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ВОРОНЕЖСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

NEVER BEFORE



This special issue of "Never Before" is devoted to the results of the 4th All-Russia contest of compositions in English "To Be Successful Means..." held by National Association of English Language Teachers among high school and University students. Today we publish the works of the prize-winners and laureates.

"To Be Successful Means..."

...The old theater is empty. The curtain dropped. Ovarions are over. She was beaming and bright moments ago on the stage, now she is alone in her dressing room. Removing her make-up, she notices more and more wrinkles. Time doesn't work for actresses, even though they hide their faces under masks – grease paint, images, and roles. But the time of taking off her role and becoming who she really is – is the happiest moment ever. She saw many examples of actresses being absorbed by their miscellaneous roles. The ones who can't stop playing even in the real life. They never seem sincere. Their life is a series of changing masks.

Removing last remains of blush from her cheek, she gets rid of her mask. She thinks about her husband and children who wait for her at home. For her, getting back to her skin seems to be like getting back home from a long journey. No matter how exciting your trip was, your heart trembles and warms in anticipation of coming back. Most of her colleagues measure success by bouquets, admirers and fees, but... She's got different values. For her, being able to become herself again means being sincere, means being alive, means being successful...



...When he was second to cross the finish line, everyone gasped in shock. How did it happen that the most up-an-coming athlete of our times came to finish the second in the Olympics?! "What do you think about your race?" Flash. "How can you explain your result?" Flash. "Is being second for the first time a failure for you?" Flash. He was dazzled by photo cameras. He looked at journalists, commentators, trainers, but he couldn't see them. The only thing he saw was a worried face of his beloved. Few hours ago she made him the happiest man in the world, telling him that she's in the family way. He realized that he should give up running as it takes all the time which now he should be devoting to his wife-to-be and their future child. He also knew that these Olympics were the only chance to leave his career with pride and fame, but he didn't feel devastated at all. He didn't even need time to sort out his priorities. He always knew that for him being a successful man means having children to take care of; means seeing how tiny parts of him grow up, hearing their peals of laughter and cries,

sharing their fears and worries; means having a family hearth...

With dissimilar people in various cases success takes different forms. But it's always a matter of individuality, not the truth universally acknowledged. Success is in the eyes of the beholder. What may seem to be a genuine success for one person is a total failure for another. But does it really make them a winner and a loser? To my mind, it's all not about actual winning or losing, it's about one's current state of self-esteem. It's all about how you estimate your efforts, about how much you are devoted to your goal. It's all about living in harmony with yourself and the world, being able to separate things that really matter from senseless husks, fulfilling your vocation and destiny. Some people find success in wealth. Some succeed in dancing. Some are able to feel it only when they are awake, some – when they are asleep. Some were born to be parents. And some just need to have an opportunity to stay themselves.

It is said that life is a pursuit of dreams. I guess that a dream is an effective and inspiring tool of success. A dream that you truly believe in. The one that evokes all the stamina beneath your soul and makes you do even what seemed to be impossible. And pursuing your dreams demands finding what you sincerely love in this life. So, I guess that is the point - to find what you love and head towards your dream, enjoying the path. It's possible and easy to let the world tell you who you are, but isn't it better to decide it for yourself? The challenge is to find where you belong and fulfill it yourself, without looking for your happiness in other's lives, without wasting your life expecting that it'll become better one day, without waiting for a sign from above or a muse. Muses and signs seem to have their own schedules of ambushes, which are not synchronized at all with your own schedule. So, is there any point in waiting for a muse to spring out of nowhere and impale you with her lightning bolt? My future is a blank canvas and it's challenging me, telling me I have many options: to paint it either dark or light colors; to crumple it and throw away; to let other people paint it for me...But to fill my canvas with bright pictures which will harmonize with my inner world means being successful for me. My brushes are determination, imagination, only sincere emotions, openness to the beauty of the world and staying true to my values. So...Let's get started!

Antonina Rubtsova
Voronezh
1st place among University students

What does «To be successful» mean?
It is likely to be Santa Claus.
May be if you have the thinnest wing,
And you fly with its help to the North.
Or when you are the owner of magic beans,
You can use them when your stomach's empty
Eating them you turn into funny teens.
Or come back to the time when you are twenty.
I can't call this question the simplest,
But I try to understand its sense.
If you know it, you will be the greatest
And you will have many-many fans.
The word «success» means many things to many people.

And notion of the word depends on a man,
But I try to summarize this all deeply
And I apply all knowledge as I can.
What do you think about success?

Is it winning the lottery?
Is it passing all your exams?
Is it writing test properly?
Is it marrying the man of your dreams?



Is it winning at sport competition?
Is it being the head of the team?
Is it implementing management mission?
What is your own definition of success?
And how much money determines it?
Is it a hard and unpleasant process?
Does it depend on the man you meet?
Are you successful in gold shining light
Or when you see the moon in view?
Is it success to dance through the night.
When you can hear your lovely tune?
Definitions of being successful every year rise.
And now you can find more than a million.
But we should come to a compromise
And I want express my opinion.
Success is not merely becoming wealthy.
Success is not only working for remaining healthy.
Success is not going after fame and name.
Success is not living life for such mind game.
Success is not just taking career to the top.
Success is not staying in a bungalow at the hill top.
Success is working hard for the dreams you believe.
Success is perseverance and efforts till you achieve your deal.

Success is having consideration for everyone.
Success is a strong desire and life to help everyone.
Success is to follow the religion of humanity.
Success is always to remember all pervading divinity.

Success is to follow the principle, "Live and let others live."

Success is to accept others as diversity of nature; beautiful and alive.

Success is working for happiness of the world, a dedication.

Success is to love everyone unconditionally without any expectation.



Luda Lukashkina
Orenburg
2nd place among University students

Try not to become a man of success, but a man of value.

Albert Einstein

The most distributed allegory of human life is a journey. And indeed, there is nothing that can picture it better. Our life is a road with a great number of obstacles to pass. The higher the destination is, the more challenging the way will be. But only having gone through the hardest way you will be able to see a beautiful sunrise from the top of the highest mountain. The mission of every man is a constant striving to do better, to become more than you are now, it is a constant reach for the ideal, for the success. I would like to turn to the words of the current president of the USA Barack Obama who once said: "No matter how much you've done, or how success-

ful you've been, there's always more to do, always more to learn, always more to achieve". These are the words that should always be kept in mind.

The time we live in is the most phenomenal time in the whole human history. It is the time of great opportunities. It is the time when everything is possible. Social barriers that played a major part in earlier times are becoming less and less visible; they are simply ceasing to exist nowadays. It means that whoever you are you can become whatever you want. The only barrier on the way to success is the psychological one.

There are many people for whom success is something initially incomprehensive and unachievable for various reasons: some of them are quite satisfied with the lives they live, others don't have enough self-confidence, patience, faith, enthusiasm, perseverance, courage to overcome the awaiting difficulties. In fact, they can't only because they don't believe they can.

There are also other points of view on the meaning of the success. For some people it is a synonym of the material welfare. For others it is the realization of their dreams about fame and general recognition. To be successful is, in my opinion, much more than to be rich and famous.

First and foremost, being successful means realizing your potential. Each of us is a unique personality. There is something that only you can do for this world. What we must do is to raise our abilities, talents and ambitions to the highest possible level.



A very serious delusion in understanding what success is predominates among most of the people. Some people believe that a successful person is one who can take everything that can be taken from this life. But they seem to miss the point. In my opinion, to be successful means not merely taking, it means giving back. Who are the most successful people in the world? They are those who use their inborn and developed talents and contribute to the world. A very good example among our contemporaries is Steve Jobs, the founder of one of the most prosperous companies in the world. Being a good businessman and at the same time an inventor, he was a man who altered the history of computer technologies. Things that could be seen only in science fiction before has become close to our reality. We can say that a person is successful if he leaves a significant heritage to people, if he sets a high aim and achieves it.

To draw the conclusion, one can say that to be successful means to reach a worthwhile goal, to become the first in something you are good at. It means to contribute to the society, to the humanity in general. Of course, this aim may sound too far and unreal. And in fact, we have to admit the fact that it is impossible to attain perfection. However, there is no doubt that life will become senseless if you are not striving for it.

Albina Tlupova
Nalchik
2nd place among University students

One day Dream said to Life:

I'm fed up with being just a little dream. I want more. I want to grow up, to become an adult, to be a reality.



It's going to be not as easy as it can seem at first sight, - replied Life. - You are so young and fragile but to become more

mature you have to get over a long and sophisticated way, and if you do everything correctly, you will come true.

Nothing will be able to stop me. I know I can do it. My wish is too strong. - said a childish Dream's voice. - You are so old and wise, Life, give me a piece of advice. What should I start with?

Of course, I will. Listen attentively and try to catch every point. First of all, you need to specify the direction to go. Believe in yourself and go straight to your goal. Don't be afraid of difficulties to reach goals. Remember, all of them are achievable if you really want that. Then, you should take all possible opportunities and...

And what if there are none of them around me? - Dream started to worry.

Take my word for that, they are always nearby and all of them are waiting to be used.

What is next?

No rush. Move step by step. Think each through. Remember, even one little and insignificant step can change everything. Besides, you will definitely face some obstacles or calamities on your way. Even though they are insurmountable, never, NEVER back away. Even if you fall, stand up and go on. Successful means assertive and able to confront fate.

Should I make my way alone?

Not at all. You always need someone who you can share all your ups and downs with. There are always envious who try to lead you astray. You have to deal with them. But remember one more valuable rule: DON'T DO THE ELBOW WORK. Everyone has the right to succeed and disturbing others you don't become better. You can turn out to be on their boots. On top of everything else, it's necessary to have passion. Love what you do. Enjoy every moment of your way. Don't twiddle your thumbs, always do something. Action is the key to success.

And I will finally come true?

You will. Spread your wings and soar high but don't be afraid to fall.

*Darya Prokhorova
Voronezh*

3rd place among University students

Do you know a man who doesn't want to be successful? I personally don't. But if we ask a hundred people what it means to be successful we will get a hundred different answers. We have only desires, but not a motivation. Our society has become so rustic that everybody or at least 95-97% of us can't denote even 10 aims or wishes. We have forgotten how to think... We are out of practice to see the world in all its colours.

A US businessman will say that to be successful means to make a breathtaking career and roll in money.

A drug addict will say that to be successful means to feel "high".

The gifted writer will say that to be successful means to be read a lot.

A Zambian citizen will say that to be successful means to have enough water and food to take care of his family.

A Tibetan monk will say that to be successful means nothing.

There are 6 touches of nature which, to my mind, may help to become successful:

1) Assurance; you must be confident and be able to persuade others that everything you do is right;

2) Persistence; you must achieve your aim through thick and thin and for love or money;

3) Resourcefulness; you must generate and realize a new idea, which has never occurred to anybody, but it isn't enough you should believe in it;

4) Self-actualization; you must learn your inner world, if you don't know who you are, you can't understand your opportunities. Try to ask yourself 3 questions: who are you? What is to become of you? How can you do it?;

5) Optimism; you must keep positive thinking;

6) Egoism or selfhood; you must help yourself before helping others.



I can't help mentioning that the ways of becoming successful and the ways of being decent are straight. But as we know, straight parallel lines never cross. That's why all successful people confess that their first million wasn't quite fair. Besides, our aims are constantly changing. During lifetime you may have several aims. For example, Steve Jobs, president of "Apple" corporation had a big fortune but died of cancer. Could he consider himself a successful man? He was in the list of the richest men in the world, but his health did cost more.

In conclusion I would like to quote the words of Albert Schweitzer, who said: "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful". To be successful means a lot. Are you ready to pay for the success? Try to set your priorities and listen to your heart.

*Intigam Mamedov
Astrakhan*

3rd place among University students

Success, successful, to become successful... We often hear these words everywhere: at home, school and university. Every day on the street billboards, in TV programmes, in all newspapers and magazines we can see people who are considered to be successful. Being in my late teens, I often ask myself what it means to be successful. Let me share some of my thoughts with you.

Let's imagine a successful person. What first thing enters your mind? As they say, in the majority of cases our imagination draws us a well-groomed garden on the shore of the lake, a magnificent mansion with luxurious furniture, the ancient family table silver, the cabinet sheathed by oak panels and a mirror table. There should be a smart sport car. And the central figure of that wonderful environment is represented by a successful person. It is you... That person who is wearing the clothes made by the most fashionable designer, modestly accepts sincere congratulations. What sort of congratulations? Of course, those ones which are well-known and connected with the government awards or business profits. Is it the picture you are dreaming about? Is it really success in your life? If you say "yes", it means that without your own office or an expensive car, you can't become successful in your life. As a matter of fact, a lot of young people think so. But I don't.

In my opinion, success can be different. In other words, success for everyone is always individual and personal. To become successful in something is necessary to spend too much energy and time. So, for example, to become the world champion in boxing, Konstantin Tszyu has to spend half of his life training on the ring. It is necessary to say that he has achieved his great success for the sake of our country at a high price of bloody and painful fights. Do you think that only famous personalities are successful because they have achieved the world glory? Certainly, they are successful in their life because

not everyone can deserve glory. And what about other people who don't have the world fame? Do you think it means that you have never achieved any success in your life? I don't think so.

Every mother remembers her child's first words and first steps. It has been also the success for the whole family! On the whole, success is an achievement of the purposes and goals. Our life is full of challenges. Every day we try to overcome difficulties and to aim new targets. It is impossible to live without a purpose; it is the same as to live without success. To my mind, each of us is successful. But everyone is successful in his or her own way. For some people success means being rich, for others it means to become famous in something. There are a lot of examples of the people who managed to overcome their injuries and life tragedies and even the ability to walk has become real success in their life. I'm really impressed by a Russian toboggan athlete Irina Skvotsova who survived a life threatening trauma and now she is full of optimism to come back to sport.

In conclusion, I'd like to say that if you think that you haven't achieved success in the life, you are mistaken. You have everything for a good start: a loving family, good education, interesting work. It is also success. It means that



there are things in your life which you aimed at: you made a family, gave a birth and brought up a child, spent many years to get an education. Even if you don't become a president or a known Hollywood star, all in all, you become successful in something. But if you still want to become rich or to become successful in something, you should just remember that success needs a lot of time and energy. I'd like to cite Benjamin Franklin's words, "I would rather have it said, "HE LIVED USEFUL" than "HE DIED RICH". My motto and advice is: Trust yourself and be assured of your success!

*Yana Mikhailova
Surgut*

3rd place among University students

LETTER TO THE PAST

Hello, Polina,
I'm writing to you, to my outstanding past. Now I'm 52. I have everything: well-paid job, a lot of money, 3 sport cars, a flat in Moscow and a house in Miami. So, you can say that I'm a successful woman. And I really am.

You're 21 now. Of course, my dear, I remember that you live in a student dormitory and dream about everything that I have. I suppose that you're hesitating about your future job: it should be prestigious, well-paid. Now it doesn't matter for you whether the job is interesting or whether your co-workers are nice. You, of course, think only about prosperity and promotion. But I should confess something. From one point of view, I'm a wealthy lady, but from another view, I'm not a happy one.

You know, now I absolutely understand what a success is. It means to get along not only in the sphere of business but at the same time to build a family and to bear children. I have never had a job that I liked. Every morning, when I got up, I hated my life and my colleagues. I always wanted to be a teacher and work with small children, but all my friends told me that it's not profitable. You know, I'm tired of the word "profit". It has become a motto of my life. Now you have a chance to change our life. You should use it.

I believe that success is not only your outside state, but it's a combination of outside and inside well-being.

Take care,
Polina from future



*Polina Bushkovskaya
Syktyvkar*

Contest laureate among University students

There was a warm summer evening. A small girl lived in a nice house. She was clever and kind, but sometimes her question shocked the adults and they didn't what to answer...

-Polly! Polly, where are you?

-I'm here, mama! - a little girl with a toy rabbit in her hands ran out of her room.

-It's dinner time, come on, darling, - her mother turned around to look at her.

-Have you washed your hands?

-No, - said the girl. - I'll do it in a second!

Looking at the mirror in the bathroom she was pondering on a new quite interesting question.

-Mama, - Polly came in to the kitchen. - Mama, what does it mean to be successful?

-Why? - Her mother was surprised. She sat down on the chair near with her daughter. - Why do you ask about it?

-Because everybody speaks about it! - answered Polly biting off a piece of bread. - On the TV, on the radio, everywhere! Mama, what does it mean?

-Well, - sighed she. - You see, everyone should decide it for himself.

-How is it? - It was Polly turn to wonder.

-Because each person has his or her own dreams and wishes. That's why everybody understands it differently.

-Uhh... - said Polly. She decided to ask all her relatives about it - And what is your dream?

-I always wanted to have a nice daughter! - Her mother embraced her daughter smiling. - And now she is here and I'm happy.

Mother and daughter laughed in the kitchen.

-Papa! Papa, what does it mean to be successful? - Polly asked her father.

-As for me, it means to be a good father and to make you happy.

-Kate! - Polly peeped into her elder sister's room. - Are you successful?

-Not yet, Polly. I haven't finished my education. I think you are successful if you are good at your profession.

-Do you want to be a doctor?

-Yes, I do. Well, Polly, let me finish my report. It's difficult and tomorrow I'm going to present it!

-Sorry, Kate!

-Aunt Nancy! - Polly called her aunt. - Aunt Nancy, what is your dream?

-I want to become a boss of the company.

-Why? It isn't simple!

-It's my dream. And I'll do my best.

-Granny! What is your dream?

-When I was young I wanted to be a teacher.

-But you are a teacher!

-Yes. My dream came true.

-And are you successful?

-I think, I am.

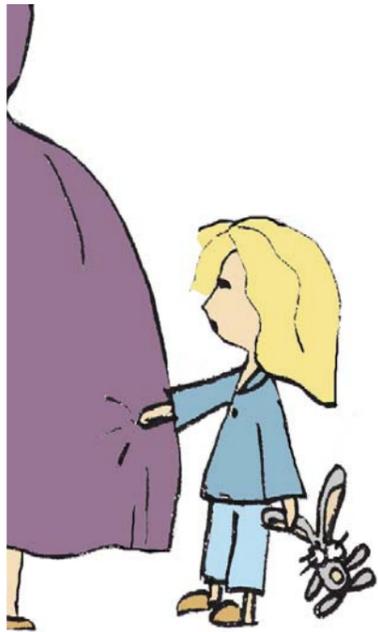
-Polly! - the mother called Polly the next day.

-Yes? - The girl stopped drawing a picture. There were big trees and a large blue lake in it.

-What does to be successful mean? - she asked her daughter.

-Mmm...- said Polly. - It means...

-What? - smiled her mother.



-I think it means to know what you want to realize! - answered the little girl. - Mama, can I ask you a question?

-Yes, darling. What do you want to know?

-Why is the sky blue?

Dasha Manzhosova
Orenburg
Contest laureate among University students

Autumn... Problems and failures were one after another. I thought I had completely lost myself. For friends I was a loser and I envied people around me who were more successful than me. I didn't understand how others could cope with their troubles and why I'm always out of luck. I wanted to leave the town and I decided to go to the sea to relax and make my thoughts clear. When I was walking near the shore, I saw something made of glass swinging in cold waves. I immediately understood that it was a message in a bottle. Then I quickly unfolded the precious note with a big and strange hope and began to read. "Hello, dear stranger. I will probably never know who is reading my letter now but you're my last hope. I'm totally alone and now I'm on the edge of madness. Waking up, I say to myself "good morning" and with a great effort get out of a warm bed. By the way, I adore sleeping long, but last time I did it in deep childhood. Then I make myself strong coffee, read the latest news, dress pre-chosen suit, splash some perfume and go out. Among the thousands of passers-by, friends, colleagues nobody knows that yesterday I was informed of the death of my mother, and all night I cried and hugged her old dresses. But at the right time, I prepared a brilliant project, which would satisfy my boss. In the evening I'm going to meet with old friends. I know they will admire my life, complain about their problems, and at the end of every tragedy they will be adding: "And how do you manage to live so well? You always have everything perfect!" So I will humbly shrug, smile and say usual phrases. But I will never tell them that I would be really glad to exchange my life with any of theirs. Nobody knows who I am. Nobody knows me as well as I do. I made people sure that I'm a successful person. But they don't even know how far they are from the truth. Do I need to pursue the implementation of the objectives for the recognition of others? Should I go with a mask on my face to keep the image of a happy person? Now, when I have achieved my goal, I want to tell you, my unknown friend,

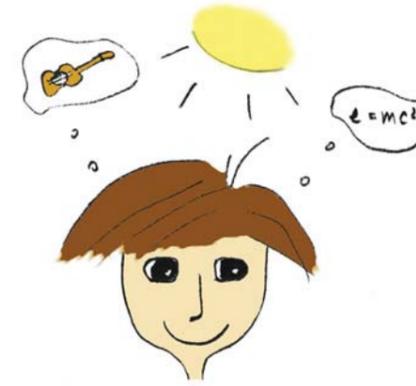
that all of this has the least connection with the success. To be successful ... What does this mean? Be full of success. Be complete. Do you understand? And all that I described above, it is no more than the external surroundings, the empty picture. I know that real success is what lives inside you. First, you should have great courage to admit to yourself what you really want. Much harder to turn a blind eye to others' opinion, not to wait for praise, and do things you love. Only in this case you will know what success means. After all, success will not be out of you. It would be completely inside, close to your soul. I do not know how to live now, after I have understood it. But I beg you not to repeat my mistakes. They've brought me to a dead end ... " In the following lines the strange person said goodbye. And then I started thinking it over. I was overwhelmed by different confusing feelings, the strongest was a big gratitude to the author of the letter. After all, he's saved me. It was difficult, but necessary to take his advice. So, I've decided to change my life. Because after reading the letter the phrase "to be successful" started meaning to me harmony inside my inner world.



Evgenia Dolgova
Kaliningrad
2nd place among high school students

1997: - Hello, what's your name?
Hello. My name is Olya.
How old are you?
3 years old.
What does it mean to be successful?
Umm... I don't know... I don't know about this...
1999: I'm 5 and I'm dreaming of becoming a doctor in my future. I know that doctors are very important because they treat sick people. I think that all doctors are successful.
2001: This year I'm going to school. To be successful means to be obedient with parents, friendly with classmates and to get good marks at school. And I will. I will do my homework every day. My parents will be proud of me.
2005: This year I'm at secondary school. At school I usually get only excellent marks. My teachers and parents are quite happy with my results. I've been studying in a musical school and trying to do my best for 3 years. I have a lot of friends. We like to spend free time playing together or walking in the park. Every week I help my mom with cleaning and cooking a bit. I think that a successful person should be determined and confident, sociable, should read a lot and know plenty of things.
2009: This year I've been accepted into special Economics and Maths form without any exams. I'm very glad with it and my parents are happy and proud of me. Studying here is not easy because my classmates are rather smart and am-

bitious. So am I. However I have an aim. I want to become one of the best students, win various competitions and be well-known and respected in our school. The other thing is the preparation for the 9th form State Exams. My main purpose now is to pass them with flying colours.



I have one close friend to share all my sadness and happiness with. We are always ready to support each other. It is so amazing when you have somebody who understands you, whom you can really rely on! Moreover, hanging out together, going to the theatres and cinemas is fascinating! We always have a theme to talk about.

Now I have a boyfriend. It's a new and unique feeling when somebody (except your relatives) tries to take care of you and you take care of him too. It's time for new hopes and wishes, dreams, lovely evenings and long phone calls. I like it!

So, now being successful means for me to study as well as I can, to win public approval and to keep warm relationships with my nearest and dearest.

2011: This year is one of the most important periods in my life, I suppose. Now I am a high school graduate and I have to make a choice who I want to be in my future, where to go after school, what to do...

Now I'm eager to pass the graduating Exams successfully and finally become a real student of a university. With all the preparations, studies and courses it is extremely difficult to find time for yourself: to sleep, to make friends, to fall in love, to be with a family. But I'm still confident that I will be able to cope with these difficulties.

So, am I successful? Or am I going to be? Success is not only money, knowledge or influence. It is also a good and loving family, faithful friends, generous and optimistic character. I tend to become a strong and harmoniously developed person and get an engrossing job in future. I will consider it to be my greatest success.

Olga Titova
Voronezh

3rd place among high school students

We often hear the phrases "successful person", "he has achieved success", the newspapers publish lists of the most successful people today ... But what is behind the word "success"?

Quality

Let's try to understand. To do this, take a look at one of these lists - «New Establishment List» according to the magazine "Vanity Fair". On the list of the top five we see first of all eminent specialists of IT - Mark Zuckerberg - the founder of the social network Facebook (27-year-old Mark is also the youngest of those who have ever headed this list), the creators of Google search Sergey Brin and Larry Page, the founder of the world's largest online retailer Amazon, Jeff Bezos, new Apple director Tim Cook and chief designer Jonathan Ive, the Twitter creator Jack Dorsey.

After reading the interview with Mark Zuckerberg, we learn that he has invested a lot of effort to ensure that he has now. In school he learned several languages, went in for sports, but most of the time devoted for programming - at 12 he developed the program Instant Messenger (simplified analogue ICQ). When Mark began to study at Harvard, he already had a reputation of a "super programmer." Is Mark successful today? Yes, of course. It turns out that success - a sense of purpose, multiplied by the diligence, knowledge and abilities. And not only that! If you believe the author of "Social Network" David Kirkpatrick, Mark has never been an outcast: "Girls are attracted to his echidna smile. He almost never left without a friend. They liked his confidence, humor, and non-conformism. ". Non-konformizm - the desire to hold your opinion, even when it differs from the majority opinion - helped Mark to succeed and become the king of Facebook, the empire he founded.

Money

Most often, the basic criterion for success is money. Logically, if a man does his job well, then he gets for this some capital. But for many people to become successful means to get fame in scientific community, to have an exhibition of his paintings, to do an incredibly complex operation, to write and publish his or her novel. It will not surely bring prosperity, but it would be a dream, which come true, and it will also be a real success!

Principles

Recently in a magazine I read an article entitled "The Five Principles of Successful People." These principles are very simple and anyone can start using them to achieve success! In short, they look like this:

1. Successful people do things on time.

Think of yourself: when you are waiting for a man who has to come at any moment. And you are waiting for 10, 20, 30 minutes... Sense of expectation is not the most pleasant. And when you are late, then you doom the man who is waiting for you for the same tortures.

Immanuel Kant said that he had improved his life. Kant's whole life was strictly organised: 22 p.m. - he went to bed, and for thirty years, never woke up late. At 7.00 a.m. he went for a walk - the inhabitants of Konigsberg checked their watches by him.

2. Successful people do not talk too much.

If you are always chatting, then you'll quickly get the image of a chatterbox and an idler. Besides, if you talk too much, you may tell something you would later regret of.

There is a good proverb: the word is silver, the silence is gold.

3. Successful people are welcoming and friendly.

To smile and say hello, to tell compliment - is it really so difficult? You need to be friendly with people of every rank.

You must be polite to both colleagues and clients.

4. Successful people do not think only about themselves.

Telephone Company of New York analyzed the 500 calls. The most common word was "I". The simple fact - people are basically interested in themselves. Therefore, in order to be interesting to others, you must be interested in other people.

5. Successful people are dressed in accordance to the situation.

If the work requires a dress code - you must take it into consideration. But even if it isn't - it is necessary to understand that it is inappropriate coming to work in an extremely short skirt or an old stretched sweater.

I believe that if you are industrious, persistent, and are able to set goals and set priorities, are qualified in your field, able to please people (this is important!), constantly educate yourself - the success will just chase you!

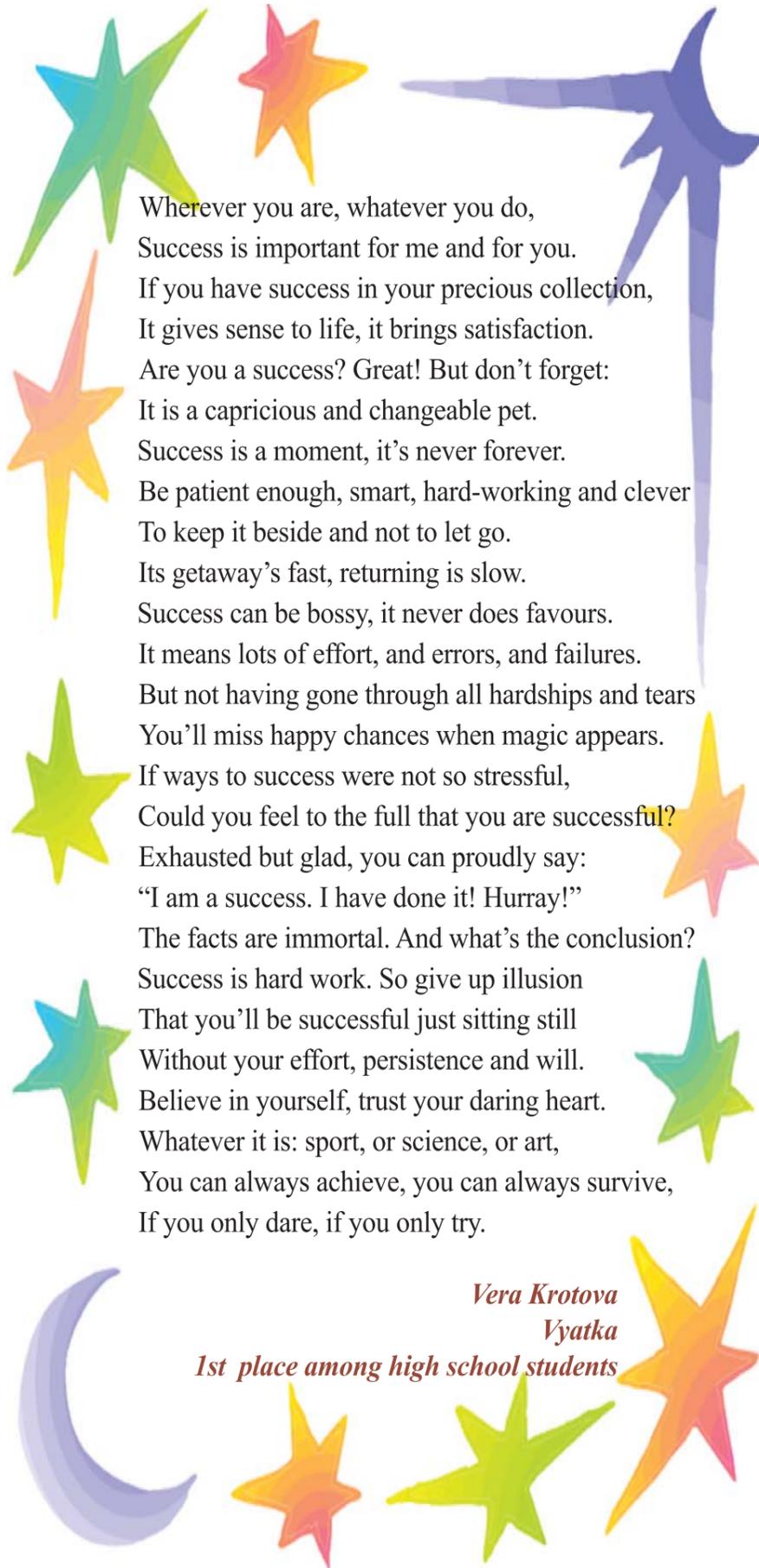
Tatiana Grushina

Voronezh

Contest laureate among University students

To Be Successful Means ...

To Be Successful Means ...



Wherever you are, whatever you do,
Success is important for me and for you.
If you have success in your precious collection,
It gives sense to life, it brings satisfaction.
Are you a success? Great! But don't forget:
It is a capricious and changeable pet.
Success is a moment, it's never forever.
Be patient enough, smart, hard-working and clever
To keep it beside and not to let go.
Its getaway's fast, returning is slow.
Success can be bossy, it never does favours.
It means lots of effort, and errors, and failures.
But not having gone through all hardships and tears
You'll miss happy chances when magic appears.
If ways to success were not so stressful,
Could you feel to the full that you are successful?
Exhausted but glad, you can proudly say:
"I am a success. I have done it! Hurray!"
The facts are immortal. And what's the conclusion?
Success is hard work. So give up illusion
That you'll be successful just sitting still
Without your effort, persistence and will.
Believe in yourself, trust your daring heart.
Whatever it is: sport, or science, or art,
You can always achieve, you can always survive,
If you only dare, if you only try.

*Vera Krotova
Vyatka*

1st place among high school students

I have done the first steps. Success!

I have said the first word. Success!

I have learnt how to tie shoelaces. Success!

I have recited the first poem in the kindergarten. Success!

I have drawn the best picture in the group. Success!

I have read the first word. Success!

I have gone to the school my parents wanted me to go to. Success!

I have got the first excellent mark. Success!

I have read the first English word. Success!

I have won the British Bulldog. Success!

I have become the winner in a running race. Success!

I have been to the first date with the boy I admire. Success!

I have won a grant for an exchange programme. Success!

I have passed the Russian National Exam. Success!

I have finished school. Success!

I have entered a university in a big city. Success!

I have got a Bachelor's Degree. Success!

I have got a Master's Degree. Success!

I have found a good job. Success!

I have been promoted. Success!

I have married the man I admire. Success!

We have built a house. Success!

I have learnt how to change the diapers. Success!

I have cooked edible porridge. Success!

My daughter has done the first steps

And then it starts all over again. Step by step. Success after success.
My daughter's success and mine.

So, what does "successful" mean? "Successful" means "full of success". And you are successful if you have the Perfect Present, the Perfect Past and the Perfect Future full of success!



*Darya Okulova
Vyatka*

2nd place among high school students

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