



Name _____

Date _____

MONEY OR HARD WORK?

Can money make you successful? Most people seem to think so, but think again. It depends on your definition of success. Some of the richest people in the world are far from successful. There is no argument that money brings with it many opportunities that may otherwise be unrealized. Money can buy opportunities and materials. But money is not the only key.

Tesa was born in Africa in the poorest of countries. She was without adequate nutrition and care for most of her childhood. At the age of 16, she was determined to stay in school, though most of the other girls her age were leaving to marry or to help provide for their families at home. Girls were just not encouraged to get an education. But Tesa worked at school during the day and in the fields at night. By the moonlight, she would pick crops that were often devastated with drought and pests.

All of this hard work paid off. When Tesa turned 17, a traveling professor from England noticed her hard work and skill. He was amazed with her intellect. This professor invited her to attend one of the most prestigious universities in England. Since that time, Tesa has become a distinguished professor. Luck, you may say? Tesa would probably disagree with you. She would say that her hard work and dedication got her where she is today.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following best describes the author of this passage?
 - a. reticent and quiet
 - b. obnoxious and loud
 - c. frustrated and demanding
 - d. encouraging and motivational
2. Which statement below helps support your answer to the previous question?
 - a. Many are left without the skills they need to survive in today's world.
 - b. Girls were just not encouraged to get an education.
 - c. Job wages have continued to be lower than they should be.
 - d. She would say that her hard work and dedication got her where she is today.
3. What is meant by the word *distinguished* as used in this passage?
 - a. annoying
 - b. different
 - c. challenging
 - d. illustrious