Success and Fame

Worksheet A

1. "Always bear in mind that your own will to succeed is more important than any other thing."
   -- Abraham Lincoln
2. "Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get."
   -- B. R. Hayden
3. "Success is a journey, not a destination."
   -- Ben Sweetland
4. "All of us are born for a reason, but all of us don't discover why. Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others."
   -- Danny Thomas
5. "Success does not consist of never making mistakes but in never making the same one a second time."
   -- George Bernard Shaw
6. "A strong, positive self-image is the best possible preparation for success."
   -- Joyce Brothers
7. "Failure is success if we learn from it."
   -- Malcolm S. Forbes
8. "True success is overcoming the fear of being unsuccessful."
   -- Paul Sweeney
9. "Most people who succeed in the face of seemingly impossible conditions are people who simply don't know how to quit."
   -- Robert Schuller
10. "The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people."
    -- Theodore Roosevelt
11. "The dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I think you can accomplish anything if you're willing to pay the price."
    -- Vince Lombardi
12. "Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm."
    -- Winston Churchill
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Worksheet B

Which of these situations is an example of success, in your opinion?

- A man loses his job and sets up a new business which goes on to become a multi-million pound enterprise. But along the way, he becomes so obsessed with his new company that he neglects his family and they leave him.
- A boy loses a leg in a road accident. He goes back to school and passes his exams the same year.
- A sportsman wins Olympic gold in the marathon. Although the tests are all negative, he knows in his heart he was taking performance enhancing drugs.
- Some students pass their exams very easily. They had worked very hard but the teacher had also given them the answers on the morning of the test.
- A single mother with no free time gets a part-time job as a secretary. She loses it within a week and goes back to care for her children full-time.
- A film director wins five Oscars for a film that has shocked his local Scottish city community because it gives a false impression of their history.
- A young scientist discovers something that could become a cure for cancer. At the moment, it is uncertain if his discovery will amount to anything.
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### Worksheet C: Role-play

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Mr Dosh</strong></th>
<th><strong>Miss Adversity</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are a businessman and owner of a large telecommunications company. You have over a billion pounds in the bank, several large country houses, a yacht and some stables in rural England. You have several fast sports cars and a collection of porcelain in your hall. You also send your children to the best boarding schools in Europe. Your friends include the Rolling Stones, Prince William and Elton John. So you think you are successful. Why?</td>
<td>You are a single mother of two children. One of your children is hyperactive, and the other has Down's Syndrome. You sleep very little, you have no time for yourself, and you have no friends, simply because they have all moved away and left you. You have no time to make new friends. Your income is very low, and you have cut back on your personal pleasures to provide for your family. But you think you are successful? Why?</td>
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<th><strong>Ronàld-O</strong></th>
<th><strong>Professor Woodpecker</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are a top professional football player and you play for Real Deal. You were also a member of the Panama team which won the World Cup in 1998. You have won the Footballer of the Year contest seven times, and you have won the national championship with your team five times. Although some top European clubs wanted you, you decided to stay and play for Real. So you think you are successful. Why?</td>
<td>You are a famous academic at Oxbridge University, specialising in Stem Cell Research. You are the author of several theses including one about the future of medicine, which has been hailed as a milestone in medical research. Some of your students have gone on to be some of the most successful doctors all over the world. So you think you are successful. Why?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Worksheet D

In pairs, make conversation about your answer to these questions:

• Do you think that it is good to be famous? What are the pros and cons of such a life?
• What do you think the expression ‘life in a goldfish bowl’ means?
• Do famous people generally behave responsibly?
• Maybe you are a parent. Which famous person would you want to inspire your child?
• Are there any famous people who are famous but are untalented?
• Why are they famous?
• Have you ever met anybody famous? Who? When? What did you say?
• Who would you most like to meet, and why?
• And finally, do you have any friends who are famous? Is it a secret?