

“There is a tremendously high ‘level of service’ expectation”

Level: Intermediate–upper intermediate

Time: 90 minutes

Summary: This lesson is about an Englishman who took his business idea to New York where he found great professional and financial success. In this lesson, students:

1. compare what sports they enjoyed at school and what sports are popular in their countries;
2. study a text about a successful business idea;
3. discuss what makes a business idea successful in one place more than in another;
4. create a fact sheet about their city or area.

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student

Group size: Any

Note: This lesson plan is for both pre-experience and in-work business students based on an original article first published in *Business Spotlight* issue 2/2020.

Warmer

To introduce the topic of sports and coaching, students discuss their answers to these questions with a partner or as a whole group.

Key words

Students match the key words with the definitions and then find them in the article before reading carefully through the article and noticing how they are used in context. The words are given in the order they appear in the article.

Key:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. cone | 6. immersed in |
| 2. notion | 7. swamped |
| 3. clinic | 8. cutthroat |
| 4. incredulous | 9. grasp |
| 5. spread | 10. appoint |

Word pairs

a. Students join the words to make word pairs from the article. Encourage them to find them in the article to check their answers. They then match the word pairs with their meanings.

Key:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. c – definition 4 | 4. a – definition 6 |
| 2. f – definition 5 | 5. b – definition 2 |
| 3. e – definition 1 | 6. c – definition 3 |

Understanding the article

Students read the statements and decide, with a partner, whether they are true or false according to the article. Together they decide how to rewrite the statements that are false to make them true. Ask students how they know the true sentences are true.

Key:

1. F – He had no business background and only a general notion of what he wanted to do.
2. T
3. F – His uncle Tony played for Manchester City, and his other uncle Kim was a professional goalkeeper. Gary taught physical education in England.
4. T
5. F – Within three years, his company had over 250 staff.
6. T
7. T
8. F – He has expanded into other sports and has offices in North Carolina, Colorado and California.
9. T
10. F – He was appointed head soccer coach at New York’s Adelphi University in 2018, and he also works nationally via United Soccer Coaches.

Multi-word expressions

In pair, students find the expressions in the article, discuss what they think they mean and come up with a definition for each one. Check their answers to this before they move onto parts b and c of the task.

Key:

1. succeed in doing something because you are good enough
2. look at someone
3. a part of a complicated or continuing situation that helps you to understand it
4. partly, possibly even mostly, but not completely

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Discussion

Students read the questions and discuss their opinions.

Extra reading & task

This task can be set as homework. Students first read the fast facts about New York State and then write similar fast facts for the city or area where they live. Encourage them to add any further interesting facts that they come across.

Teacher's notes