



VOCABULARY BANK

People and Achievement

People and Achievement | Bank 2: competitions, challenges and famous people | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
famous person	☐	☐	☐
public figure	☐	☐	☐
competition	☐	☐	☐
take part	☐	☐	☐
win an award	☐	☐	☐
break a record	☐	☐	☐
face a challenge	☐	☐	☐
perform well	☐	☐	☐
prepare carefully	☐	☐	☐
pressure	☐	☐	☐
recognition	☐	☐	☐
inspire others	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
People	famous person, public figure, talented performer, successful athlete, inspiring leader, positive example
Competitions	competition, take part, win an award, break a record, perform well, prepare carefully
Challenges	face a challenge, deal with pressure, stay calm, recover from a mistake, recognition, inspire others
Opinion chunks	This person is admired because..., Competitions can teach..., It is difficult to perform well when..., Winning an award may..., People can inspire others by...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. public figure	a. do better than the best previous result
2. competition	b. public praise or attention for something good
3. break a record	c. a well-known person whose life or work is noticed by many people
4. pressure	d. make other people want to do something positive
5. recognition	e. an event where people try to win or perform best
6. inspire others	f. stress caused by difficult expectations

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

famous person	public figure	inspire others
take part in a competition	win an award	break a record
face a challenge	deal with pressure	perform well

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

The Pressure of Achievement

Many people admire a **famous person** who has worked hard to succeed. However, life as a **public figure** can also bring difficulties.

In sport, music or academic competitions, people need to **prepare carefully** if they want to **perform well**. They may also have to deal with pressure.

Someone who can **break a record** or **win an award** may receive a lot of recognition. This can be exciting, but it can also create higher expectations.

The most inspiring people are not always perfect. They often **face a challenge**, recover from mistakes and show others that progress is possible.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. Why can life as a public figure be difficult?

2. What do people need to do before competitions?

3. Why can recognition create problems?

4. Why are inspiring people not always perfect?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'recognition' mean?

- A. Public praise or attention for something good
- B. A secret mistake
- C. A normal school day
- D. A simple hobby

What is the writer's main point?

- A. Achievement can be inspiring, but it can also bring pressure.
- B. Famous people never face challenges.
- C. Competitions do not need preparation.
- D. Awards are always unimportant.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe a famous person or public figure you admire.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: Are competitions good for young people?
Writing	Write a short paragraph about someone who inspires others.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- Why do people admire famous people?
- Can competitions create too much pressure?
- What qualities help people perform well?
- Should public figures be role models?
- What challenge has taught you something useful?

**ANSWER KEY**

People and Achievement

3. Match the meaning

1. c = a well-known person whose life or work is noticed by many people
2. e = an event where people try to win or perform best
3. a = do better than the best previous result
4. f = stress caused by difficult expectations
5. b = public praise or attention for something good
6. d = make other people want to do something positive

6. Check your understanding

1. It can bring pressure and higher expectations.
2. They need to prepare carefully.
3. It can create higher expectations.
4. They face challenges, recover from mistakes and show that progress is possible.

MCQ 1: A. Public praise or attention for something good.

MCQ 2: A. Achievement can be inspiring, but it can also bring pressure.