

Handout One: Idioms about Ambition

There are two idioms with accompanying pictures. Look at the photographs on the left-hand side. Read the sentence in the corresponding box on the right-hand side.

What do you think each idiom means? Turn and talk to a classmate. Write your ideas down in the space provided.

(to) climb (v.) the corporate ladder



The people in the photograph are climbing the corporate ladder.

(to) climb (v.) the ladder of success



The people are climbing the ladder of success.

Practice using these idioms: (to) climb (v.) the corporate ladder and (to) climb (v.) the ladder of success. Complete the following sentences.

1. Donald Trump has been very successful in _____ (climb) the corporate ladder.
2. He _____ (climb) the ladder of success.
3. _____ (climb) the corporate ladder is very competitive.
4. Studying English as Queens College will help you to _____ (climb) the ladder of success.
5. _____ (climb) the ladder of success is very challenging and takes a long time.