

Unit -8 (A)

Follow That Dream

Key Points of the Story

- The chapter "Follow That Dream" is presented as a heartfelt letter from a mother to her daughter, encouraging her to pursue her dreams with determination and clarity. It emphasises that greatness is achieved through sustained effort, passion, and sacrifice.
- The mother explains that achieving excellence in any field requires years of dedicated practice (often about a decade), along with strong conviction and willingness to overcome challenges. Dreams begin with passion but must be supported by discipline and commitment.
- The text highlights that while many people dream, only a few succeed because others give up, settle for security, or are affected by life circumstances. It also stresses the importance of support systems and adaptability, as dreams may evolve over time.

Detailed Summary

The chapter is written as a letter from a mother to her daughter, Ming, encouraging her to follow her dreams. The mother explains that great people achieve success because they pursue their dreams with dedication and hard work. She highlights that excellence in any field requires years of focused effort, sacrifice, and commitment. A dream begins with passion but must be supported by strong conviction and willingness to work hard.

She also explains that the journey towards success is often difficult and uphill, and one must stay motivated even during challenging times. The joy of doing what one truly loves helps a person continue despite obstacles. The mother emphasises the importance of a support system, as no one achieves success alone.

At the same time, she points out that many people fail to achieve their dreams because they remain in wishful thinking or choose comfort and security over risk. She also shares that life circumstances can change dreams, and new aspirations are equally meaningful.

The letter concludes with a powerful message: if the desire to achieve a dream remains strong even after considering all challenges, one should go ahead and pursue it with confidence and determination.

Theme/Message

Theme

- Focuses on **following dreams with passion, determination, and commitment**
- Highlights the need for **hard work, sacrifice, and perseverance to achieve success**
- Shows that dreams require years of focused effort and dedication
- Explores how dreams can change and evolve with life circumstances
- Differentiates **between mere dreamers and true achievers**
- Emphasises the importance of **taking action instead of wishful thinking**
- Highlights the role of support systems (family, mentors) in success
- Shows that success is a long and challenging journey
- Encourages **adaptability when life changes directions**.

Message

- Follow your dreams with courage and strong determination
- Wishful thinking is not enough-take action to achieve goals
- Be ready to invest time, effort, and make sacrifices
- Stay motivated even during difficulties and failures
- Understand that challenges are a natural part of success
- Accept that dreams may change over time, and that's okay
- Believe in yourself and maintain self-confidence
- Value the support of family, teachers, and well-wishers
- Move beyond fear and commit fully to your goals
- True success comes from persistent effort and dedication

Difficult Words

1. **Conviction:** A strong belief or confidence in something.
2. **Imperative:** Extremely important or necessary.
3. **Plunge:** Plunge: To throw oneself completely into an activity; to commit fully to a task.
4. **Buoyed up:** Kept afloat; lifted in spirit (used metaphorically for being sustained through difficulty)
5. **Wistfully** :In a manner full of longing or wishful desire.
6. **Sacrifice:** Giving up something valuable for the sake of a goal.
7. **Stamina:** The ability to sustain prolonged effort or endurance.
8. **Aspiration:** A strong desire to achieve something.
9. **Obstacle:** Something that blocks progress or makes achievement difficult.
10. **Singularly** = exclusively or exceptionally
11. **Dreamscape** = a world of dreams (used figuratively for a person's realm of aspirations)
12. **Insight** = a clear and deep understanding of something