

Sample Student 2

English 846

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Definition Essay

Success

What is success? Some define success as the gaining of fame or wealth. Others might suggest that success can be defined as the achievement of personal goals. Success, defined in the dictionary, is the achievement of something desired, planned, or attempted; in other words, whatever one puts his or her mind to can be accomplished. However, the term success is often misinterpreted. Success is thought of the amount of dollars one has in his or her bank account. Success is thought of the amount of after hours that are spend on the job. Success is thought of one's inability to fail. **What is success? Success is unselfish, success is to fail, and success is to persevere.**

Many people think that to achieve success they have to be selfish, but success is unselfish. Success is reached when one is able to work with others. Someone who is selfish only sees how he or she can benefit from others, for his or her personal gain. Success is accomplished through the hard work and dedication of any collective group. For example, The San Francisco Giants were able to win the World Series, through the effort of every individual on that team. Success is the result of people working together for a greater cause. It is only reached when people agree and execute a game plan.

Often times, people make the assumption that if one fails there is no success. Many consider failing as a negative, but failing is necessary to reach success. People can learn and benefit from their failure. For instance, riding a bike for the first time can be

challenging. The process starts by first learning how to ride with training wheels. Once that step is accomplished the training wheels are removed. The realization of how difficult it is to keep balance on a two-wheel bike will allow the rider to make a decision to continue or give up. One will fall, get hurt, but with time he or she will be able to master the art of cycling. Success is not surrendering to the obstacle, but learning from every fall caused by the bicycle. Thomas Edison, the inventor of DC electricity, said it perfectly: "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work" (brainyquote.com). Success is learning from what did not work and making it work. The key is to keep pressing forward, persevering.

Success is not achieved unless one continues to persevere regardless of the hardships. Hardships often discourage a person; they don't allow a person to continue to persevere, thus not allowing them to be successful. Perseverance is the path to success. Michael Jordan persevered when he was cut from his high school basketball team. Today he is known as the greatest basketball player of all time. Walt Disney was fired from a newspaper for lacking imagination. Today Disney is known globally. Persevering is also a necessity for relationships. For example, the divorce rate is at 50%, which means that half of marriages don't work out. A couple that perseveres has a successful marriage. Persevering is a necessity if one desires to reach success.

Success is the ability to work in a team regardless of the different personalities and characters that are in the group. Success is not selfish, but associated with people whom want to succeed. Failing is also considered an aspect of success. Failure allows a person to learn from errors committed in the past. In the same way, success is not possible if a person does not persevere. A person who does not give up will reach

success. Success is accomplished through the help of one another; success is the ability to learn from our mistakes; success is succumbing through all adversity.