

Level: A2 B1

Lesson: 8 things that Leads to Success

Text from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6bbMQXQ180>

Warm Up: Teacher-student Talk

- What do you consider to be your greatest success in life? In other words, your greatest achievement in the past? Your biggest accomplishment?
- In your opinion, what helped you make it a reality?

1. Vocabulary: Before you listen

1.1. Phrasal Verbs

- cut down: reduce (an amount)
Text Context: *This is really a two-hour cut down to three minutes.*
- pass on: transfer
Text Context: *Why don't I ask them what helped them succeed, and pass it on to kids?*

1.2. Set Phrases

- put one's nose down in (something): get fully involved or interested (in something)
Text Context: *To be successful, put your nose down in something.*
- be driven by (something): be moved or motivated by
Text Context: *I'm driven by passion*

2. Comprehension

2.1. General Comprehension

Directions: Watch a *TEDEd* presentation by Richard St. John and answer the question below:

What is the purpose of the presentation?

2.2. Specific Comprehension

Directions: What do you think the following people implied with the following statements? Explain what you think they meant with your own words.

a) And the first thing is passion. Freeman Thomas says, "I'm driven by my passion." TEDsters do it for love; they don't do it for money.

b) Carol Coletta says, "I would pay someone to do what I do." And the interesting thing is: if you do it for love, the money comes anyway.

c) Work! Rupert Murdoch said to me, "It's all hard work. Nothing comes easily. But I have a lot of fun." (...) TEDsters do have fun working. And they work hard. I figured, they're not workaholics. They're "workafrolics". Good!

d) Alex Garden says, "To be successful, put your nose down in something and get d*mn good at it." There's no magic; it's practice, practice, practice.

e) And it's focus. Norman Jewison said to me, "I think it all has to do with focusing yourself on one thing."

f) And push! David Gallo says, "Push yourself. Physically, mentally, you've got to push, push, push." You've got to push through shyness and self-doubt. (...) Now it's not always easy to push yourself, and that's why they invented mothers. (...) Frank Gehry said to me, "My mother pushed me."

g) Goldie Hawn says, "I always had self-doubts. I wasn't good enough; I wasn't smart enough. I didn't think I'd make it."

h) Serve! Sherwin Nuland says, "It was a privilege to serve as a doctor." A lot of kids want to be millionaires. The first thing I say is: "OK, well you can't serve yourself; you've got to serve others something of value. Because that's the way people really get rich."

i) Ideas! TEDster Bill Gates says, "I had an idea: founding the first micro-computer software company." I'd say it was a pretty good idea. And there's no magic to creativity in coming up with ideas -- it's just doing some very simple things. And I give lots of evidence.

j) Persist! Joe Kraus says, "Persistence is the number one reason for our success." You've got to persist through failure. You've got to persist through cr*p! Which of course means "Criticism, Rejection, As*holes and Pressure."

3. **Monologue:** *Success Vs Failure*

- a) In your opinion, what makes a person successful?
- b) Is your idea of success the same as your parents' idea of success?
- c) Do you think people focus too much on appearing to be successful?
- d) Why do you think is money the most common way of judging success?
- e) How would you (or do you) describe success to your children?
- f) Have there been any failures that made your life better? Don't talk about anything that will make you uncomfortable or embarrassed.
- g) Is there a right time to give up and stop trying? Or should you never give up?



Annex: Video Transcript

This is really a two-hour presentation I give to high school students, cut down to three minutes. And it all started one day on a plane, on my way to TED, seven years ago. And in the seat next to me was a high school student, a teenager, and she came from a really poor family. And she wanted to make something of her life, and she asked me a simple little question. She said, "What leads to success?" And I felt really badly, because I couldn't give her a good answer.

So, I get off the plane, and I come to TED. And I think, jeez, I'm in the middle of a room of successful people! So why don't I ask them what helped them succeed, and pass it on to kids? So here we are, seven years, 500 interviews later, and I'm going to tell you what really leads to success and makes TEDsters tick.

And the first thing is passion. Freeman Thomas says, "I'm driven by my passion." TEDsters do it for love; they don't do it for money.

Carol Coletta says, "I would pay someone to do what I do." And the interesting thing is: if you do it for love, the money comes anyway.

Work! Rupert Murdoch said to me, "It's all hard work. Nothing comes easily. But I have a lot of fun." Did he say fun? Rupert? Yes!

TEDsters do have fun working. And they work hard. I figured, they're not workaholics. They're "workafrolics". Good!

*Alex Garden says, "To be successful, put your nose down in something and get d*mn good at it." There's no magic; it's practice, practice, practice.*

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Goldie Hawn says, "I always had self-doubts. I wasn't good enough; I wasn't smart enough. I didn't think I'd make it."

Now it's not always easy to push yourself, and that's why they invented mothers.

Frank Gehry said to me, "My mother pushed me."

Serve! Sherwin Nuland says, "It was a privilege to serve as a doctor."

A lot of kids want to be millionaires. The first thing I say is: "OK, well you can't serve yourself; you've got to serve others something of value. Because that's the way people really get rich."

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So, the answer to this question is simple: Pay 4,000 bucks and come to TED.

Or failing that, do the eight things -- and trust me, these are the big eight things that lead to success.

Thank you, TEDsters for all your interviews!