

My Cycle of Success

By: Rawan Mzannar

English is the world's number one communication language. Learning English is important. It's so important that people all over the world decide to learn English as a second language. I personally want to learn English because it will help me reach three goals. English will help me reach my personal, financial, and future goals.

Many people enjoy learning the English language. I want to study English for many reasons. The first reason is that English will help me reach my personal goal of wanting to communicate with people. I want to communicate with the doctor when I go a doctor appointment . English will allow me to help my kids when they go to school. My hope is to help my children read their textbooks and do research online. English will let me be able to talk with their teachers when I have parent teacher conferences. English will also create a way for me to learn American culture and tell people about my culture. It's very important to learn another language and to have friends from different countries who are English speakers.

Secondly, English will help me reach my financial goals. One of my financial goals is to find a job and to help my husband pay the bills. Because I'm a homemaker and I have two kids it's important to save money. It is also important to know where my money goes, to get the best deals on things, and to not buy things I don't need. English will also help me when I go shopping. The English classes I am taking will help me learn how to budget well which will allow me to help poor people and my family be able to go on a vacation.

Finally, English will help me reach my future goals. My future goal is to go to a university and become an English teacher. Learning not only to speak but write English will help me to be able to apply to a variety of universities.

English is very important because English is the official language in 53 countries and English is spoken as a first language by around 400 million people around the world . I hope to succeed in reaching my three goals and to change my life from being a homemaker to being a business woman.

Houston Center for Literacy & Houston Money Week
Adult Literacy Essay Contest
By Cheryl Aytch

I chose to attend Adult Education classes at EastSide University because I believed attending and completing these classes would be the best way to achieve the goals I envisioned for myself. When I began driving trucks in 1992, I decided that I wasn't going to be one of those broken down, barely walking drivers who have stayed in the business too long. Truck driving can be physically very hard on the body. When you enjoy what you do, it is hard to recognize the time to quit. So, of course, I have stayed too long in the profession and it has taken its toll on me physically.

Since I am semi-retired from trucking and funds are limited, I wanted a program I could complete in under a year, with as little financial burden as possible. I looked for classes that were both affordable, comprehensive, and certified. There were many classes offered around the city, under many different types of curriculum stylings, but my desire for a format that was fast and inexpensive within my income made choices limited. With all the negative stories about student loan debt and the lifetime impact on credit, I did not want to set myself up for financial failure. I also wanted something, if possible, that would give me certification or some kind of proof of course work to show prospective employers I had taken the training. That would be critical to a career change, because being a truck driver doesn't require the type of office skills or computer knowledge and program manipulation that is often required today for even the most basic positions.

The Adult Literacy Programs at EastSide offer a fast pace of learning at very little cost while providing accredited classroom settings. The Adult Learning courses give me the opportunity to 'reinvent' myself in order that I may continue to work and be a productive citizen into my retirement years. My personal timeline for a "cycle of success" begins with completing and mastering the courses I am taking in EastSide's adult literacy and digital literacy program. I am combining newly acquired skills with the business skills acquired from 25 years of logistics and customer service, springboard into logistics management or administration. Transitioning into another, albeit related career within a year, should give me another five to ten years to be a productive member of society.

Adult literacy and workforce programs provide an ideal place for adult students to get the education they need at the pace they need, whether basic literacy skills, computer skills, or self growth and improvement, to be the best person that they can be and create or realize personal and financial goals that complete the cycle of success for themselves, their families, and the community where they live.

Cycle of Success through Adult Literacy

By: Sohni Farooq

Language is the painting of voice. Everybody needs a language to express their thoughts. English is a commonly spoken language that gives you a new perspective on life and allows you to be informed and transformed. English will help me reach my personal, future, and financial goals.

First, it helps me reach my personal goals. Knowing English equips you to communicate with people from all over the world. English will give me confidence. I want to go to different countries as a tourist. If I can speak English when traveling I can ask for directions, order food, and chat with the locals. I can also enjoy things on the internet without translations or subtitles. Learning English will help me be able to teach my daughter the language. English will help me to find an appropriate school and understand her courses.

Secondly, English will help me reach my future goals. English helps me in my field of art. When I sell my paintings I will be able to easily communicate with art buyers. I will be able to take part in workshops, forums, and discussions on art. It will let me explore new materials and mediums and help me to keep advancing in this field. I love art and history and enjoy different cultures. Learning English allows me to grow as a person as I learn the way of life of the culture in the United States that is different from my own. My dream is to go to one of the world's best universities to study art. This dream is only possible by learning English. Being able to study at a university will start my career with a boost.

Lastly, English will help me reach my financial goals. Knowledge has the power to change our inner world. I believe that English speakers earn more money. English will open up opportunities and increase my standard of living. Having a higher income will help me to pay off

many things such as a better home, a reliable car, furniture, clothes, shoes, toys and food. A higher income also will allow me to buy art materials more easily. Ultimately, English will help me to improve my skills. I am an ambitious person and English will help me to take my love for art and make it into a business. I want my own studio and gallery for displaying art pieces. I want to become an international business person and buy art pieces made by other artists from all over the world. It is essential to be able to speak English because business is conducted internationally through it.

English is undoubtedly a harder language to learn and it takes great dedication. Michel de Montaigne said "the births of all things are weak and tender; therefore we should have our eyes intent on beginnings." English is like a magic key. If I use this key I can overcome difficult situations and communicate well with others.