

COMMUNICATION

Discussing fame and success

LEVEL

Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER

EN_B1_2123X

LANGUAGE

English

Learning outcomes

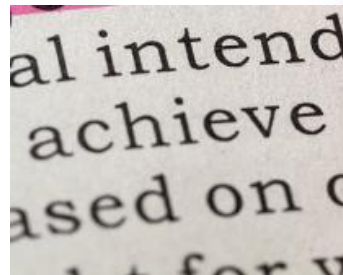
- I can recognise and recall a variety of expressions related to fame and success.
- I can discuss what success in life is, using examples from my own life and the wider world.



Warm up

1. **Write** your own definition of the word **successful**. **Use** the red box to help you.
2. **Compare** definitions either with a partner in breakout rooms or together as a class.
3. **Agree** on a definition together. **Share** it with your teacher.

- Who's an example of a successful person for you? Why?
- How do you measure your own success in life?



Reading

Read the short stories below. **Discuss** if each one person is a real success or not.

Are these people successful or not?



A woman loses her job and starts a new business which becomes a multi-million pound company. But she becomes so obsessed with the new company that she neglects her family and they leave her.



A sportsman wins Olympic silver in the marathon. Although the tests are all negative, he knows he was taking performance enhancing drugs.



A sixteen-year-old boy loses a leg in a traffic accident. He returns to school and passes all of his exams that same year.



A film director wins five Oscars for a film that has shocked his local Scottish community because it gives a false impression of their history.



Transform the words

Can you think of any **nouns** or **adjectives** that are related to these verbs?



1

succeed

2

fail

3

win

4

lose

5

earn

6

shock

7

perform

8

sing

Adjectives

Nouns

When we were young...

Can you guess who these famous people are from the photos of them when they were younger? What did they become famous for?

I think the woman in picture 1 is...

Oh, yes! She became a famous...

1



2



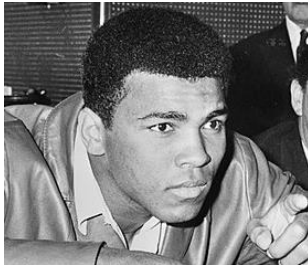
3



4



5



6



7



8

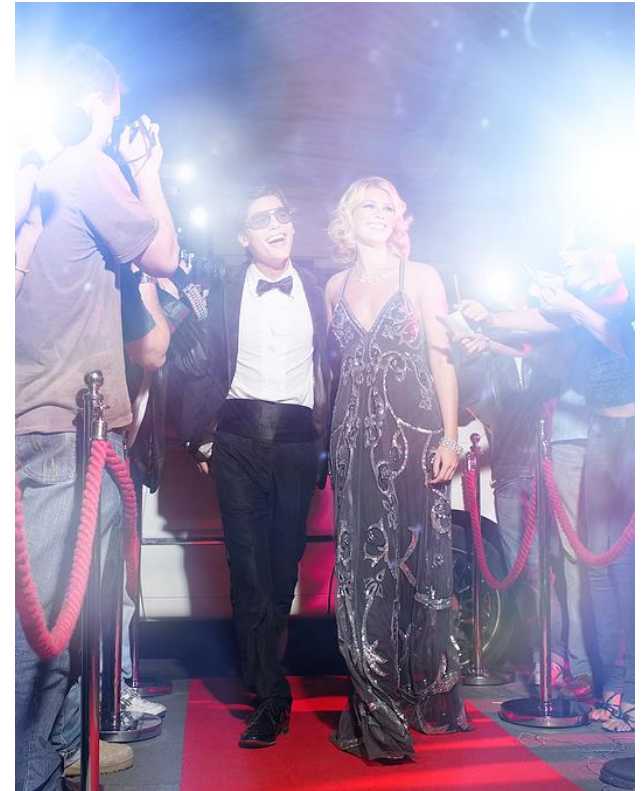


Discussion

Answer the first question individually. Has anyone else in your class heard of this person? If you haven't, ask your classmate some questions to find out more!

Who is the most famous person in your country?

Why are they famous? What has made them so successful?





Have you **heard of** Ella Fitzgerald?

No, I haven't. Who is she?

What is a synonym for **heard of**? What's the name of a singer everyone has **heard of**?



Giving reasons and examples

What are **some phrases** you know already to **give reasons** and **examples**?



**Pop stars
usually have
short careers
as they aren't
real musicians!**

**Elton John, for
instance, has
had a very long
career!**



Which other words could
replace **as** in this sentence?

How could you use **such as**
or **like** in this sentence?



Form sentences

Use the linkers below in a **correct sentence**. Are you giving a **reason** or an **example**?

1 for instance



There are some things, for instance, fame and money, that always change people!

2 like



3 since



4 such as



5 as



6 because





Britney Spears is a perfect example of a pop culture **icon**!

What does this word mean?

Who are some examples of **cultural icons** where you live?

By invitation only!

Now, imagine you are **the famous person from your country** from **slide 8**. You all want to attend a **very exclusive dinner party**, but there aren't enough invitations for all of you. Only one of you can attend. Why should *you* be the one invited?



I deserve to receive an invitation because...

As one of my country's most respected...

I've won numerous awards such as..



Time to talk!

Choose one of the **questions** below and **ask one of your classmates**.



- Do you have to be famous in order to be successful?
- Would you ever like to be famous one day? What would you be famous for?
- How can fame and success change people?
- Who is the most famous person you've ever seen, spoken to or met?
- If you could invite three famous people to dinner, who would they be and why?



End of lesson

Idiom

One in a million

Meaning: to be unique, unusual or special

Example: Our son, Tim, is *one in a million*. He's like no one else in the world!



Additional practice



Rework the sentences

Change the verbs in bold into nouns or adjectives. More than one answer may be possible

1 He **succeeded** in the film industry.



He was **successful** in the film industry.

2 She **won** the marathon.



3 They **shocked** everyone with their performance.



4 In the end, he **failed** as a singer.



5 She **performed** very well in the audition.



6 Have you heard of the person who **sings** by the bridge?





Choose the right option

1 In the hospitality industry, _____, over a million jobs have been lost.

- a. such as b. for instance c. because d. as

2 _____ we have a few minutes, why don't we stop for a cup of coffee?

- a. Such as b. For instance c. Since d. Like

3 They prefer hot destinations, _____ Thailand or Mexico.

- a. because b. since c. such d. like

4 I arrived late simply _____ she told me the party was at 9.

- a. since b. because c. like d. such as



What's a recipe for success?

Look at the photos below showing different elements for success.

What do you think each photo represents? Which one is the most important in your opinion?





A successful person

Write about a successful person using a variety of expressions related to fame and success.

Think of a successful person.

Write a short paragraph explaining why you think they are successful.



Answer key

P.5: ***Suggested answers:***

success, successful; failure; winner, winning; loser, loss; earnings, earner; shocking; performer, performance; singer

P.6: 1. Julie Andrews – singer, actress 2. Sean Connery – actor 3. Martina Navratilova – tennis player 4. Elton John – singer-songwriter 5. Mohammed Ali – boxer 6. Marilyn Monroe – actor 7. Bill Gates – businessman 8. Marie Curie – scientist

P.17: ***Suggested answers:***

2. He was the **winner** of the marathon.

3. Their performance was **shocking**.

4. In the end, he was a **failure** as a singer.

5. Her **performance** in the audition was very good.

6. Have you heard of the young **singer** by the bridge?

P.18: 1b, 2c, 3d, 4b



Summary

- We can transform **verbs we already know** into **nouns or adjectives** to broaden our vocabulary:
 - succeed > success, successful perform > performer
 - fail > failure sing > singer
 - win > winner lose > loser
- We can use a range of common phrases to **introduce an example**:
 - *for example, for instance;*
 - *such as, like*
- We can use the following **conjunctions** between clauses to provide a reason:
 - *I don't follow any celebrity news **since/as/because** I don't think it's important. (= The reason why I don't follow any celebrity news is that I don't think it's important)*



Vocabulary

success

successful

to fail

failure

performance

winner

loser

to shock

to have heard of someone

for instance

icon

