

Practice with Words for Success

Think about some words for success and for achieving goals, whether personal, financial, familial, or even for the whole community. What are some of the factors that affect success? Certainly a person's mental and physical capability and energy matter. Maybe even more important are motivation and appropriate attitudes.

Which attitudes enable success? I would say determination, patience, a willingness to work hard and to sacrifice things that aren't so important in order to accomplish the priorities. If you have these, you will be likely to eventually reach at least some of your goals. (Of course, success is never inevitable, and often requires some luck, and the support of others.)

Can you think of other factors that enable a person or an organization to be successful? Which do you think are most the most important? (Take a minute to write them down. It's good English practice, as well as a help to focus on things that can make a difference.)

Practice these Words for Success

Use the words below to fill in the blanks in these short stories about a few people who turned failure into success.

attitude, benefits, emphasized, energy, eventually, foundation, inevitably, location, reject, security, succeeded, successful

After hundreds of unsuccessful attempts (with materials he had to (1)_____ for a variety of reasons), Thomas Edison (2)_____ in making an electric light bulb that worked.

Henry Ford had a great idea for the (3) _____ of a new automobile business. He wanted to produce vehicles that were cheap enough that ordinary people could afford them. He (4)_____ the (5)_____ of mass production for saving money. He founded several companies that failed. But he had lots of (6)_____ and a "never-give-up" (7)_____, and he (8) _____ found success with the Ford Motor Company.

Walt Disney already had a (9)_____ film studio when he decided to produce the first full-length animated film. Both his family and film industry experts tried to discourage Disney from making *Snow White*. It would be so expensive they were sure it would (10)_____ ruin his company. Why risk his company's financial (11) _____ for such a project? It turned out to be a huge success. It enabled Disney to find a new (12) _____ for his studio, and was the beginning of a long run of similarly successful full-length animated cartoons.

Here's a very short video talking about some famous people who failed before they succeeded (and often were told they would always be failures!)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6hz_s2XIAU

Words for Success Answers

attitude, benefits, emphasized, energy, eventually, foundation,
inevitably, location, reject, security, succeeded, successful

After hundreds of unsuccessful attempts (with materials he had to (1) reject for a variety of reasons), Thomas Edison (2) succeeded in making an electric light bulb that worked.

Henry Ford had a great idea for the (3) foundation of a new automobile business. He wanted to produce vehicles that were cheap enough that ordinary people could afford them. He (4) emphasized the (5) benefits of mass production for saving money. He founded several companies failed. But he had lots of (6) energy and a “never-give-up” (7) attitude, and he (8) eventually found success with the Ford Motor Company.

Walt Disney already had a (9) successful film studio when he decided to produce the first full-length animated film. Both his family and film industry experts tried to discourage Disney from making *Snow White*. It would be so expensive they were sure it would (10) inevitably ruin his company. Why risk his company’s financial (11) security for such a project? It turned out to be a huge success. It enabled Disney to find a new (12) location for his studio, and was the beginning of a long run of similarly successful full-length animated cartoons.