



DECA TALKS[®]

DISCUSSION GUIDES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE JOURNEY FROM INDEPENDENCE TO GUIDANCE

NAME

DATE

SUMMARY

By Amar Hodzic

Independence has been a key attribute in my life for as long as I can remember. Growing up as a first-generation American and eventually a first-generation college student, I have always had a drive to develop and learn from my surroundings independently. What life quickly taught me is that it's just as important to seek out help and guidance from others. Throughout my life I have turned to advisors, counselors, coaches and friends/family to seek opportunities to learn and develop in my professional life. This talk will discuss the teachings I've learned independently and from the guidance of others.

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378648700>) and then answer the following questions.

1. What were the three lessons Amar learned through leaning more on his independence rather than external guidance?
2. What are a few ways DECA teams can more efficiently collaborate? How can the “I got this” mentality be avoided?
3. Do you have a mentor in your educational or professional life? If not, who can you reach out to in order to explore your potential and learn new things through mentorship? Why would you select this person?
4. How can the lessons from this DECA Talk impact your chapter as well as your own personal DECA experience?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUCCESS IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT FAILURE

NAME

DATE

SUMMARY

By Isaac Robinson III

Success and fulfillment are not straight lines. Success is impossible without failure. Isaac will show you that regardless of where you are in this organization and no matter how you define success, DECA can start you on your life's ultimate power trip. Here we go!

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378644147>) and then answer the following questions.

1. Every leader defines the characteristics of their role differently due to their own unique experiences. Name a few characteristics of a leader not mentioned on the slide that you have learned in your own life and explain their significance.
2. What were Isaac's three lessons in failure? What common themes were among each one?
3. How have your views of leadership and failure changed after this watching this talk?
4. How can the lessons from this DECA Talk impact your chapter as well as your own personal DECA experience?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE GRIT IT TAKES TO SEEK SUCCESS

NAME _____

DATE _____

SUMMARY

By Juan Pablo Sanchez

The secret to outstanding achievement is not talent or privilege, but grit: a special blend of passion and persistence for long-term goals. I credit the grit instilled in me at a young age to overcome various adversities in my life, including growing up in a humble household, learning English at a young age and being the first in my family to pursue post-secondary education. DECA continuously provides members, including myself, with endless opportunities to promote grit in their daily lives and helps pave a pathway for seeking success and helping members pursue their goals.

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378634991>) and then answer the following questions.

1. In what ways have you shown grit in your own life? How has perseverance changed your ability to reach goals?
2. Which “common grit theme” impacted you the most? What is another common theme of having grit?
3. What is your grit word of strength? What word do you think of when facing adversity?
4. In what specific ways has DECA instilled grit in your life?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE LYING KING

NAME

DATE

SUMMARY

By Brandon Allen

Power. Privilege. Race. Identity. Gender. Sexual Orientation. Class. Illuminating our various complexities as individuals, we can recognize ways that we can use our privileges individually and collectively - but only if we are honest and open with ourselves. This is an opportunity to identify and address both obstacles and benefits experienced in our circle of life.

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378629469>) and then answer the following questions.

1. Follow along with Brandon's "notes app" activity.
Label #1. "I was" and reflect on your own past challenges.

Label #2 "Who I aspire to be" and describe who you plan to be.

2. Reflect on the privilege activity. Think through which attributes would have you stepping forward or backwards.
3. How can the lessons from this DECA Talk impact your chapter as well as your own personal DECA experience?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

TAKING RISKS WITH CONFIDENCE & CONVICTION

NAME _____

DATE _____

SUMMARY

By Kendra Wrightson

In life, we are often faced with decisions that require us to take some sort of risk, whether it's where to take your next job, which schools to apply to, where to move to, etc. In this talk, we'll explore how to determine if a risk is worth taking and how you can set yourself up for the highest chance of success.

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378625319>) and then answer the following questions.

1. Thinking back to Kendra's opening questions, do you know where you want to attend school or what career you plan to have? What has influenced your decisions?
2. What were the 4 factors that contribute to one's self-efficacy?
3. What are your mastery experiences? Which DECA events or activities have led to you gaining mastery experiences?
4. Take a moment to measure your own conviction. What are your passions? How do you engage with your passions to build on them?
5. How can the lessons from this DECA Talk impact your chapter as well as your own personal DECA experience?

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JUST SAY YES

NAME _____

DATE _____

SUMMARY

By Donald LeCompte

Ever felt torn when presented with a cool new opportunity? Learn how choosing to say “yes” can lead to easier decision making in the future...and some cool opportunities along the way.

Watch the DECA Talk (<https://vimeo.com/378616887>) and then answer the following questions.

1. What was your first “just say yes” moment? How has DECA helped you “say yes” to new challenges and opportunities?
2. How do you avoid losing motivation over time? How do you stay inspired weeks after conferences?
3. How can you encourage your peers to “say yes” as well?
4. How can the lessons from this DECA Talk impact your chapter as well as your own personal DECA experience?