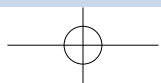
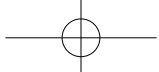


UNIT **1**

**Striving to
succeed**





Warm-up

Directions: You will listen to someone talking about keys to success. After listening, complete the exercises in “What did you hear?” and “How would you respond?”

1 What did you hear?

Choose the best answer(s) to the following questions based on the information you have heard. Remember you may have more than one choice.

- 1) What makes people successful according to the talk?
 - A) Unbelievably good luck.
 - B) Strong will and determination.
 - C) A responsible preparation for the future.

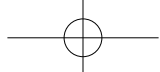
- 2) Why should we look toward those people who have successfully overcome challenging situations?
 - A) To ask those people for some good advice.
 - B) To learn how luck contributed to their success.
 - C) To get inspired from the success stories of those people.

2 How would you respond?

- 1) The following is a list of elements for success. Rank the elements according to their importance to you, with 1 meaning the most important and 5 the least important.

Elements for success	Rank of importance
Determination	
Full preparation	
Good luck	
Action	
Money	

- 2) Share with your partner which element is the most important to you and which one is the least important.



Audio script



What makes certain people able to overcome obstacles and succeed while others simply give up? Often, we see very successful people as simply very lucky. But, what qualities do successful people have pushing them forward, even when their goal seems unlikely? Success is most often the result of strong will, determination and, of course, a responsible preparation for the future.

Each person is faced with challenges, unfortunate events and tough decisions in life when things do not go according to plan. How they face those challenges and events has a major impact on success. A powerful inner drive – to not give up and to have the courage to continue growing and learning – is the essential secret to success. To inspire ourselves, we can look toward those people that have successfully overcome difficult circumstances and challenging situations. Hearing their ideas and stories can fill us with confidence and courage.

1

KEY

- 1) B & C 2) C

2

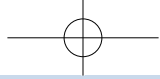
KEY FOR REFERENCE

- 1) Answers may vary.
 2) I think determination plays the most important role in one's success. Our experiences tell us that we all still have to face challenges, unfortunate events and tough decisions in life, however carefully we have planned. It is the strong will to not give up that makes us keep going forward and succeed in the end. Among the five factors given, money is probably the least important factor. Money can certainly make one's life easier, but it does not necessarily make one successful. Indeed, many famous people became successful not because they were wealthy, but because they were determined to face the challenges in their life.

Notes for teachers



Questions in “What did you hear?” are based on the talk. Ask your students to listen to the talk carefully and find the information mentioned in the talk. In contrast, the questions in “How would you respond?” are open-ended questions, so tell your students to give their answers based on their own experience. Encourage the students to discuss why they have made those specific choices.



Listening

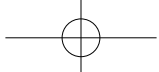
Understanding a passage

Directions: Listen to a passage and choose the best answer from the four choices provided for each question.

The following questions are based on what you have just heard.

- 1 A) To reduce accidents.
B) To avoid traffic delays.
C) To increase sales of cars.
D) To encourage road sharing.
- 2 A) Open special lanes for bicycles.
B) Encourage citizens to use bicycles.
C) Establish car-sharing programs.
D) Control the sudden increase of cars.
- 3 A) Because bicycles are not fast.
B) Because bicycles are not safe.
C) Because bicycle riders do not look modern.
D) Because bicycle riders do not look successful.
- 4 A) They have taken riding as a good exercise.
B) They have caught the fashion of riding bicycles.
C) They have launched the movement of clean environment.
D) They have earned a special respect by leaving cars behind.





Audio script



A strong bicycle culture had always been associated with China, but as the nation prospered, sales of bicycles dramatically declined while sales of cars doubled during the same period. As more cars shared the roads with bicycles, the number of accidents increased as well. To reduce these accidents, many city governments closed bicycle lanes.

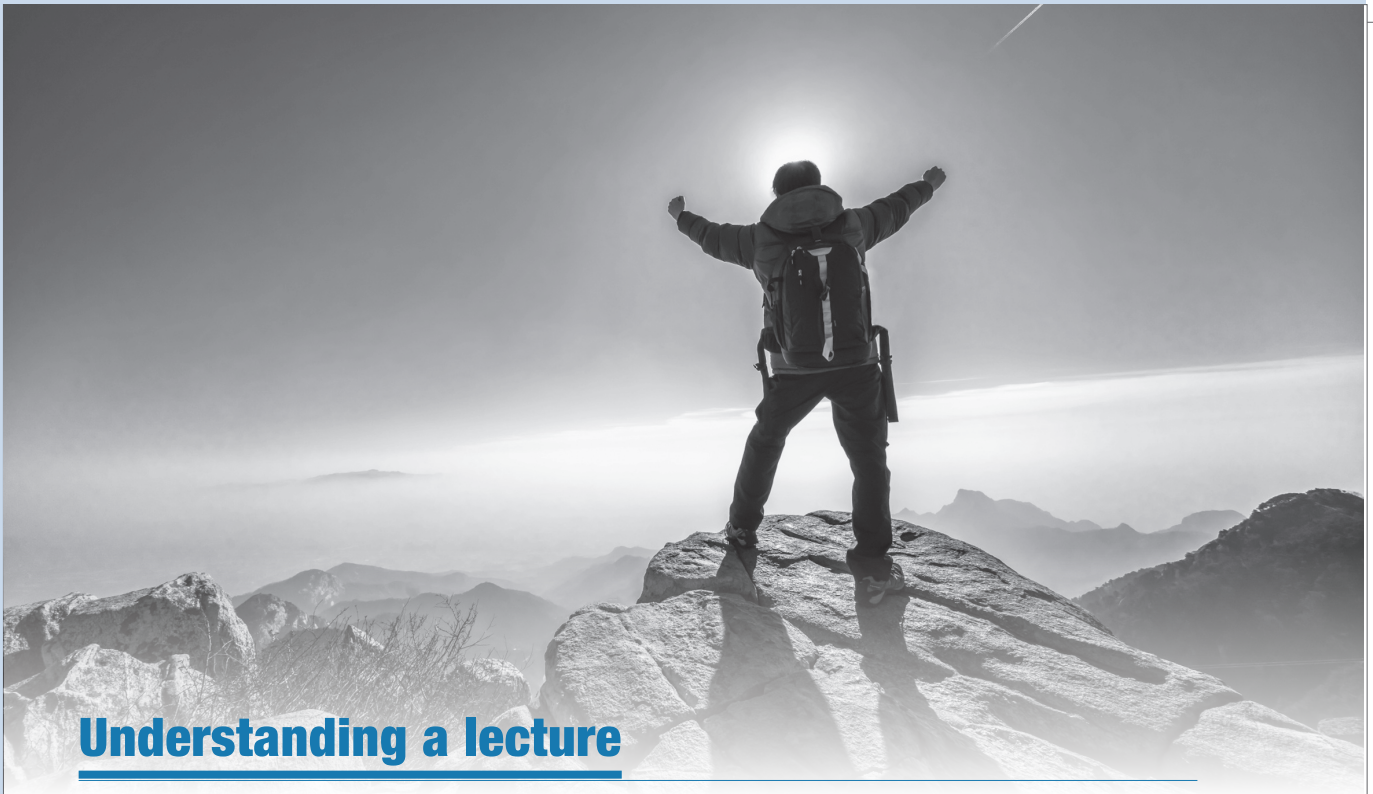
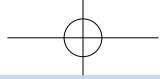
However, the rapid increase of cars on China's roads led to huge traffic delays, some of them lasting for an astonishing nine days over 60 miles. People were stuck in their cars and depended on local villagers to sell them water and noodles while they waited. With the sudden increase of cars, air quality also began to suffer. The local governments decided to make a change. They encouraged the citizens to take up bike riding once again and established bike-sharing programs.

Some Chinese are having difficulty changing their attitude toward the bicycle. Many of them consider bicycle transportation socially unacceptable. If you want people to think you are successful, they say, you can't ride a bicycle; you must own and drive a luxury car. This is a problem facing a nation that's moved very quickly into wealth. In a rush to display wealth, many Chinese have left behind tradition as they embrace the modern world.

There has been some change in attitude recently. In many parts of the world, bicycle riders have earned a special respect as unique individuals who won't be satisfied copying what everybody else does. Greater environmental concerns worldwide have also prompted more people everywhere to leave their cars and get on their bikes, and this trend has begun to spread into China as well.

KEY

- 1 Why did many city governments close bicycle lanes in China? **A**
- 2 What did the local governments decide to do to deal with traffic delays? **B**
- 3 Why do some Chinese consider bicycles socially unacceptable? **D**
- 4 What is the recent change from bicycle riders? **D**

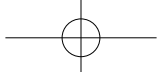


Understanding a lecture

Directions: Listen to a lecture and choose the best answer from the four choices provided for each question.

The following questions are based on what you have just heard.

- 1 A) Introducing a great research project.
B) Giving an account of his own success story.
C) Presenting an award to a research psychologist.
D) Giving a speech on the significance of persistence.
- 2 A) The question of how to make her students successful.
B) The search for ways to help students achieve success.
C) The finding that math alone did not help her students succeed.
D) The wonder why her best students were not her smartest students.
- 3 A) How to study or teach in a difficult school.
B) How to measure a person's level of intelligence.
C) How to deal with challenging learning environments.
D) How to become successful by developing persistence.
- 4 A) Angela's devotion to her students.
B) Angela's repeated courage to face any difficulties.
C) Angela's great contribution from years of hard work.
D) Angela's reminders of staying persistent in our goals.



Audio script



Good evening. Often, we struggle when we are faced with problems. Sometimes we give up. And sometimes we look toward others for inspiration. I am pleased this evening to present this award to Angela Duckworth for her important research work on the quality that helps make people successful: persistence. Angela is that type of person who found inspiration in learning and now inspires us with her passion for learning and for helping others succeed.

Angela learned across numerous studies that successful people had one characteristic in common: persistence which she calls “grit”. Grit is the quality that allows someone to work hard and maintain focus – not just for weeks or months, but for years. A person must stay focused on his/her goals and be comfortable with the idea that success may take a long time to achieve. If the person is easily put off because of a challenge or difficulty, then long-term success is often outside of this person’s grasp. Angela has found persistence is the single most important factor for people to achieve success.

Ten years ago, Angela, now a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, was teaching math to seventh-grade students in New York City public schools. She noticed that her best students were not necessarily her smartest students. This observation caused her to leave her work as a math teacher and become a research psychologist so she could better understand how qualities such as self-control and persistence helped students achieve success.

Angela studied children and adults in different, challenging environments. She studied students at West Point and even new teachers who were starting out in difficult schools. In each study, she asked the same question: “Who is successful here and why?” Angela and her colleague, Chris Peterson, developed a simple test to measure how much persistence and self-control a person currently has. They are also developing ways to help people develop more persistence to become more successful.

Please give a loud round of applause to Dr. Angela Duckworth for her years of hard work and inspiration. It is a great honor to present this award to you. Whenever we are faced with a problem that we feel is too difficult, too large, or too overwhelming to manage, we will remember your work and be persistent. We will have grit! Thank you!

KEY

- 1 What is the speaker’s main role for the occasion? **C**
- 2 What made Angela change her career and become a research psychologist? **D**
- 3 What is the focus of Angela’s study? **D**
- 4 What is the reason to award Angela? **C**

Speaking

Practicing conversational skills

Useful expressions: Asking for and giving directions

Asking for directions

Excuse me. Can/Could you tell me how to get to the post office?

Excuse me. Can/Could you please tell me how I can get to Main Street?

Excuse me. Can/Could you tell me where the community center is?

Excuse me. How do I get to Oxford Street?

Excuse me. How can I get to the local market?

Excuse me. Where is the closest bookstore?

Excuse me. Where is the nearest supermarket?

Excuse me. Which is the best way to get on the highway?

Excuse me. What's the best way to get to your office?

Excuse me. I'm looking for Hope Road. Can you tell me where it is?

Excuse me. I'm trying to get to Downing Street. Which bus should I take?

Excuse me. I'm looking for the nearest subway station. Do you know how I can get there?

Giving directions

The easiest way is to take subway Line 5.

The best way is to turn left at Main Street.

The quickest way is to take 3rd Street.

Go straight ahead till you see the post office and then turn left.

Go straight ahead after you reach the traffic lights.

Take Park Street.

Take the second road on the left and you will see the office building on the right.

Turn left when you see a roundabout.

Turn right at the end of the road and my office is No.18.

Turn right at the crossroads. Then keep going for about one mile.

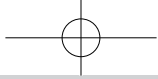
It's two blocks away from here.

It's about a 10-minute walk.

At the corner of the road you will see a yellow building.

The post office is opposite the yellow building.

The supermarket is next to the post office.

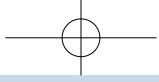


Notes for teachers



1. Normally, if one is asking a stranger for directions, one should begin with “Excuse me” to show politeness. Moreover, in order to be polite, use “Could you tell me ...?” instead of “Can you tell me ...?”
2. In giving directions, one should use simple English to make things clear. Besides using the structure such as “go + direction (right, left, down, up, through)” and “turn right/left”, one can also tell how long it will take to get from A to B.

Mentioning some landmarks will also help. For example, “You’ll see a tall tower and the office is opposite the tower.” Warnings sometimes are necessary too, such as “If you pass the tower, you have gone too far.”



Model dialogues

Dialogue 1

- A: Excuse me. I'm looking for the nearest subway station.
 B: OK. Go straight ahead, and then take the second road on the left. It's about 150 meters down the road on your left. You can't miss it!
 A: Thanks!
 B: You're welcome.

Dialogue 2

- A: Excuse me. Could you tell me where the community center is?
 B: It's on Monroe Street.
 A: How can I get there?
 B: You stay on Main Street. Go straight ahead for three blocks until you get to Monroe Street. Turn left and you'll see a blue building. The community center is just next to the blue building.
 A: So I should turn left on Monroe Street and keep walking until I see a blue building.
 B: Correct.
 A: Thanks a lot!
 B: My pleasure.

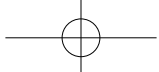
Now, it's your turn!

Situational dialogue 1

“ You are invited to a party held at your friend's apartment. You tell your friend you are driving a car to his/her place and ask him/her about the easiest way to get there. ”

Situational dialogue 2

“ A stranger is asking you about the way to Royal Bank. Tell the stranger how to get to the bank. Try to refer to some landmarks such as “the roundabout” and “the Grand Theater” so that the stranger can easily find the way. ”



Now, it's your turn!

KEY FOR REFERENCE



Situational dialogue 1

A: I'd love to come to your party. Could you tell me how to get to your apartment?

B: Are you coming by car or by bus?

A: I am coming by car. What is the easiest way to get to your place?

B: Take Highway S4 and get off at Exit 10.

A: OK, get off at Exit 10.

B: Stay on the right lane until you get to a T-junction. Turn right, drive for one mile and you'll see my apartment building on the right. It's No. 67 Hamilton St.

A: Got it. Thanks!

B: You're welcome. See you soon!

Situational dialogue 2

A: Excuse me. I'm looking for Royal Bank. Could you tell me how to get there?

B: Yes, certainly. Turn right at the end of this street.

A: You mean at the T-junction?

B: Right. Then go for two blocks until you reach the roundabout.

A: And then?

B: Turn left at the roundabout onto 23rd Street. You'll see the Grand Theater on the left. The Royal Bank is just opposite the theater.

A: Thank you.

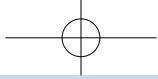
B: My pleasure!



Notes for teachers



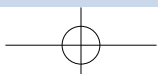
Tell the students to be polite when asking for directions. When giving directions, students should use simple English and try to supplement the directions with some landmarks to help people find the way more easily. At the end of the conversation, a repetition of the directions can also lead to a smoother communication.

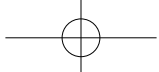


Listening and speaking: Passage

Task 1 Listen to a passage. Fill in the blanks with the information you have heard.

- 1) Some people find music _____, while others find that music _____ them from their work.
- 2) Some scientific studies have shown that listening to music can lead to _____, but other scientific studies have shown that music can _____ for some people.
- 3) For some people it is _____ to listen to music before studying instead of _____. So, listen to a good song when you need to _____ your studying _____!





Audio script



There are many opinions out there for and against listening to music while studying. Some people find music helps them focus, while others find that music distracts them from their work. The truth is there is no simple answer to this question. Some scientific studies have shown that listening to music can lead to bad test scores, but other scientific studies have shown that music can have a good effect for some people. In truth, each person's studying needs are different because different people learn things in different ways.

Music is surely distracting for some, especially if it is very fast. Listening to music that is fun and exciting is great when you want to have a dance party, but it may make it hard when you need to sit down and study. A few scientists have said that listening to your favorite music before studying, or during a study break, can help get

your brain ready to study. This means that for some people it is actually better to listen to music before studying instead of while studying. So, listen to a good song when you need to charge your studying batteries!

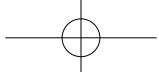
Maybe listening to music is not for you, but you find silence a little distracting too. For people like this, maybe it is time to try listening to a different kind of sound while studying! Many people find it helpful to listen to sounds from nature when studying. In particular, sounds like rain falling, waves crashing, and wind blowing through trees can help you relax and focus on your work.

These kinds of noises may be helpful in keeping out distracting sounds, like voices and other music. This could be very helpful during studying. Just do not let yourself get so relaxed by these nice sounds that you fall asleep!

Task 1

KEY FOR REFERENCE

- 1) helps them focus; distracts
- 2) bad test scores; have a good effect
- 3) actually better; while studying; charge; batteries



Task 2 Listen to the passage again. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to what you have heard.

- 1) (T/F) There is no simple answer to the question if listening to music helps with studying.
- 2) (T/F) Exciting music is preferable at a dance party.
- 3) (T/F) Listening to fun music may help one concentrate on study.
- 4) (T/F) Many scientists believe that listening to music during a study break can help one get ready for study.
- 5) (T/F) Sounds from nature may help one focus when one finds silence, music or voices distracting.
- 6) (T/F) Nice sounds like rain falling may make one relax more and sleep better.

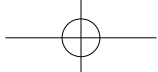
Speak out!

Work in a small group and discuss the following questions.



1. Do you like listening to music while studying? If yes, what kind of music do you usually listen to?
2. What are the positive/negative effects that listening to music has on your study?
3. Is it a good idea to play some background music for students reviewing lessons in the classroom? Please give your reasons.





Task 2

KEY

- 1) T 2) T 3) F 4) F 5) T 6) F

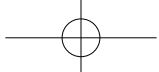
Speak out!

KEY FOR REFERENCE



- Yes. I like listening to music when I study. I often listen to the songs of my favorite pop singers/classic music/light music/exciting music.
 - No. I seldom listen to music when I study, because I find it distracting.
- I find listening to music while studying can make me more focused and it does have a good effect on me. I can finish my homework with better quality and higher efficiency.
 - I find listening to music while studying very distracting. I can't concentrate well and thus can't study well. As a result, I have lower scores on many tests.
- I think it is a good idea. Playing some background music for students reviewing lessons can keep out some noises and make students more focused.
 - I don't think it is a good idea as not everyone likes to listen to music while studying. For those who don't, it will be annoying to listen to the background music in the classroom while they are reviewing lessons. As a result, they may get distracted and this will affect their academic performance.

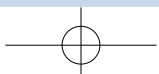


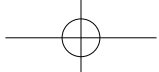


Listening and speaking: Lecture

Task 1 Listen to a lecture. The following chart is about the difference and similarity concerning the definition of a good life. Fill in the blanks with the information you have heard.

Definition of a good life	
Difference	1) Having _____ a day and _____ over their head 2) Having a huge house and _____ in the bank
Similarity	A life that is _____.





Audio script



Hello, students, teachers, and parents. Thank you for welcoming me to your school to talk with you about having a good attitude. My message today is titled “Life Is Hard”, and it’s about how to live a great life even though life is difficult. Everybody wants to be happy in life. We all want to live a perfect life. We want that great job or a successful business. We want to have a great family and kids. We want to have friends that stick by us during difficult times. We want to be able to have all the material things life has to offer and have our problems disappear.

Everybody wishes for a good life, though it may be at different levels. One person may define a good life one way and another may describe it another way. For one person a good life may be just having three meals a day and a roof over their head. For another it may be having a huge house and a lot of money in the bank. However you define it, there is perhaps one thing that you may have in common with many other people. You want life to be free of stress.

Unfortunately, that is also what may be stopping you from having that great life. The thought

of all that work, planning, and problems can overwhelm you. But that’s OK. It’s normal. That’s what being human is all about. That’s what life is all about. Life is hard. Accept that. Once you have, you will have a better attitude. You will think of your situation as common to all people, and not unique. You are not perfect, just like everybody else.

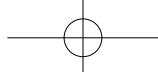
But don’t stop there. Accepting that life is hard does not mean that you accept every problem. You can make it better. That is one of the beautiful things about life. You can make your life better. You have responsibility for how you respond to life. So, accept that life is hard, but accept that you can make it better, too.

No matter what situation you are in, you have a choice. Now, it may not be an easy choice. It may be a very difficult choice, a choice you would prefer not to make. But it is still a choice. And once you take responsibility for your choices, you will no longer live life with a negative attitude. At that point, life is still hard, but you make the final decision, which makes life more meaningful and purposeful.

Task 1

KEY FOR REFERENCE

Definition of a good life	
Difference	1) Having <u>three meals</u> a day and a <u>roof</u> over their head 2) Having a huge house and a <u>lot of money</u> in the bank
Similarity	A life that is <u>free of stress</u> .



Task 2 Now listen to the lecture again. Complete the following outline about the ways to a good life.

Ways to a good life:

- 1) The thought of all that work, _____, and problems can _____ you. ... Life is hard. Accept that. Once you have, you will have _____. You will think of your situation as _____ to all people, and not _____.
- 2) You have responsibility for how you _____ to life. So, accept that life is hard, but accept that you can _____, too.
- 3) And once you take responsibility for _____, you will no longer live life with a negative attitude. At that point, life is still hard, but you make the final decision, which makes life more _____ and _____.

Speak out!

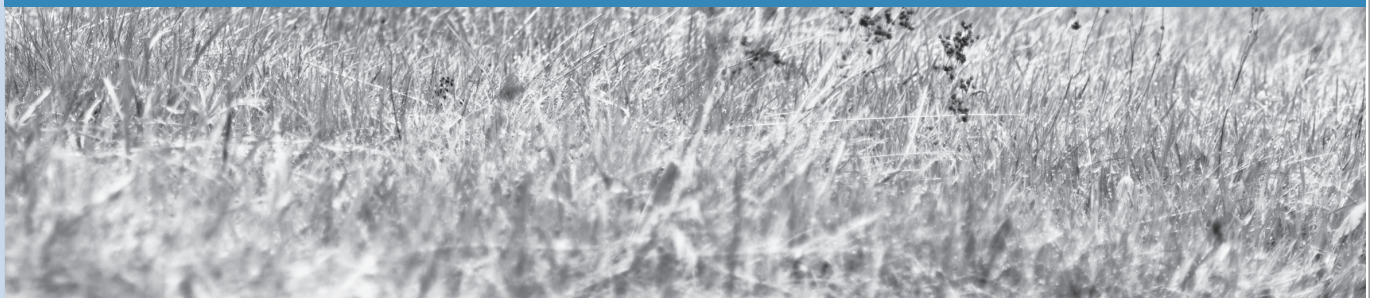
1. Discuss the following questions with your partner.

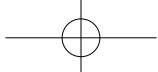


- 1) What is a good life in your mind?
- 2) Do you feel that life is hard? And why?
- 3) What can you do to make your life better?

2. In the lecture the speaker defines a good life in many ways. Now define happiness in terms of an activity that you normally do. Work in groups of four and vote for the best definition of happiness and present it to the class. The following is an example of a simple definition of happiness:

Happiness is when the whole family gathers together to celebrate the New Year.





Task 2

KEY FOR REFERENCE

- 1) planning; overwhelm; a better attitude; common; unique
- 2) respond; make it better
- 3) your choices; meaningful; purposeful

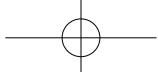
Speak out!

KEY FOR REFERENCE

- “
- 1)
 - A good life is to have a great family and a lovely home to live in.
 - A good life is to have a lot of money in the bank.
 - A good life is to be free of stress.
 - A good life is to be married to someone you love.
 - 2)
 - I do feel life is hard. For example, one has to work hard, make careful plans and solve many problems in order to live a good life.
 - I don't think life is hard. I enjoy making an effort and overcoming difficulties. Besides, I can always get help from my friends and family. For me, life is just wonderful.
 - 3) I'll try to make my life better by adopting a better attitude. First, I'll accept the fact that life is hard. Then I'll try my best to overcome the difficulties in my life. Last but not least, I will try to make good decisions in my life by learning from others or my experiences.

KEY FOR REFERENCE

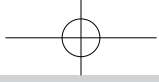
- 2)
 - Happiness is to get a high score on a very important test.
 - Happiness is to receive wonderful birthday gifts from your loved ones.
 - Happiness is when you travel with your best friends to a beautiful place.
 - Happiness is to enjoy delicious food with your family on a special occasion.
 - Happiness is when you or your family member fully recovers from an illness.
- ”



UNIT REPORT

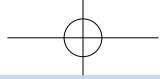
Prepare a three-minute talk on one of the following topics. You'll be asked to present it in the next class.

1. What success story do you have about yourself? What actually led to your success?
2. Which plays a greater role in one's success, inspiration or perspiration (hard work)?
3. Is it true that nowadays one cannot succeed without a powerful parent or friend?



KEY FOR REFERENCE

1. I'd like to share my story of running a 10 km marathon. During the race, I met many difficulties. I felt exhausted after running for 5 km. I had sore legs and I felt out of breath. I also received some negative influence from others. Many people stopped running and started walking instead. But I refused to give up and told myself to keep running. When I eventually crossed the finish line, I felt proud of myself. It was persistence that actually led to my success.
2.
 - Perspiration is more important. People often say, "Success is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." In other words, success is largely the result of hard work, rather than an inspired flash of insight. There are mainly two reasons for this. First, as we all know, many successful people got their new ideas based on their hard work. The other is that the new idea cannot be further proved or practiced without hard work.
 - Inspiration is more important. There are mainly three reasons for this. First, inspiration makes us go beyond our ordinary experience and limitations. Second, inspiration changes our way of perceiving our abilities. Third, inspiration pushes us to explore possibilities. Therefore, inspiration makes one creative while hard work without inspiration is unlikely to lead to any breakthroughs.
3. I don't think so. It is true that in the current society, it is common to see some people succeed with the help from a powerful parent or friend. No one is an island. Having a powerful source to depend on can be a big boost to success. However, not all of the people who rely on their powerful parents or friends are able to succeed. On the contrary, there are a large number of people who do not have a powerful parent or friend but are able to successfully achieve their goals. This is because there are other factors for success such as perseverance and creativity that are much more important than simply having a powerful parent or friend. It is mostly one's own efforts that contribute to the achievement of success. Therefore, having a powerful parent or friend can be a great source of support, but it doesn't guarantee one's success.



Homework

Section A: Understanding conversations

Directions: Now you will hear a conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will hear four questions. After you hear a question, choose the best answer from the four choices.

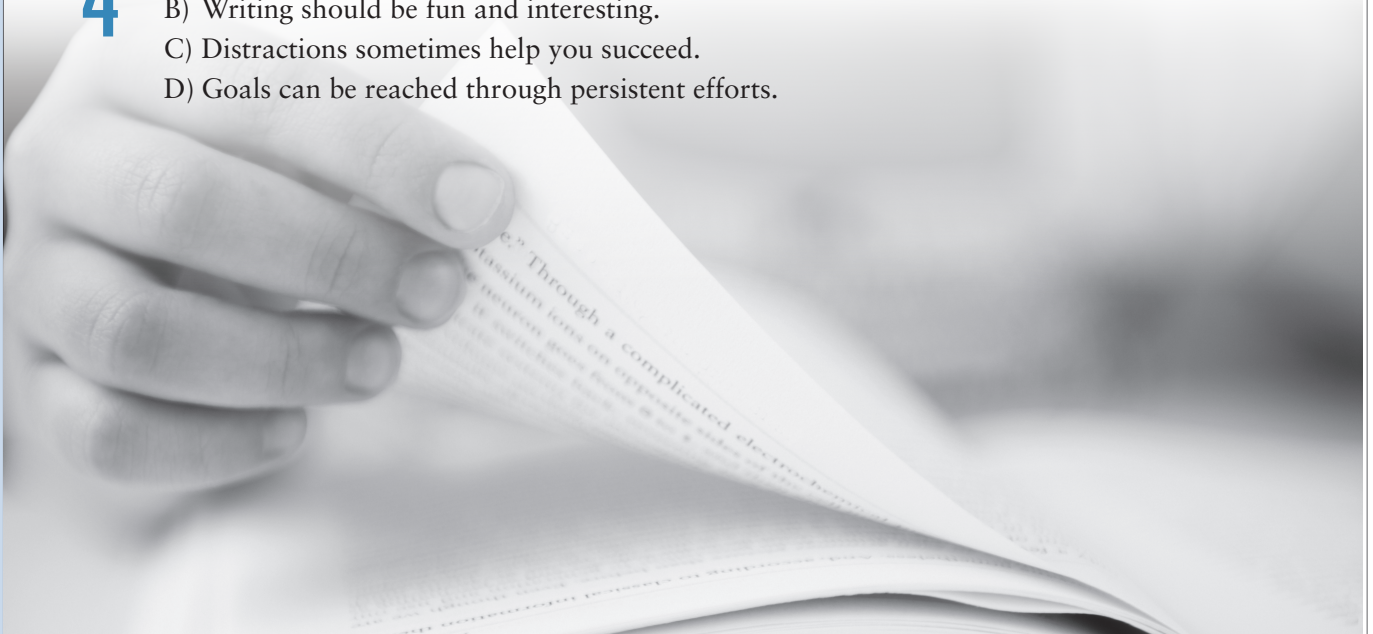
The following questions are based on what you have just heard.

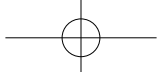
- 1 A) He has been able to focus on his story.
B) He has had his first short story published.
C) He has published 10 stories over the past years.
D) He has written an exciting story in only three weeks.

- 2 A) A friend of the man.
B) A well-known writer.
C) A publisher who helped.
D) A character created by the man.

- 3 A) Mr. Smith is inspired by a fly trapped in his room.
B) Mr. Smith is amused having something stuck in his teeth.
C) Mr. Smith has to overcome small challenges to reach his goal.
D) Mr. Smith has a difficult time rejecting his friends' invitations.

- 4 A) Life is full of big surprises.
B) Writing should be fun and interesting.
C) Distractions sometimes help you succeed.
D) Goals can be reached through persistent efforts.





Audio script



M: Guess what? I just got my first short story published yesterday in a good journal!

W: Really? How exciting! I know you've been trying to publish your work for years.

M: I know. In the past, I've sent at least 10 short stories out to different magazines and journals, but none of them were accepted. Finally, I wrote this exciting short story.

W: How long did it take you to write?

M: Three months – and it wasn't easy. There were so many distractions, and my friends kept asking me to go out. Even though I hung out with them a day or two each week, I focused mostly on my story.

W: What is the story about?

M: That's the funny part. It's about a writer, Mr. Smith, trying to write a story and get it published.

W: Really? How perfect!

M: Yeah, and while Mr. Smith is trying to write the story, he has to avoid getting distracted. It's not just about him saying

no to his friends. In fact, all sorts of strange and humorous things happen to him.

W: Yeah? Like what?

M: Well, one day a fly gets trapped in his room, and no matter what Mr. Smith does he can't get rid of it. So, he's trying to write his story, but this fly keeps annoying him.

W: That's so funny, and that would be so annoying.

M: I know! The next day, Mr. Smith gets a piece of corn stuck in his teeth, and it just won't come out! He has to go to the dentist – but then has to hurry home to continue working on his story.

W: That's so smart! Are there major events and big surprises in your story?

M: No, actually. No big things. No major stuff ... That's the most fun and interesting part of the story. A man facing – and overcoming – the small challenges and distractions of every day in order to meet his goal. And finally Mr. Smith does win his dream!

KEY

- 1 What is the man excited about? **B**
- 2 Who is Mr. Smith? **D**
- 3 What happens to Mr. Smith? **C**
- 4 What do we learn from the conversation? **D**

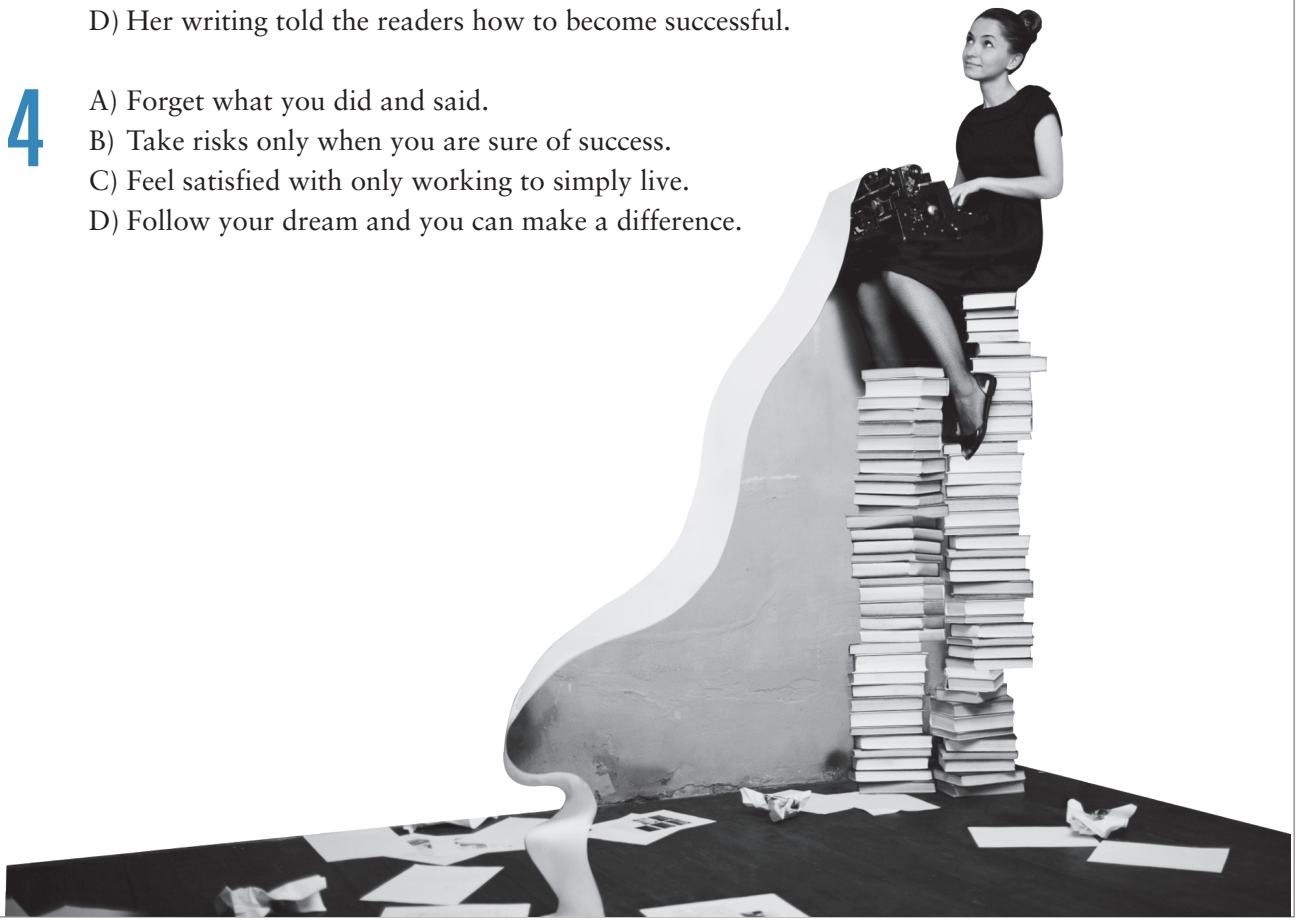


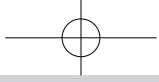
Section B: Understanding passages

Directions: Now you will hear a passage. At the end of the passage, you will hear some questions. After you hear a question, choose the best answer from the four choices.

The following questions are based on what you have just heard.

- 1 A) Because she never dreamed of writing books.
B) Because she found writing a very difficult thing.
C) Because she got no inspiration from reading books.
D) Because she felt only special people could become writers.
- 2 A) Because she found she was born a writer.
B) Because she wanted to achieve her dream.
C) Because she regretted not having tried before.
D) Because she wanted to make a woman of values.
- 3 A) Her writing connected her with her readers.
B) Her writing was full of her profound regret of life.
C) Her writing was full of high and important values.
D) Her writing told the readers how to become successful.
- 4 A) Forget what you did and said.
B) Take risks only when you are sure of success.
C) Feel satisfied with only working to simply live.
D) Follow your dream and you can make a difference.





Audio script



Have you been following your dreams in life? Or are you only working to simply live? If you're not following your dreams, you're not alone. As a young kid, I never thought I could achieve my dream to become an author. The books I read inspired me to write my own stories. And I dreamed of writing books. But I never thought I could achieve my goal. I thought great writers were special people: You were either born a great writer or you weren't. I never imagined the words I wrote could motivate people, could cause them to feel deeply and profoundly as the books I loved to read.

Finally, one day at the age of 33, I realised that I longed for more from my life. I knew I wanted to focus my time on writing stories about the higher values that mattered most to me. I wanted to follow my dreams.

I realised I had to take a risk, the risk that

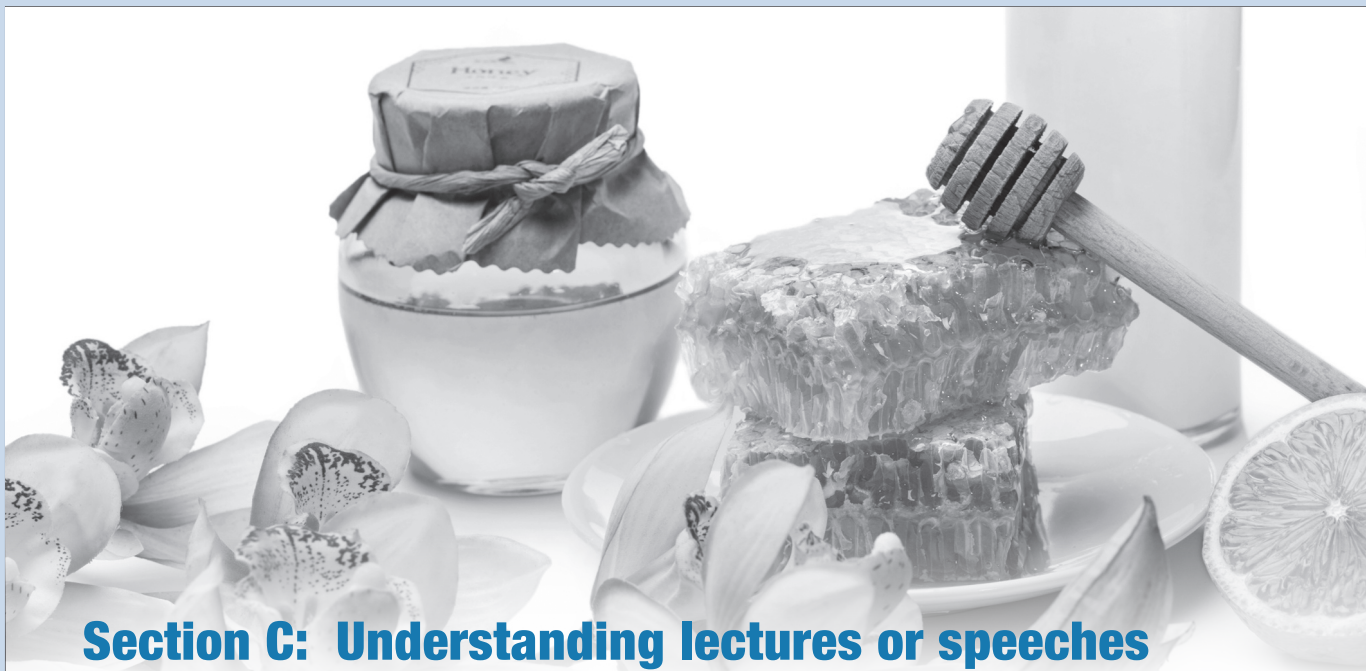
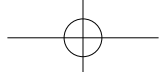
people wouldn't like my ideas or my stories. But I also realised another thing: I would profoundly regret it if I never tried. So, I began little by little to write. I wrote short stories and became successful. Eventually I wrote a book, and then a second book.

I know that most people hesitate when thinking of taking such a risk – the risk of sharing feelings and the deeper side of ourselves. Yet, we are all longing to feel and to connect with one another. The famous author, Maya Angelou said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Over time, my writing has connected me with so many people – connected us heart to heart, through feelings. Taking the risk to try, to write, to express my emotions in stories has made all the difference.

KEY

- 1 Why did the speaker at first think she couldn't succeed as a writer? **D**
- 2 Why did the speaker decide to pursue her dream at the age of 33? **B**
- 3 What made the speaker succeed as a writer? **A**
- 4 What does the speaker try to tell other people with her experience? **D**



Section C: Understanding lectures or speeches

Directions: Now you will hear a lecture or a speech. At the end of the lecture or speech, you will hear some questions. After you hear a question, choose the best answer from the four choices.

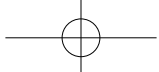
The following questions are based on what you have just heard.

- 1** A) How important honey is to bears as food.
B) How wonderful honey is to humans as food.
C) What a role honey has to bring humans light.
D) What significant roles honey has played in human history.

- 2** A) Making candles.
B) Healing wounds.
C) Sweetening foods.
D) Serving as a symbol of power.

- 3** A) Make it a symbol of love.
B) Preserve bodies after people died.
C) Represent the power of an emperor.
D) Produce candles to bring light on dark nights.

- 4** A) Honey has become more widely used as a symbol of power.
B) Honey enjoys greater popularity in its medical use.
C) Honey has become the most popular sweetener.
D) Honey stops being enjoyed as a wonderful treat.



Audio script



Good Morning, everyone. Today we will look at the history of honey. Honey is a wonderful and highly valued food made by bees from the thick liquid inside flowers. People truly love it! Animals too, especially bears! It has a long and rich history in every civilisation around the world. It is impossible to say when humans began eating honey or when honey cultivation began. What is certain is that honey has been used and enjoyed by every society in every corner of the globe since ancient times.

From the beginning of recorded history, honeybees have played many important roles in human life. Historically, honey has been used primarily to sweeten foods. And how can we forget that for centuries, wax, the other product from bees, was used in the production of candles to provide the earliest form of light, bringing light into the darkness of the night.

It goes without saying that there is no honey without the honeybee, which itself is an important symbol of power, vitality, and even love. The symbol of the honeybee was used to represent the Emperor Napoleon, who used the honeybee image on his personal flag. Even the

symbol for Cupid, the “God of Love”, is often shown as a honeybee.

Honey also has a long medicinal history. Ancient Egyptians used it to preserve bodies after death and to heal wounds. Today, many societies have learned that honey has special healing powers and use it as medicine. In modern times, it has been approved by some governments for medicinal use such as the healing of wounds. This special honey is known as Medihoney.

Unfortunately, the importance of honey has been somewhat lessened over the last 200 years by sugar, which is much cheaper. Nonetheless, the incredible variety of honey available across the globe has grown even as sugar has become the more popular sweetener. Honey continues to be enjoyed as a wonderfully delicious treat. And, at the same time, honey’s use for healing grows and grows.

To sum up, we know that honey has played vital roles throughout human history. Honey has been used to sweeten foods and for medicinal purposes. Thank you for joining us.

KEY

- 1 What is the speech mainly about? **D**
- 2 What has honey been primarily used for in history? **C**
- 3 What did Ancient Egyptians use honey or the honeybee to do? **B**
- 4 What has changed about honey’s role over the time? **B**

