

A life lesson from a volunteer firefighter

- ❖ Lex Luthor – the main enemy of Superman from the original comic strip
- ❖ Nemesis – Greek goddess of revenge, vengeance



I. Match the words and phrases with their meanings.

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| 1) Non-profit organization | a) To add to make smth larger or better |
| 2) To supplement | b) Bravery, the ability to control your fear |
| 3) Footrace | c) Work you do in addition to your main job or profession, esp. for enjoyment |
| 4) Assignment | d) A person who gives a younger / less experienced person help or advice over a period of time |
| 5) To be stunned with jealousy | e) A piece of work given to smb as part of job |
| 6) To beat smb in a footrace | f) Intended to make money for a social or political purpose or to provide a service that people need |
| 7) Nemesis | g) Smb / smth that is very difficult to defeat |
| 8) To display the valiant effort | h) Shocked or surprised |
| 9) Avocation | i) Outstanding, unusual or special |
| 10) Act of grace | j) To show very courageous, bravely determined actions, esp. when things are difficult or give no cause for hope |
| 11) Courage | k) A running race |
| 12) Remarkable level of success | l) Polite and pleasant way of behaving |
| 13) Mentor | m) To become better than smb, to show a better result |

Vocabulary in Context

II. Read the sentences and choose the correct meaning of the words and phrases in bold.

- 1) Now in our town, where the volunteers supplement a highly skilled career staff, you have to get to the fire scene pretty early **to get in on any action**.
 - a) Be ready for work
 - b) Avoid doing any work
 - c) Be part of what people are doing
- 2) I was the second volunteer on the scene, so there was **a pretty good chance** I was going to get in.
 - a) A piece of good luck
 - b) A strong probability
 - c) A real danger
- 3) She was standing outside in the pouring rain, under an umbrella, in her pyjamas, **barefoot**, while her house was in flames.
 - a) With cold feet
 - b) With no shoes
 - c) Tired
- 4) ...but off I went – up the stairs, down the hall, past the ‘real’ firefighters, who were **pretty much done** putting out the fire at this point.
 - a) Almost finished
 - b) Very tired from
 - c) Having difficulty
- 5) I’m also witness to acts of grace and courage on an individual basis. And you know what I’ve learned? **They all matter**.
 - a) They are all difficult
 - b) They are all different
 - c) They are all important
- 6) Not every day is going to offer us a chance to save somebody’s life, but every day offers us an opportunity to affect one. So **get in the game**.
 - a) Become involved
 - b) Get a good job
 - c) Be part of a team