

Hi there!

I'm glad you're using this resource. Continue to check our website (realsciencechallenge.com) to find more resources. And, sign up for our newsletter to receive updates on materials that will be available soon.

I spend countless hours writing, researching, editing and generating graphics/charts for each question. I want to continue creating useful content for you to use - however, I also want to ensure my work is fairly compensated.

Therefore, below are the terms and conditions for use of our materials.

What is allowed:

- photocopying our content for your students to use.
- posting a copy of our content (ie. questions, rubrics) on a password protected site for your students to access and/or complete.
- copying our questions into your tests or assignments. Please give credit in this case.

What is not allowed:

- Selling our content.
- Repackaging our content in your own materials and then selling it. NOTE: giving credit to us still does not make this okay.
- Distributing and/or posting our content online (for example, on social media or a blog).

Thank you for supporting us. And, we look forward to helping you with your teaching practice. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Kent
REAL Science Challenge Founder
Science Department Head (Burnaby South Secondary)

How to Chase Your Dreams and Reinvent Yourself

By James Clear (taken from BC Literacy 10 Assessment Sample Test B)

In 1965, a young man named Tom graduated from college with a degree in English.

Soon after, Tom took a job with an insurance company in Connecticut. After working there for seven years, he transitioned to a new role in the industry and started working for an insurance agency. He worked at that insurance agency for the next eight years.

In 1980, he decided to buy a small insurance agency. At this point Tom had been working in the insurance industry for 15 years, but he was beginning to feel an internal pull to do work that really excited him. He had always wanted to write a novel.

He started by writing in his spare time. Then, he started cutting his work day short so that he would have more time to write. Eventually, he was working on the novel whenever he could find time.

His wife, Wanda, recalled Tom's early writing years by saying, "He was writing at home every weekend. I told him he should go back to selling insurance."

In 1984, after working for almost 20 years in the insurance industry, Tom Clancy finally published his first book, *The Hunt for Red October*.

He was hoping to sell 5,000 copies. By the end of the decade it had sold more than 2 million.

It's Never Too Late to Reinvent Yourself

Tom Clancy was one of the most successful authors of his generation. Focusing primarily on military story lines, Clancy wrote 17 novels that became #1 New York Times best-sellers. In total, his books sold more than 100 million copies. Many of them, including *The Hunt for Red October*, *Patriot Games*, and *The Sum of All Fears* were turned into major motion pictures. Others became the basis for popular video games like *Rainbow Six*, *Ghost Recon*, and *Splinter Cell*. For millions of readers, Tom Clancy is a household name.

But even with all of those amazing achievements, what I found most amazing about Clancy was his willingness to reinvent himself.

We all have goals that we say are important to us — getting in shape, building a business, writing a book, and so on — but for most of us, the **inertia** of life holds us back. This is especially true when we're living a relatively comfortable life. Most people in Tom Clancy's situation would probably continue their insurance career rather than chase the dream of becoming a novelist.

Contact Kent at realsciencechallenge@gmail.com

Copyright © 2023 REAL Science Challenge

It's easy to look at someone with the success of Tom Clancy and claim that he was destined for success. 100 million copies sold? He must have been born to be a writer. But if you were to look at him at any point during the first 20 years of his career, you wouldn't have seen a writer at all.

And that raises an interesting question...

What made the biggest difference in Clancy's life? Was it his level of talent? Or was it his willingness to make choices and take action?

There are plenty of talented people who never make a choice to do something different, to reinvent themselves, and to pursue their dreams. It's hard to work up the guts to try something new. Nobody wants to feel stupid and start from the beginning all over again.

But talent isn't worth a thing without the willingness to take action. It's great to have a dream, but it's better to pursue it.

How many Tom Clancys are out there right now, holding their dreams inside and letting the inertia of life pull them in the same direction they've always gone?

Reinventing yourself and developing a new skill is hard work. Going from out of shape to the best shape of your life is hard work. Transitioning from corporate desk jockey to proud entrepreneur is hard work. Moving from life-long insurance salesman to bestselling novelist is hard work. And so is pretty much every other goal worth fighting for.

As Clancy says, there's nothing "mystical" about it. You won't feel "divinely inspired." The first steps toward any dream are slow, unsexy, and inconvenient — sort of like writing a novel on the weekends while you're still running a small insurance agency.

And to further complicate things, reinventing yourself is particularly hard because nobody is going to praise you for it — especially in the beginning. Tom Clancy's wife told him to "go back to selling insurance."

The good news is that the path to doing work you love might not look the way you expected, but it can still get you to where you want to go — if you make the choice to try something new.

It's never too late to reinvent yourself.

How to Chase Your Dreams and Reinvent Yourself

By James Clear (taken from BC Literacy 10 Assessment Sample Test B)

In 1965, a young man named Tom graduated from college with a degree in English.

Soon after, Tom took a job with an insurance company in Connecticut. After working there for seven years, he transitioned to a new role in the industry and started working for an insurance agency. He worked at that insurance agency for the next eight years.

In 1980, he decided to buy a small insurance agency. At this point Tom had been working in the insurance industry for 15 years, but he was beginning to feel an internal pull to do work that really excited him. He had always wanted to write a novel.

He started by writing in his spare time. Then, he started cutting his work day short so that he would have more time to write. Eventually, he was working on the novel whenever he could find time.

His wife, Wanda, recalled Tom's early writing years by saying, "He was writing at home every weekend. I told him he should go back to selling insurance."

In 1984, after working for almost 20 years in the insurance industry, Tom Clancy finally published his first book, *The Hunt for Red October*.

He was hoping to sell 5,000 copies. By the end of the decade it had sold more than 2 million.

It's Never Too Late to Reinvent Yourself

Tom Clancy was one of the most successful authors of his generation. Focusing primarily on military story lines, Clancy wrote 17 novels that became #1 New York Times best-sellers. In total, his books sold more than 100 million copies. Many of them, including *The Hunt for Red October*, *Patriot Games*, and *The Sum of All Fears* were turned into major motion pictures. Others became the basis for popular video games like *Rainbow Six*, *Ghost Recon*, and *Splinter Cell*. For millions of readers, Tom Clancy is a household name.

But even with all of those amazing achievements, what I found most amazing about Clancy was his willingness to reinvent himself.

We all have goals that we say are important to us — getting in shape, building a business, writing a book, and so on — but for most of us, the inertia of life holds us back. This is especially true when we're living a relatively comfortable life. Most people in Tom Clancy's situation would probably continue their insurance career rather than chase the dream of becoming a novelist.

Contact Kent at realsciencechallenge@gmail.com

Copyright © 2023 REAL Science Challenge

It's **easy to look at someone with the success of Tom Clancy and claim that he was destined for success. 100 million copies sold? He must have been born to be a writer. But if you were to look at him at any point during the first 20 years of his career, you wouldn't have seen a writer at all.**

And that raises an interesting question...

What made the biggest difference in Clancy's life? Was it his level of talent? Or was it his willingness to make choices and take action?

There are plenty of talented people who never make a choice to do something different, to reinvent themselves, and to pursue their dreams. It's hard to work up the guts to try something new. Nobody wants to feel stupid and start from the beginning all over again.

But talent isn't worth a thing without the willingness to take action. It's great to have a dream, but it's better to pursue it.

How many Tom Clancys are out there right now, holding their dreams inside and letting the inertia of life pull them in the same direction they've always gone?

Reinventing yourself and developing a new skill is hard work. Going from out of shape to the best shape of your life is hard work. Transitioning from corporate desk jockey to proud entrepreneur is hard work. Moving from life-long insurance salesman to bestselling novelist is hard work. And so is pretty much every other goal worth fighting for.

As Clancy says, there's nothing "mystical" about it. You won't feel "divinely inspired." The first steps toward any dream are slow, unsexy, and inconvenient — sort of like writing a novel on the weekends while you're still running a small insurance agency.

And to further complicate things, reinventing yourself is particularly hard because nobody is going to praise you for it — especially in the beginning. Tom Clancy's wife told him to "go back to selling insurance."

The good news is that the path to doing work you love might not look the way you expected, but it can still get you to where you want to go — if you make the choice to try something new.

It's never too late to reinvent yourself.

Questions

taken from BC Literacy 10 Assessment Sample Test B

1 What helped Tom Clancy become a successful writer?

- A his supportive family
- B his openness to change
- C his varied life experiences

2 According to the text, what is necessary in order to reinvent yourself?

Click on the picture to indicate your response.



A



B



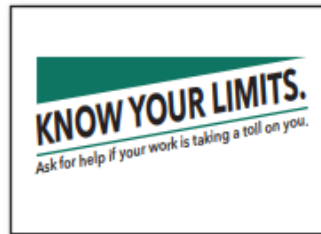
C

3 Which piece of advice would Clancy give to aspiring young writers?

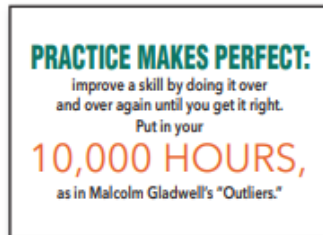
A



B



C




D




- 4 Which of the following quotations would both Rice and Clancy recommend for use in a graduation speech?

Click on two quotations to indicate your response.

A  If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle.
Steve Jobs

B You can't measure success if you have never failed.
Steffi Graf 

C  Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do.
Nelson Mandela

Name: _____

Bionic Reading Activity

Start the timer and read the passage. At the end, note down how long it took you to finish reading the entire passage.

Time: _____

Write the letter(s) to your responses to the questions below:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Score: _____