



“Live. Laugh. Love.”

Probably written on the wall of your fun-loving aunt

1. Inspiration Discussion

1. What does it mean to be inspirational?
2. Who is the most inspirational person you know (personally or in general)? What makes them inspirational?
3. Which people need to be inspiring? What can inspirational people achieve?
4. Why are some people inspirational and others not?
5. Where do you get your inspiration from?
6. Why do we need to be inspired? What have you been inspired to do in your life?
7. How could you be more inspirational to others?
8. What are some negative consequences of inspiration? How have people inspired others to do or support bad things?

2. Inspiration Vocabulary

- **to inspire** (verb), **inspiration** (noun), **inspirational, inspiring, inspired** (adjectives) – *to motivate or encourage someone and make them feel like they want to do something.*
- **rags to riches** (phrase) – *a journey from poor or humble beginnings to wealth or success.*
- **childhood hero** (noun) – *someone who was inspirational to you when you were a child.*
- **role model** (noun) – *someone who serves as a good example to others, especially for their behaviour or achievements.*
- **guiding spirit/light** (noun) – *someone who is a source of guidance or inspiration, especially for lifestyle or to provide direction or purpose.*
- **artistic inspiration** (noun) – *something that sparks the creativity of artists.*

Using the vocabulary words above, complete the following sentences (remember to use the correct form of the word, e.g. verb conjugation or plural noun):

1. Andrew Carnegie's **rags to riches** story is often cited as a classic example of the American dream as someone born in poverty who became rich after emigrating to the United States and starting a steel business.
2. Bob Marley is my **guiding spirit**. I just connect so much with the meaning of his songs.
3. Batman was my **childhood hero** who inspired me to become a police officer to fight crime.
4. People criticise sports stars who drink and misbehave as terrible **role models** for children.
5. Steve Jobs not only **inspired** Apple's customers to buy their new products, but he was also **inspirational** to a generation of entrepreneurs looking to follow in his footsteps.
6. Vincent van Gogh lost his **artistic inspiration** and cut his ear off during a moment of extreme depression.

Inspiration vocabulary comprehension questions

1. What are the most inspirational qualities in a person?
2. Which rags to riches stories have inspired you?
3. Who was your childhood hero?
4. Who are some good role models for children? Who are some bad role models?
5. Who is your guiding spirit?
6. Where does artistic inspiration come from?

3. Video: Martin Luther King

You are going to watch a video by WatchMojo called "Martin Luther King Jr: Life and Death."

Watch the video here: <https://youenglishpal.com/blog/esl-conversation-lesson-plan-inspiration/>

While you watch the video, answer the following questions:

Multiple choice

1. When Was Martin Luther King born?
a) *January 13th* b) *January 14th* **c) January 15th**
2. Who inspired Martin Luther King?
a) his father b) *his mother* c) *his brother*
3. In which year did Martin Luther King become pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church?
a) *1953* **b) 1954** c) *1955*
4. How long did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?
a) *less than a year* b) *one year* **c) more than a year**

Sentence completion

5. Civil rights protests by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference sometimes turned **violent**.
6. King's historic speech called for **tolerance and equality**.
7. The Civil Rights Act was passed in **1964**.
8. King opposed the **Vietnam War**.

Short answer

9. Who did King support in Memphis? **Striking black public workers**
10. When did King give his final speech? **April 3rd, 1968**
11. How did King die? **He was shot**
12. What did King receive in 1964 in recognition of his work? **A Nobel Peace Prize**

4. Inspiration Conversation Questions

1. Who are the most inspirational people from history? Who did they inspire? What did they achieve?
2. Who are the most inspirational people in society? Who are the most inspirational people from your country, past or present?
3. Which politicians, past or present, give you inspiration?
4. Which sports stars, past or present, inspire you? Are you inspired by any celebrities?
5. Which films or books have inspired you? What is the most inspirational music you have listened to?
6. How do parents inspire their children?
7. How can bosses inspire their workers?
8. Which businesses inspire you?

5. Inspiration Writing Task

Write about an inspirational person. Try to use some of the vocabulary you learned earlier in this lesson. In your answer, you could include some of the following topics:

- Why they are inspirational.
- What they achieved.
- How they inspired you.

Alternative exam practice question:

People are constantly looking for inspiration in their lives. Why do people need to be inspired? Where can they get inspiration from?