

# Learn to be lucky

In June 1980, Maureen Wilcox became one of the US lottery's biggest losers. She ~~had~~ the winning numbers for both the Rhode Island and Massachusetts lotteries. But unfortunately for her, the numbers she ~~picked~~ for the Rhode Island lottery were the correct ones for the Massachusetts lottery, and vice versa.

We all know lucky people – they have good relationships, successful careers and are very ~~content~~ with their lives. But what makes them so lucky? Dr Richard Wiseman has spent ten years studying luck and has found that ~~some~~ people have a completely different approach to the world.

## FOUR WAYS TO BE LUCKY

The results of his work revealed that people aren't born lucky. Instead, fortunate people ~~are~~ in a way that creates good luck in their lives.

- They ~~have~~ opportunities that happen experience more often than unlucky people. They are also more open to meeting new people and having new experiences.
- They tend to make good decisions by listening to their intuition.
- They're optimists and are certain that the future is going to be full of good luck. This positive ~~attitude~~ often makes good things happen.
- They're also good at coping with bad luck and often cheer themselves up by imagining things could be worse than they are.

## LUCK SCHOOL

Dr Wiseman tested his ideas by starting a luck school, where he hoped that unlucky people could learn to be lucky. 400 volunteers spent a month doing exercises to help them think and act like a lucky person. These exercises helped the volunteers spot opportunities that happen accidentally, trust their intuition more, feel ~~they're~~ they're going to be lucky and become better at ~~dealing with~~ bad luck. The results were dramatic and ~~showed~~ that 80% of the volunteers were now happier and more content with their lives – and most important of all, luckier.

Dr Wiseman's ideas won't help you win the lottery, but they might help you in your day-to-day life – fingers crossed!

## Reading

### a- Read the article. Choose the correct answers.

- 1- Richard Wiseman **studies luck / is a very lucky person.**
- 2- He **thinks/ doesn't think** some people are born lucky.
- 3- His research shows that people **can/can't** learn to be lucky.

### b- Read the article again. Answer these questions.

1-Did Maureen Wilcox win the lottery?

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3-Do lucky people have more new experiences than unlucky people?

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4-What was the aim of Dr Wiseman's luck school?

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5-How many people were luckier after going to luck school?

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## Vocabulary

**A- Look at the underlined words/phrases in the article. Match them to these synonyms. Write the infinitive form of the verbs.**

choose	
satisfied	
lucky	
behave	
notice	
By chance	
attitude	
Sure	
Deal with	
show	

**B- Match a word/phrase in A to synonyms in B.**

★ Concerned	★ chat to someone
★ Frightened	★ glad
★ make a decision	★ have a go at doing
★ try to do	★ huge
★ talk to someone	★ scared
★ nice	★ make up your mind
★ enormous	★ worried
★ pleased	★ brilliant
★ wonderful	★ awful
★ terrible	★ pleased

## Writing

Do you think people are born lucky? Why? Why not?