

# The Pursuit of Happyness (2006)

Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Level: B1-B2



## About the film:

The Pursuit of Happyness is a true story about Chris Gardner, who faces many struggles while trying to build a better life for his son.

### 1. WARM-UP

Discuss the questions with a partner.

1. What does "happiness" mean to you?
2. What is the most challenging situation you have ever faced?
3. What qualities help people succeed in life?

### 2. VOCABULARY

Match the words (1-8) with their meanings (A-H).

1. struggle	<input type="checkbox"/>	A. to encourage someone to do something
2. determination	<input type="checkbox"/>	B. a period of work experience for a beginner
3. opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	C. the state of not having a home
4. internship	<input type="checkbox"/>	D. to achieve a desired result
5. homeless	<input type="checkbox"/>	E. a chance to do something positive
6. investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	F. money or time put into something to make a profit
7. motivate	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. a very difficult problem
8. succeed	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. a strong decision to do something

### 3. WHILE-WATCHING (Check your understanding)

Watch the video and circle True (T) or False (F).

1. Chris Gardner is a salesman at the beginning of the film. T F
2. He has a stable and comfortable life with his son. T F
3. Chris gets an unpaid internship at a broker company. T F
4. He gives up the internship because it is too difficult. T F
5. Chris and his son have to sleep in a homeless shelter. T F
6. Chris becomes a successful stockbroker in the end. T F

### 4. LISTENING FOR DETAILS

Watch the video again. Complete the sentences.

1. Chris spends all his money on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. His son's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Chris can't afford \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He and his son often use \_\_\_\_\_ to travel around the city.
5. The internship program lasts for \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Chris never gives up because he wants a better life for \_\_\_\_\_.

### 5. SPEAKING

Discuss with your partner.

1. What part of the film inspired you the most? Why?
2. What would you do if you were in Chris's situation?
3. Do you think success is more about talent or hard work? Why?

### 6. CRITICAL THINKING

Answer the questions.

1. What are the main challenges Chris faces in the film?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What values does Chris show throughout the story?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What lesson can we learn from this film for our own lives?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 7. CREATIVE WRITING

Dear Diary,

Imagine you are Chris Gardner. Write a diary entry about the day you finally get the job.

### 8. SELF-ASSESSMENT

Rate yourself. Put a tick (✓) in the box.

I can...	Very well	Quite well	A little	Not yet
Understand the main ideas of the video.				
Understand specific details.				
Learn new vocabulary.				
Talk about the film and my opinions.				
Think critically about the story.				

After watching the video, I feel...

- inspired
- motivated
- thoughtful
- happy
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR TEACHERS (Notes)

#### Before watching

- Activate background knowledge.
- Teach or pre-teach key vocabulary (struggle, determination, internship, etc.).
- Set a purpose for watching.

#### While watching

- Play the video with English subtitles (if needed).
- Check comprehension with tasks 3 and 4.
- Encourage note-taking.

#### After watching

- Use speaking and critical thinking questions for discussion.
- Assign the writing task as homework or in class.

#### Video suggestion

Search on YouTube or your platform:  
**The Pursuit of Happyness**  
 best scenes / full movie with subtitles  
 1:15:15 min. 15 min. 15 min. 15 min.