



05 - VOCABULARY: SUCCESS AND FAILURE



- 1 - Successful Samantha has a long list of **impressive accomplishments**. It seems like everything she does ends up being a **phenomenal success**.
- 2 - In her very first job, she created a **highly effective** way to motivate the company's employees, resulting in a **dramatic improvement** in workplace morale.
- 3 - Now she's developing a system for real-time translation among 100 different languages. If she can pull it off, it'll be an **unprecedented success** and the **crowning achievement** (*best or most significant achievement*) of her career.
- 4 - So far, the program has enjoyed **modest success** (*some limited success*) but there is still **room for improvement** (*potential for improvement*).
- 5 - However, Samantha says that the team is **making good progress**, and that in the next month or two she hopes to **make a breakthrough** (*make a sudden advance in success, especially when you overcome an obstacle*).
- 6 - Although Samantha is very ambitious, she's also a very likeable person. She **brings out the best** in other people, and quickly **wins the respect** of colleagues.
- 7 - Samantha's brother, Disastrous Dan, is the opposite – everything he attempts seems to **fail miserably**.
- 8 - He wanted to be a doctor, but his teachers told him he wasn't smart enough, **dashing his hopes** (*making him abandon hope*) of a career in medicine.
- 9 - He had the opportunity to do a prestigious internship in another country, but he **lost his nerve** (*lost his courage*) and turned down the offer.
- 10 - He then applied for various jobs, but **completely failed** to show up to the interviews on time. He was eventually hired, but later lost his job due to his **mediocre performance** and total lack of **remarkable achievements**.
- 11 - Dan then tried to start his own software company to compete with Samantha's; that was a **spectacular failure**. He invested his life savings in the business, despite all his friends telling him that it would be **a recipe for disaster** (*very likely to result in disaster*).
- 12 - His sales predictions were **way off the mark** (*completely inaccurate*), and the company **went under** (*lost all its money and shut down*) just eight months after it was founded.
- 13 - Poor Dan – it seems like he's **doomed to failure** (*destined to be unsuccessful*). But **if all else fails** (*if everything is unsuccessful*), he can always move into Samantha's mansion **as a last resort** (*a final possibility*)!