

The People Behind Perfumes (2)

1. (**Fortunately, Undoubtedly, Commonly**) we have all had the experience of walking in a mall and being hit with a wall of a 2. (**powerfully overwhelming , powerful overwhelmed , powerfully overwhelmed**) scent; usually emanating from a small kiosk. 3. (**In contrast , Whereas , Regardless**) of whether the odour is pleasantly enticing or absolutely revolting to you, how often 4. (**have , was , had**) you stopped to consider its origins? 5. (**If only, Not only , Only if**) is that perfume probably the result of years of intense labour and research, but it is also more than likely the culmination of someone's artistic vision, all packaged in an attractive bottle.

The person behind this vision is a perfumer, and it is 6. (**as if , as in , as thought**) their pursuit for the perfect scent is never-ending. 7. (**It is believed , It believes , It was believing**) to start with a passion, and a good "nose", which is a rare thing to possess. Thus, only if a person has this special ability, 8. (**can they become , they can become , can they became**) a perfumer. Most perfumers grow up 9. (**to enjoy , enjoyed , enjoying**) different smells, from fresh cut grass to a salty sea breeze. This passion then matures and becomes academic, resulting in hours of chemistry classes and experiments in laboratories. In the end, perfumers leave university with the knowledge 10. (**to be able to , to use , in order**) turn their early passion for smells into a serious and lucrative career.

However, creating new perfumes is not an exact science, and 11. (**rare , rarely , rarity**) do perfumers produce a perfect smell on their first attempt. Successful perfumers today 12. (**won't be , wouldn't have been , wouldn't be**) so good at what they do had they not spent years honing their talent. Often, a lot of time and research results in a failed attempt 13. (**to make , made , making**) a new fragrance. That is why 14. (**as well , besides , both**) education and natural talent, becoming a successful perfumer requires patience. It can take over 500 attempts to find the right "notes", or combination of scents, that 15. (**where , when , what**) blended, result in the perfect synthesis of smells. Only then can the perfume become both a simple commercial product and a complex work of art. One well-known perfumer stated that by the time she reaches retirement, her nose 16. (**will have been working , would have worked , will be working**) hard for over 50 years!