

Learn to be lucky

In June 1980, Maureen Wilcox became one of the US lottery's biggest losers. She ~~missed~~ the winning numbers for both the Rhode Island and Massachusetts lotteries. But unfortunately for her, the numbers she picked for the Rhode Island lottery were the correct ones for the Massachusetts lottery, and vice versa.

We all know lucky people – they have good relationships, successful careers and are very ~~happy~~ with their lives. But what makes them so lucky? Dr Richard Wiseman has spent ten years studying luck and has found that ~~some~~ people have a completely different approach to the world.

FOUR WAYS TO BE LUCKY

The results of his work revealed that people aren't born lucky. Instead, fortunate people ~~have~~ in a way that creates good luck in their lives.

- They ~~miss~~ opportunities that happen ~~by chance~~ more often than unlucky people. They are also more open to meeting new people and having new experiences.
- They tend to make good decisions by listening to their intuition.
- They're optimists and are certain that the future is going to be full of good luck. This positive attitude often makes good things happen.
- They're also good at coping with bad luck and often cheer themselves up by imagining things could be worse than they are.

LUCK SCHOOL

Dr Wiseman tested his ideas by starting a luck school, where he hoped that unlucky people could learn to be lucky. 400 volunteers spent a month doing exercises to help them think and act like a lucky person. These exercises helped the volunteers spot opportunities that happen accidentally, trust their intuition more, feel ~~sure~~ they're going to be lucky and become better at ~~dealing with~~ bad luck. The results were dramatic and ~~showed~~ that 80% of the volunteers were now happier and more content with their lives – and most important of all, luckier.

Dr Wiseman's ideas won't help you win the lottery, but they might help you in your day-to-day life – fingers crossed!

Reading

a- Read the article. Choose the correct answers.

- 1- Richard Wiseman studies luck /is a very lucky person.
- 2- He **thinks/ doesn't think** some people are born lucky.
- 3- His research shows that people **can/can't** learn to be lucky.

b- Read the article again. Answer these questions.

1-Did Maureen Wilcox win the lottery?

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2-How long has Mr. Wiseman been studying luck?

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3-Do lucky people have more new experiences than unlucky people?

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4-What was the aim of Dr Wiseman's luck school?

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5-How many people were luckier after going to luck school?

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Vocabulary

A- Look at the underlined words/phrases in the article. Match them to these synonyms.
Write the infinitive form of the verbs.

choose	
satisfied	
lucky	
behave	
notice	
By chance	
attitude	
Sure	
Deal with	
show	

B- Match a word/phrase in A to synonyms in B.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| * Concerned | * chat to someone |
| * Frightened | * glad |
| * make a decision | * have a go at doing |
| * try to do | * huge |
| * talk to someone | * scared |
| * nice | * make up your mind |
| * enormous | * worried |
| * pleased | * brilliant |
| * wonderful | * awful |
| * terrible | * pleased |

Writing

Do you think people are born lucky? Why? Why not?

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