

Name: _____

Date: _____

J. K. ROWLING



Ask successful people how to succeed, and they will always tell you to do what you love. For a fortunate few, that formula works. Such is the case with J. K. Rowling, creator of Harry Potter and one of the most successful writers in the world today.

Rowling always wanted to be a writer, but before her success came a young adulthood full of indecision. Rowling went to Exeter University and studied French. She worked as a secretary but discovered that she liked nothing about it and spent time working on stories at the computer. She was eventually fired and went abroad to teach English in Portugal. With her mornings free, she began work on her third novel after giving up on two others.

When she left Portugal, her suitcase was filled with stories about Harry Potter. She decided to finish the novel and try to get it published before starting work as a French teacher. A publisher bought the book one year after it was finished. The road to success for J. K. Rowling had begun!

Think Critically

1. Why do many entrepreneurs have unsuccessful experiences as an employee?
2. Why do you think the Harry Potter books have been so successful?