and having control of all emotions and desires.

6. Success is getting the respect of other people.

I want to start my own business. What should I do first?

I've just finished writing my first novel. What should I do now?

I want to get married and have a family, but I can't find the right person.

I'm planning to buy a house. What should I do?

I want to get a promotion. How should I ask for one?

I want to start a new hobby, but I can't decide what to try. What do you recommend?

I want to completely change my style. What style should I try?

I want to be good at something, but I can't focus on one thing. What should I focus on?

I have a hard time accomplishing my goals. What should I do?

I want to quit being a couch potato. What should I do?

I want to go back to school. What should I do?