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Take Away English 随身英语

How to become a billionaire

如何成为亿万富翁

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Vocabulary: success 词汇：成功

Have you ever fancied sailing around the world in your own yacht or buying a holiday home in the Caribbean? Well, before you get too excited, it may help to find out if you have what it takes to become a **billionaire**.

We've all heard stories of **school drop-outs** who have **made their fortune**, but are they the norm or an exception to the rule? Do they tend to be **university graduates** or **self-made entrepreneurs**? Are they married or single?

Thanks to a recent analysis of people in Forbes Top 100 Billionaires List, we can now find out what the world's **mega rich** have in common. We know which star sign is the most popular amongst multi-millionaires, what percentage wear glasses and even how many are bald!

If you are deciding whether or not to go to university, it may help you to know that 76% of the richest people in the world have a degree. According to this study, of those 76%, 47% have a bachelor's degree, 23% have a master's and 6% have a doctorate. Don't lose hope if you aren't very academic though. It's worth noting that many of those on the list did not **pass all their exams with flying colours**. Microsoft **founder** Bill Gates **dropped out of** Harvard University after two years of study. And Chinese business **magnate** Jack Ma, failed his university entrance exams three times before going on to complete his degree and make his millions.

Another interesting trend is that the world's **high-fliers** are much more likely to be married - only 12% of billionaires are unmarried. You are also more likely **to make it** if you were born under the most popular star sign, Aquarius, than if you are a Cancer - the least popular sign on the zodiac. Finally, the percentage of billionaires who are bald is quite high - so don't worry if you're losing your hair, you may get to sail that yacht around the Caribbean after all!



The road to riches?

词汇表

a billionaire	亿万富翁
a school drop-out	一个中途退学的人
make ones fortune	靠个人努力发财致富
university graduate	大学毕业生
self-made	靠自己努力的，白手起家的
entrepreneur	企业家
mega rich	巨富
pass your exams with flying colours	以优异成绩通过考试
founder	创始人
drop out of (school, university)	离开，退出（学校，大学）
magnate	富豪
high-flier	抱负极高的人，成功人士
to make it	功成名就

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What was the purpose of the analysis of billionaires?
2. True or false? *About one quarter of the billionaires analysed are not university graduates.*
3. How did Bill Gates make his fortune?
4. According to the study, why does when you were born affect how likely you are to become rich?
5. What do Bill Gates and Jack Ma have in common?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Well done! You passed your driving test with _____ .

high fliers	colours flying	flying colours	flying high
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2. Steve Jobs was the _____ of Apple.

founder	finder	starter	builder
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3. You should think carefully before you _____ school. You may regret it when you're older.

drop off	dropover	drop in to	drop out of
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4. He's a _____ millionaire: his family were too poor to help him start his business.

magnate	self-made	drop-out	entrepreneur
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5. He's made a _____ from selling oil.

money	millions	billionaire	fortune
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What was the purpose of the study? **To find similarities between the top 100 richest people in the world**
2. True or false? *About one quarter of the billionaires analysed are not university graduates.* **True**
3. How did Bill Gates make his fortune? **He started the computer company, Microsoft.**
4. According to the study, why does when you're born affect how likely you are to make lots of money? **They found that certain zodiac signs are more common than others in the rich list.**
5. What do Bill Gates and Jack Ma have in common? **They went on to become very successful even though they didn't excel in their academic lives.**

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Well done! You passed your driving test with **flying colours**.
2. Steve Jobs was the **founder** of Apple.
3. You should think carefully before you **drop out of** school. You may regret it when you're older.
4. He's a **self-made** millionaire: his family didn't have any money to help him start his business.
5. He's made a **fortune** from selling oil.