

U2 Listening SB p. 14 Listen to the track with the full transcript in front of you and pay attention to the notes.

Speaker 1

My career on the pitch lasted twenty years, and during that time I was lucky enough to play **for three of the biggest clubs in the country**, so I had plenty of valuable experience. But of course, working with some of the players nowadays requires an additional kind of skill. They earn a lot of money and some of them have a very high opinion of themselves and their abilities. Dealing with **that** can be difficult, so when I started out, **I'd often pick up the phone and talk to my old bosses ... ask them for a few tips.** They were my teachers when I was a player, but **they were also a great help to me in my early years as a manager.** I owe a lot of my success to them.

Notice this superlative and the preposition 'in', not 'of', which would be a mistranslation from Spanish/Catalan.

'That' refers to the whole sentence before. As it's not something specific, that is, something that you can point to, you use 'that' (in informal English) or 'this', in more formal contexts, never 'it'.

1 – C my old bosses = experts (people with experience). Tip = synonym of 'advice'. Remember that 'advice' is uncountable. You ask for 'some advice', not for 'some advices'. And you give 'one piece of advice', not 'one/an advice'. In the same way, you don't give 'two advices' but 'two pieces of advice'.

Speaker 2

Experience has taught me not to **listen too closely to** what other people say. Theatre critics have written some **rather** nasty things about me over the years. As I'll be explaining in my autobiography – when **eventually** find the time, and the patience, to write it. But, no, you just have to ignore everyone else and get on with it. **The key to success is to believe in yourself, to convince yourself you can do it every time you go on stage.** I usually spend five minutes before a performance, looking in my dressing room mirror, **telling myself how good I am.** Terribly vain, I know, but it works.

Remember, we say 'listen to something', not 'listen something'.

'rather' = *tirando a, más bien/ más aviat...*

'eventually' is a synonym of 'finally', with the addition of the nuance 'after quite some time'. It does **not** mean 'eventualment', i.e. '*de tant en tant*'.

'key to', **not** 'key of'

2 - H 'believe in yourself' = confidence in yourself

'you can do it' = your own ability

'telling myself how good I am' = self-confidence (and a little bit of ego, too)

U2 Listening SB p. 14 Listen to the track with the full transcript in front of you and pay attention to the notes.

Speaker 3

Young people nowadays think that success is all about being on the telly and having loads of money. For me, success is just deciding what you want from life, what your aims are, and then achieving what you set out to do... doesn't matter how much you earn or how famous or important you become. Not everyone can make it to the top, can they? As a matter of fact, when I left school I started training to be a chef – could have worked in some of the best restaurants if I'd qualified. But I decided early on that I'd be much happier running my own store and selling kitchen equipment. I've actually got two now – so I'm doubly successful!

Speaker 4

Success didn't come overnight for me. Indeed, it was several years before I actually had anything published. During the day I taught English in a private language school – for not very much money, I have to say – and by night I would scribble away in my flat until the early hours of the morning. Essays, short stories, novels – you name it, had it rejected by publishers. But I was quietly determined and prepared to wait. I knew that it was just a question of time. Then, sure enough, one bright young editor read some of my work, liked what I was doing and gave me an opportunity. And I gave up the day job.

3 – E what you set out to do – your goals, your objectives, *el que et planteas fer* (set out + to infinitive)

Telly = *tele(visió)*

'can they?' question tag in the affirmative, because the previous sentence is in the negative 'Not everyone'.

'a chef' – remember we use the determiner 'a' before jobs/professions.

Doubly successful because the goal has been achieved twice. This person has their own store, plus it's related to their training.

'overnight' = *de la noche a la mañana*, all of a sudden, suddenly

4 – A 'patience', a long time involved, not overnight, several years, I was prepared to wait...

'a question of time' = *cuestión de tiempo*

'money', uncountable → much

By night / at night

'scribble' – *garabatear*

'you name it' – *lo que sea*

U2 Listening SB p. 14 Listen to the track with the full transcript in front of you and pay attention to the notes.

Speaker 5

It's never just one thing, is it? I mean, to begin with, luck often comes into it – like bringing out your product at the right time, just when people need it, or think they do, anyway. You can't always plan for that. And then there's skill, of course – knowing how to manage people, for example, or understanding how the market works. But in my book, success mostly comes down to hard work. You have to be prepared to spend seven days a week at the office and work maybe fourteen or fifteen hours a day. That's always my advice to budding entrepreneurs. •

5 – F “combination of factors” → never just one thing (3 things are mentioned: luck, skill and hard work)

Question tag ‘is it?’ in the affirmative due to the negative ‘never’

‘budding’ → *en desarrollo*