

# Words of Inspiration

## LETTERS FROM LEADERS

The road to success: What inspiration would you offer to young people aspiring to become our future leaders? The following words are some of those we have collected for publication in a book to be distributed to aspiring leaders at schools throughout the world. The proceeds will be donated to charity to fund scholarships for tomorrow's leaders in need of financial support as they prepare to begin their journey.

We are certain that you will enjoy the following thoughts and look forward to hearing yours.

*I*f there were one message I would give to young people, it would be that they often talk too much and do not listen enough. Of course, young people have their own opinions, but one doesn't learn by talking. One only learns by listening.

Listening is not just the physical action of hearing spoken words. One must also "listen" to the words of history because much can be learned from history: societal history, business history, and philosophical history. The way people relate to each other rarely changes. The specific arguments and weapons might be different, but people are fundamentally the same as they were 1,000 years ago.

At the end of the day, education is more important than skills. People receive a lot of training and learn a lot of skills, but they lack the essential education to truly succeed as a member of this society. Education counts for more than skills in being a part of our society.

One always learns more from one's failures than from one's successes. Therefore, the earlier one makes a mistake and learns the lesson from that mistake, the more that person will benefit from that experience. I can't remember just one instance in which I have made a mistake, because there are just too many. However, I do know that the principal conflicts I have experienced have always had one simple cause: miscommunication. Either I didn't understand what other people wanted or they didn't understand what I wanted. These conflicts were caused by a lack of communication, and not just merely misunderstanding someone's words, but also misunderstanding a person's intentions and the background from which someone has formed an opinion. As such, my one piece of advice to young people is: Don't talk so much. Listen more.

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