



ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS
ADVANCED
MAY WEEK N°1

Topic: The role of luck vs effort

Play this video and answer the following questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nm75Fz6D5nA>

- 1. According to the speaker, what problem arises when colleges keep raising admission standards?**
 - A. It makes college education cheaper for everyone
 - B. It creates intense competition that harms high school students
 - C. It ensures everyone gets what they deserve
 - D. It reduces the number of applicants
- 2. What analogy or method does the speaker propose to reduce pressure in admissions?**
 - A. Admitting students based solely on legacy status
 - B. Hiring more admissions officers to evaluate more students
 - C. Lowering standards for all applicants
 - D. Using a lottery among applicants who are good enough
- 3. Why does the speaker say a lottery-based admissions system is preferable, even though it isn't perfectly just?**
 - A. Because it guarantees fairness for every individual
 - B. Because it hides the role of luck in outcomes
 - C. Because it is honest about the role of chance and reduces pressure
 - D. Because it increases the prestige of selective schools
- 4. Which consequence does the speaker link directly to the ratcheting up of requirements?**
 - A. An epidemic of anxiety and depression among teenagers
 - B. A decrease in standardized test scores nationwide
 - C. An increase in college graduation rates
 - D. A rise in the number of colleges available
- 5. When the speaker describes the conversation with his former student about the daughter, what point is he emphasizing?**
 - A. That excellent qualifications guarantee admission to elite schools
 - B. That many qualified people still cannot be admitted due to limited spots
 - C. That Swarthmore accepts nearly all applicants
 - D. That extracurricular activities are irrelevant to admissions

Answer Key:

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. A
5. B