

LIFE LESSONS FROM BRUCE LEE



"I fear not the man who has practiced 10,000 kicks once, but I fear the man who has practiced one kick 10,000 times."
Bruce Lee

READ THE FOLLOWING TEXT:

BRUCE LEE - BEST LIFE LESSONS

Bruce Lee had been acting in films since he was 6 years old. His father was a famous Hong Kong actor who always used to take him on the film sets. Growing up Bruce Lee really developed an interest in **dancing**. But the post-war Hong Kong, was full of gangs and Bruce was often forced to fight them. Moreover, he always did like to fight. In one fight, Bruce took on the **son of a popular gang member** so, to give their son an opportunity to protect himself, **Bruce's parents enrolled him in a martial arts class**. His street fighting continued and his violent nature was escalating. **Seeing all this, his parents send him to the USA with his friends to escape this violence.**

In Seattle he found a job at China Town. **In his college, his friends and classmates started taking martial art classes from him due to the reputation that he had established.** On the advice of his students, **he started his own school** and then used to charge people to learn from him. It is how he found his future **wife**, Linda Lee Cadwell.



Soon he was invited to perform at Ed Parker's *Karate Championship*. He astonished the crowd with his **one-inch punch**. Despite of all this, he did not do well financially.

One week after the birth of Bruce and Linda's child, **Bruce's father passed away**. He attended the funeral and when he came back to America, he was even more determined to make his family proud.

Later, a hollywood hairstylist who saw Bruce Lee perform, recommended him to **take part in a new show called "The Green Hornet"** where he was quite successful. But even after that, he did not find work regularly, and soon, unable to find work as an actor, he started working as a **fight coordinator** in films.



The producer of *The Green Hornet* advised Bruce Lee to start teaching people in their own homes. **He attracted many popular students who later became famous actors, like Steve McQueen and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and became a popular martial arts coach in Hollywood.**



When he injured his back while training, the doctors told him that **he will never be able to fight again**. And how did Bruce Lee respond to that? He was even more determined to recover and even more active when he got back to his feet. **He biked 15 miles (24 km), ran 3 miles (5 km), did a 1000 kicks and 2000 punches a day to see what the human body can endure.**

When he came back to Hong Kong, he was astonished to see that he had become a star there. That's why he later made several successful films in Hong Kong with most popular film producers of Asia. **Soon he had conquered Asia, but still not satisfied, he wanted to take on the world.** Unfortunately, while shooting for the movie *The Game of Death*, he collapsed due to '**cerebral edema**' (**swelling of the brain**). Although he was perfectly fine after some time, later he felt a headache, yet again. **He went to sleep after taking a pill and never woke up. He passed away at an age of 32.**

COMPLETE WITH THE PAST TENSE OF THE VERBS IN BRACKETS:

Bruce _____ (be) born on the Chinese *Year* of the Dragon, on the *Day* of the Dragon, on the *hour* of the Dragon.

Bruce's Grandfather _____ (be) 100% German.

Bruce's *first martial arts instructor* _____ (be) his father, teaching him a bit of Tai Chi.

Bruce _____ (be) a champion *Cha Cha* dancer in Hong Kong when he _____ (be) in high school.

Bruce _____ (have) *bad eye-sight*. He _____ (be) near-sighted and _____ (be) one of the first people to try contact lenses.

Due to his poor eyesight he _____ (fail) a basic military physical in 1963 _____. (hold) by the US Army so he _____ (not be) shipped off to Vietnam to fight in the war!

Bruce Lee _____ (not can) *swim*! Bruce's younger brother Robert and sister Phoebe _____ (reveal) that Bruce actually _____ (hate) the water.

Bruce Lee _____ (hope) to 'one day' fight *Muhammad Ali*. He _____ (think) of Muhammad Ali as a superior fighter with his speed and technicality. He _____ (use) to watch footage of Ali constantly to learn his style and also adapt some of his footwork and movements.

Despite never formally studying Karate, Bruce _____ (be) able to perform *all* of the Karate movements with tremendous accuracy!

Bruce _____ (be) crazily *fast*. He _____ (use) to demonstrate his speed by placing a coin in someone's hand. He _____ (will) then snatch the coin and replace it with another before the person _____ (can) clench their fist and stop him.

Bruce Lee _____ (love) to write *poetry*. According to friends, he _____ (write) it regularly.

Bruce _____ (have) a library over over 2000 *books*. He _____ (read) constantly, going through books cover to cover, highlighting sections and always searching for knowledge. He has been known to watch TV, read a book and lift a dumbbell, all at once!

Bruce Lee _____ (be) named by Time Magazine as one of the 100 *most influential* people of the 20th century.

Bruce Lee's death is still considered *mysterious*.

Bruce once _____ (say):

"If I _____ (shell) die tomorrow, I will have no regrets.
I _____ (do) what I _____ (want) to do. You can't expect more from life."

READ THE FOLLOWING LETTER:

When Bruce Lee was about 28 years old, he wrote the following letter to himself:

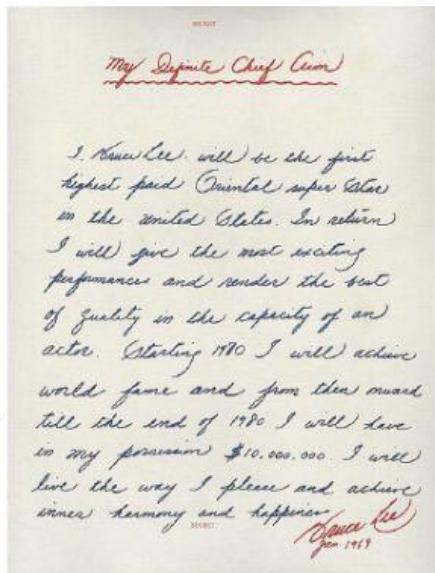
I, Bruce Lee, will be the first highest paid Oriental super star in the United States. In return, I will give the most exciting performances and render the best of quality in the capacity of an actor. Starting 1970 I will achieve world fame and from then onward till the end of 1980 I will have in my possession \$10,000,000.

I will live the way I please and achieve inner harmony and happiness.

Bruce Lee

Jan. 1969

He achieved everything at an age of 32. Everything that he hoped to achieve in ten years was achieved in only 4 years and his net worth also exceeded \$10,000,000.



WRITE A SIMILAR LETTER ABOUT YOUR FUTURE PROSPECTS, USING THE FUTURE SIMPLE WITH "WILL":

