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Essay #5: Defining Success for Yourself  
Financial Management

### Defining Success for Yourself

At the end of the day, all we all really want is to be successful. But being successful to you, might be a different success to someone else's life. Most people define success as having mass amounts of money to be able to spend whatever you want on. Others define success as making society, the environment and the economy a better place by being a part of organizations that hold true to sustainability of our earth.

Success is defined as the accomplishment of a set goal or purpose. The true meaning of success is having financial stability mixed with creative freedom. Having these two are not impossible to achieve when you set your specific life goals in place and have a specific outline on how you inspire to be successful. Success truly means achieving something, how you want it and when you want it. What brings the term "being successful" to a gray area is when you take on a job that the pay might be great, but it's inflicting problems in your mental health and outside relationships. Success is when you design a life for yourself that fits you, not society, not your friends and family, but solely you. So how do we start to envision our success? The first step is to jot down things that make you happy in your day to day life that can bring you economic freedom, while leaving you with a creative mind to explore all the ways to your end goal. Next is to determine what steps you need to take to gain knowledge on what it is you're looking to be successful at. This would include your skill sets, or hobbies you enjoy doing on the daily, i.e. loving working out would lead to becoming a personal trainer.

The last step would be to put all your visions into reality, while taking the small steps at first to get your foot in the water. As humans, we tend to self deprive ourselves of what we are actually physically, mentally and emotionally capable of. We tend to think our “dream life” can only be a dream, rather than putting in the steps of making our dreams come true. When we go through tough times, we tend to focus on what's externally happening around us, rather than focusing internally on what we can do to change our life paths.

To conclude, defining success in your life is very important because it sets goals that we never thought we can achieve, and are achievable. We tend to underestimate the power we have to imagine, being able to create our ideal lives in our heads. The only thing that's stopping us from creating the life we want is ourselves.