*The Pursuit of Happyness* Questions

1. What does Chris Gardner do for a living at the beginning of the film?
2. What are 2 qualities/skills does the man in the red sports car say a stockbroker needs to possess?
3. What does the man with the expensive red car do?
4. What 2 qualities/skills does this man say a stockbroker needs to possess?
5. What does Chris apply for?
6. What are some weaknesses on Chris’s application form for the internship?
7. What does Chris do to try and impress his perspective boss Mr. Twistle?
8. Why does Chris go to jail?
9. In the interview scene, what does Chris do wrong? What initially makes him look really bad to his prospective employers? What does he do right? What impresses them?
10. How does Chris describe himself?
11. Why is accepting the internship a difficult decision for Chris?
12. What does Mr. Twistle say has impressed him about Chris?
13. What types of things does Chris do (or not do) in order to get as much work in as possible in less amount of time?
14. After Chris misses his appointment with Walter Ribbon, how does he go the extra mile to impress him?
15. What does Chris use the football game as an opportunity for?

Paragraph Answer:

Did you enjoy this film? Why or why not? Do you think it was realistic? Why or why not? What types of things did Chris Gardner do to get ahead, even in a very difficult situation? What did you learn from Chris Gardner in regards to work ethic and perseverance? Explain.

*The Pursuit of Happyness* Answers

1. What does Chris Gardner do for a living at the beginning of the film?

**Sells bone density scanners**

1. What are 2 qualities/skills does the man in the red sports car say a stockbroker needs to possess?

**Works as a maid in a hotel (we see her working in the laundry department)**

1. What does the man with the expensive red car do?

**Stockbroker**

1. What 2 qualities/skills does this man say a stockbroker needs to possess?

**You need to be good with people and numbers**

1. What does Chris apply for?

**An internship at a brokerage firm**

1. What are some weaknesses on Chris’s application form for the internship?

**Lack of education, lack of relevant experience**

1. What does Chris do to try and impress his perspective boss Mr. Twistle?

**He personally drops off his application form to Mr. Twistle to make sure he knows his face and who he is. He also waits for Mr. Twistle as he’s coming out of the office to try and pitch himself to Mr. Twistle. He then jumps in the cab with Mr. Twistle and after his pitch doesn’t go over so well, he decides to solve the rubric cube to impress Mr. Twistle.**

1. Why does Chris go to jail?

**Unpaid parking tickets.**

1. In the interview scene, what does Chris do wrong? What initially makes him look really bad to his prospective employers? What does he do right? What impresses them?

**He has just come from jail, wasn’t able to go home and shower or change his clothes and he is still covered in paint from the previous day. His appearance is atrocious for an interview. What he does right is be honest and tell the truth about his appearance. He is also able to make light of the situation and tells a joke that makes everyone laugh.**

1. How does Chris describe himself?

**He says if he doesn’t know the answer he will find the answer – he demonstrates his determination and motivation.**

1. Why is accepting the internship a difficult decision for Chris?

**It’s unpaid and he’s struggling financially right now.**

1. What does Mr. Twistle say has impressed him about Chris?

**His persistence.**

1. What types of things does Chris do (or not do) in order to get as much work in as possible in less amount of time?

**He doesn’t put down the phone when he hangs up from a call and he doesn’t drink water so he doesn’t have to use the washroom. Both of these things help him save time. He also skips ahead on his call list and instead of starting bottom up goes top down.**

1. After Chris misses his appointment with Walter Ribbon, how does he go the extra mile to impress him?

**He shows up at his house to apologize.**

1. What does Chris use the football game as an opportunity for?

**To try and gain Mr. Ribbon’s business. He tries to sell him stock options. He’s networking with other people.**

How close were you paying attention?

1. What were the two shows that Christopher watches at daycare? Bonanza and Loveboat.
2. How many men interviewed Chris for the internship? 4
3. Mr. Alan Frankesh didn’t treat Chris well… what were the three “favours” he asks Chris to do for him? Doughnuts, coffee, move his car.
4. What nickname do Christopher and Chris give the bathroom in the subway? The cave.
5. What’s Christopher’s favourite colour? Green. Like trees and holly.
6. What team was Mr. Ribbon cheering for? San Francisco 49ers.