Your Name

Instructor Name

Course Number

Date

Definition Essay

The origins of the word ‘success’ can be traced back to a 16th-century Latin word succedere that can be roughly translated to coming close after a particular goal. The general, widely accepted meaning of success during the early 20th and 21st centuries alluded to the accomplishment of a purpose or a good outcome of any undertaking or proceeding in daily life. The concept of success and its implications vary from one person to another. It is one of those abstractions which are really hard to define because of their extensive interpretations and differing implications. One may associate success with earning huge amounts of profit or popularity, and at the same time, a person able to indulge in one of his favorite activities may consider himself as successful. Having good health and fortune is also considered a success by many people which is a form of personal achievement. High levels of social capital, for instance, having strong ties with family and friends is also one form of success which many people fail to achieve.

In spite of the implication that success always paves the way for a goal, everyone has a subjective understanding of the word ‘success.’

Some people also have a staunch belief in the presumption that one has to fiercely compete with their counterparts to achieve some milestones which can be regarded as a success. A comparison of one’s own accomplishments with others often results in feelings of superiority or inferiority. This can also lead to the belief that if someone has respect and praise in a particular society, they are successful. The uplifting of social status and the rise of one’s image through sheer competition is thought of as success by many people. Contemporary trends in media platforms and mainstream marketing have essentially brainwashed a larger portion of our society into accepting a nearly fallacious definition of success. Nowadays, an individual who has managed to achieve all the laurels of life and is famous in his social circle is considered successful.

Another relatively better way of defining success is perceiving a sense of happiness and contentment with the liberties that people enjoy and can practice. People believe that in spite of the results, the mere efforts count and are instrumental in making them successful. Acceptance and embracement of people’s true personality attribute including the flaws and weaknesses can often lead to success based on inner bliss and happiness.

Since the advent of mankind, perhaps the most desired and wanted feeling of everyone is the experience of achieving their goals and surpassing others in their daily struggles. In the initial part of an individual’s life, the chief concern and the primary bailiwick is an academic success. After the academic journey is over, the next goal of young adults becomes a financial success and their lives start to revolve around this goal. It is also observed in many instances, that those who only focus on success in their work lives, often have to struggle with succeeding in maintaining personal life relationships. In the contemporary world, success has been equated to the possession of assets, fortunes and riches, prosperity and so many other quotidian things. There is also a general conception that if someone has enough purchasing power to afford anything he wants or if he can support several households, he is considered successful. This partial definition has been deeply impressed on our minds by the global conditions and media tactics.

Success is a very useful concept and the in-depth analysis of its operationalization is vital for the correct understanding of societal gaps and global inequality. The path towards personal success cannot be determined by a mere formalization of some variables and this realization is mandatory for individuals to make when they are striving for personal growth. Everyone associated with a different yet vast spectrum of priorities which implies that various attitudes and activities will have distinct effects on our well-being.

The ultimate achievement of success is perhaps the scrupulous understanding of the importance of things in one’s life and the timely recognition of weaknesses so that they can be overcome by consistent efforts and perseverance. If everyone starts to spend his or her efforts in meeting someone else’s values about success, the end result would be unhappiness and exhaustion. Another definition of this term also imparts that acquiring the ability to discern the goals in one’s life and their righteous prioritizing is a major step towards success.

I personally think that waking up every day and being able to pursue my cherished activities constitutes success. Having the means for reading books and spending a significant part of my day in research activities simultaneously means success for me and also proves to be a source of sheer happiness for me. Utilizing my mental faculties for the long-term benefits of global society is the ultimate definition of success for me. For me, this term also denotes true contentment with my life prospects and whatever that I have achieved until now. This sense of fulfillment has very minimal to do with my material assets or social standing. Having my parents smile at me with a look of pride and satisfaction is also linked with my subjective idea of happiness.

Summing up, it is necessary that every phase of life should be contemplated over so that success can be defined in an adequate manner. During the course of life, success may find a person but ultimately it has to find you striving for it.