

56 I can talk about success and failure

A Success 🎧

JANE Maximo, your pizza chain's been a **resounding** success. How did things **turn out** so well for you? What's **the secret of your success**?

MAXIMO Well, I had **a stroke of luck** early on. I hired a talented young chef who was really keen to **fulfil his potential**, and basically he **never put a foot wrong**. We had to work together to **overcome** all the **obstacles in our way** – we nearly **came unstuck** when the first restaurant was flooded – but eventually we **made it**.

JANE You **made a big breakthrough** after you were on that TV show, didn't you?

MAXIMO Yes, we **went from strength to strength** after that. Still, you can never relax ...

Glossary

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| resounding | very great (a resounding success/defeat/win/victory). | overcome sth | succeed in controlling or dealing with a problem. |
| turn out (well/badly) | happen in a particular way, often unexpectedly. | obstacle | a situation or event that makes it hard for you to achieve sth. |
| the secret of (your) success | a way of doing things that has brought success. | in sb's/the way | stopping sb from doing sth. |
| a stroke of sth | an unexpected but important event (a stroke of luck). | come unstuck | INF fail completely. |
| potential | qualities that exist and can be developed (fulfil/realize your potential = use your natural abilities to achieve what you hoped to achieve). | make it | succeed in achieving a goal; become successful. |
| not put a foot wrong | not make a single mistake. | breakthrough | an important development that may lead to an achievement or agreement (make/achieve a breakthrough). |
| | | go from strength to strength | become more and more successful. |

1 Make six phrases using words from the box.

a resounding come the secret turn out a stroke fulfil
of luck unstuck of your success your potential victory badly

2 Good or bad? Write G or B.

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 We went from strength to strength. _____ | 4 She never put a foot wrong. _____ |
| 2 There were obstacles in our way. _____ | 5 They had a breakthrough. _____ |
| 3 They came unstuck. _____ | 6 They overcame the obstacles. _____ |

3 Complete the sentences.

- He's very successful, but he's had to _____ various personal problems during his life.
- I passed my exam. However, I think it was a _____ of luck.
- The company struggled at first; now they're going from strength _____.
- You must ask him for the _____ of his success.
- There's a long way to go, but things have _____ out well so far.
- The film industry is a tough business, but I believe she has the _____ to go on and make it.

