

What Makes You Luckier #1

_____ a famous story _____ the _____ of Panasonic, Matsushita Konosuke. _____ job _____, he often asked “Are you a _____ good fortune?” If the _____ said “I’m not,” he _____ not _____ them. Why did he _____ their luck? _____ a _____ 90 losing _____ and 10 winning _____, _____ that someone is lucky to have a twenty percent _____ of winning. _____, good fortune is just a _____. The _____ is 10 percent _____ everyone, and nobody can be _____. Matsushita is _____ business leaders in the history of Japan, so he _____ to _____ such a _____. However, he _____ that believing “I’m lucky” actually _____. How does our _____ luck _____ our life?

There is a famous story about the founder of Panasonic, Matsushita Konosuke. At the end of job interviews, he often asked “Are you a man of good fortune?” If the interviewee said “I’m not,” he would not employ them. Why did he ask them about their luck? If there is a lottery with 90 losing tickets and 10 winning tickets, it is impossible that someone is lucky to have a twenty percent chance of winning. In this sense, good fortune is just a superstition. The chance is 10 percent for everyone, and nobody can be luckier than others. Matsushita is one of the greatest business leaders in the history of Japan, so he must not have been naive enough to believe in such a superstition. However, he knew that believing “I’m lucky” actually makes a difference. How does our belief about luck affect our life?

famous	まだ、今なお、それでも	lose	負ける
founder	創業者	win	勝つ
interview	面接	impossible	不可能な
fortune	幸運	chance	勝算
interviewee	面接を受ける人	superstition	迷信
employ	雇用する	naive	世間知らずの、浅はかな
luck	運	belief	信念
lottery	くじ	affect	影響を与える

What Makes You Luckier #2

At every moment, _____ and _____ are _____ information, _____ far more than _____. So, our brain is always selecting which information to recognize and which is _____. We only recognize _____ brains chose to recognize. Our brain's _____ is influenced by our _____ and _____. For example, _____ are _____ and _____ are more likely to _____ has a haircut or _____. _____, _____ you live your life _____ positive _____, your brain is more likely to _____ positive information. _____, people who believe they are unlucky are more _____ to _____ and information. So, those who _____ they are lucky are more _____ to _____. _____ As a _____, they actually become fortunate.

At every moment, our eyes and ears are receiving a lot of information, and it is far more than we can recognize. So, our brain is always selecting which information to recognize and which is to be omitted. We only recognize what our brains chose to recognize. Our brain's selection is influenced by our interests and expectations. For example, those who are interested in their beauty and appearance are more likely to notice when someone has a haircut or changes their makeups. Similarly, if you live your life with positive expectations, your brain is more likely to choose positive information. On the other hand, people who believe they are unlucky are more sensitive to negative events and information. So, those who believe they are lucky are more likely to notice good opportunities around them. As a result, they actually become fortunate.

moment	瞬間	expectation	期待
receive	受け取る	beauty	美容
select	選ぶ	appearance	外見
recognize	認知する	notice	気づく
omit	除外する、うっかり落とす	makeup	化粧
choose	選ぶ	similarly	同様に
selection	選択	sensitive	敏感な
influence	影響を与える	opportunity	機会
interest	関心	result	結果

What Makes You Luckier #3

In life, sometimes we _____ bad _____ happening. Also, it is impossible to _____ situations, the only thing we can do is _____ how we think _____. We can _____, “that was the _____ thing _____ to my life.” However, we can also _____ as _____ opportunities _____. People who believe they are lucky can _____ positive things _____ negative. They believe things _____, so they think bad things can also have positive _____ lives. They _____ experiences and say, “_____ at the time, _____ a necessary _____ of my life because _____ . So I was lucky _____ experience.”

In life, sometimes we cannot avoid bad things from happening. Also, it is impossible to undo what has already happened. In those situations, the only thing we can do is change how we think about them. We can complain, “that was the worst thing that ever happened to my life.” However, we can also think of them as necessary opportunities for us to grow. People who believe they are lucky can find positive things out of what seems negative. They believe things will work out well for them, so they think bad things can also have positive meanings in their lives. They will look back on hard experiences and say, “It was really tough at the time, but it is a necessary piece of my life because it made me who I am now. So I was lucky that I had that experience.”

avoid	避ける	work out well	うまくいく
undo	帳消しにする	meaning	意味
complain	不満を言う	experience	経験
necessary	必要な	tough	つらい、苦しい
grow	成長する	piece	断片、一部、ピース
seem	～に思える		