



Name:

Book: American Full Blast B2 (Units 1 and 10)

■ **READING COMPREHENSION.**

1. Do you agree with the statement that says "Money bring happiness"? Read the following article about it and match the words to their meaning.
(8/1=8)

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

How you think about money can impact how happy you are in life, study says

Most of us have heard that money can't buy happiness. But the way you view wealth and materialism may have a significant effect on how satisfied and happy you are with your life, according to a new study published in the journal Applied Research in Quality of Life.



"Money can be a tool to motivate you to achieve major **milestones** in your life, which can make you feel happier in the long run," Jenny Jiao, study author and assistant professor of marketing at Binghamton University School of Management, said in a press release.

After analyzing results from a survey of over 7,500 German adults for the study, researchers at the Binghamton University School of Management found that people's feelings about materialism tend to be **nuanced**. Specifically, there's a difference between "happiness materialism" and "success materialism," the researchers found.

Buying into "happiness materialism" — the belief that wealth is an indicator of a happy life — tends to be problematic because it takes "much time, energy and money away from other life **domains** that make an important and positive contribution to present life satisfaction," such as family, work and health, the study authors wrote.

However, researchers believe focusing on "success materialism" — the idea that wealth signifies success — **enhances** people's "economic motivation," or their **drive** to work and improve their standard of living. Thinking about success through that lens could make individuals more satisfied with their present lives and hopeful about the future.

This simple **mindset** shift could make a difference in the way people view success and their lives, but of course there are other variables at play. For example, while this study didn't cover how income specifically affects life satisfaction, researchers agree that it also impacts people's happiness. A 2010 study out of Princeton University found that there's a **correlation** between happiness and wealth, to a point of about \$75,000 per year. When people make more than \$75,000 a year, their happiness doesn't increase, but the lower their income is the worse they feel, the study found.

Jiao added in the press release that, above all, it's important to keep in mind the things that bring you happiness that don't come with a price **tag**. "These include family, friends, your health, continual learning and new experiences," she said.

MILESTONES NUANCED DOMAINS ENHANCES DRIVE MINDSET CORRELATION TAG

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a) a connection or relationship between two or more things | _____ |
| b) improves something, or makes it more attractive or more valuable | _____ |
| c) Significant points in development. | _____ |
| d) slightly different in meaning | _____ |
| e) a small piece of paper or other material fixed to inform price | _____ |
| f) a way of thinking about things | _____ |
| g) a particular area of activity or life | _____ |
| h) determination to do something | _____ |

2. Now, read the text again, and choose the best phrase to complete the statements.

(6/2=12)

- a- The purpose of the article is _____
- To inform how to find happiness
 - To show the connection between money and happiness
- b- Binghamton University professor of marketing said that in the long run _____
- Money can help you achieve significant issues in life
 - Money is not a tool to make you happy
- c- Germans 'feelings about materialism tend to be _____
- Equal
 - Different
- d- Being wealthy as a sign of a happy life, takes time and energy from _____
- Negative life domains
 - Family, work and health
- e- Focusing on the idea that wealth means success _____
- Increases people's motivation to improve their life standards
 - Makes people feel dissatisfied with their present lives
- f- According to Princeton research, happiness doesn't increase if they get _____
- More than \$75.000 per year
 - Only \$75.000 per year

▪ **LISTENING**

3. Some people still wonder, does more money equal more happiness? Watch and listen to this video and choose the best alternative to complete each statement.

(6/2.5=15)

1) Having more money gives you certain _____

inconveniences

comforts

2) According to research, money can drastically improve happiness for those who can't afford

housing and food

travel and pleasure

3) Although in the last century Americans have tripled their possessions, happiness _____

grew up

stays the same

4) For Maslow, the higher you go in the famous hierarchy of human needs, _____

the less effect money has

the more effect money has

5) The result of the pyramid comparison is that money has _____

a growing effect on happiness

a diminishing effect on happiness

6) Bill gates made an analogy: "eating the same hamburger" would be the same to getting

millions and more

less than a million

4. In this video, two types of happiness are described. Listen again and write "E" for extrinsic or "I" for intrinsic next to the phrases.

(5/1=5)

Make the world a perfect place to live in

Focus on material wealth, image and status

Long lasting joy from within

Always wanting more

Short-lived dopamine spurt

- GRAMMAR

5. John, an old friend of mine, had a stroke of good luck last week. Read the statements about what happened and choose the best Past Modal to complete them.

(5/1=5)

Johngone on holiday. I saw him that morning downtown.

must have

can't have

Nobody answered the phone at his shop. Itclosed early.

might have

must have

Icalled him earlier! Now I can't find him anywhere!

should have

could have

I can't believe John has won the lottery! Hebeen so lucky!

couldn't have

can't have

I don't know where he went, but he bought Euros before he left so hegone to France or Germany.

should have

might have

6. John's friends talk about what happened. Read these conditional sentences and complete them with the correct tense of the verbs in brackets.

(4/1.5=6)

1. If I(buy) a lottery ticket, I will not be so lucky!
2. If he(not/ like) gambling, he wouldn't win 20 million.
3. I.....(congratulate) him if I had known before he left.
4. Unless he..... (move) from this neighborhood, he will be robbed.

7. While on holidays in Paris, John met Sarah, his new friend. Read about her story and complete it with the correct tense of the verbs in brackets.

(12/0.5=6)

Sarah (like, always) 1-_____travelling. **Last year** she (finish) 2-_____her studies at secondary school. **Now**, she (want) 3-_____to give herself some time to think before she (go) 4-_____to university. **While** she (study) 5-_____at school she (meet) 6-_____a girl from Paris who (tell) 7-_____her a lot about her country. From that moment she (want) 8-_____to visit it. **Some days ago** she (see) 9-_____some information about volunteer work there and finally (decide) 10-_____to apply. She (be chosen) 11-_____and she (spend) 12-_____the **next** 8 months working on a school project, isn't that great?

8. When John came back, his friend Mark talked to him. Report what Mark said.

(3/1=3)

How many places have you visited?

Did you enjoy the trip?

I was wondering whether you went sightseeing alone or with a group.

▪ **VOCABULARY**

9. John was delighted to tell us about his trip to Europe. Drag words from the box to make compound nouns, and complete the paragraph with them.

(5/2=10)

minded	new	class	minute	consuming
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first- last- like-
time- brand-

John is a fun of art, and when he was about to leave Paris, he made a (1)decision:
visit Rome. He wanted to go by car, so he got a (2)..... sport car. Though touring
around by car is more (3), he enjoyed it a lot. There, he stayed in a
(4).....hotel and had the opportunity to share experiences and talks with
(5).....people.

10. As soon as he got to Italy, John had some problems. Read about this anecdote and drag the phrasal verbs to their correct place. (5/1=5)

CUT DOWN ON	STICK TO	GET ACROSS	KEEP UP WITH	HIT ON
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"The first place I wanted to visit was The Vatican, and to do so I had tothe rules. As
I am not fluent with my Italian, I.....an idea: to use my mobile as a translator. Unfortunately it
wasn't allowed in all churches, so tomy Italian, I decided to take lessons with the
concierge. At the beginning it was frustrating not to be able tomy ideas....., but
the following week everything was solved. One thing is true: I had to.....some
expenses to pay my new teacher!"

11. After his trip alone, John realized that friends are more important than money, and these statements are part of his reflections. Choose the best word to complete them. (5/1=5)

It is really **relentlessly / disheartening** to be all alone without the possibility of sharing with friends.

Sometimes, having so much and others so little is a **bittersweet / blasting** sensation.

I Hope to enjoy a quiet **getaway / downfall** with them soon, they deserve it!

I will talk about the **collide/ layout** of this trip with them.

I will have to find an **appealing / fearsome** destination, so that they never forget about this experience!