

Lesson 39: Setting Personal and Departmental Goals

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Bright Ideas Inc. is a promotions company. Ms. Carter is asking her team to come up with goals for the company.

Ms. Carter: The objective of our meeting is to set this year's goals for the company. Let's start the discussion.

Miho: I think we should update our marketing strategies so we can reach out to more customers.

Ms. Carter: That's a good idea. How do you think we can achieve it?

Miho: There's a marketing course available online. We could all take lessons from the website.

Ms. Carter: That's a good idea. Please take note of our first priority, which is to educate our team in the modern ways of marketing. Would anyone else like to suggest a goal?

Taro: I think we are too slow in completing projects. We have to be more aggressive and shorten our time frames.

Ms. Carter: What do you mean, Taro?

Taro: The last project we did for Boca Cola took six months to finish. We can do better than that.

Ms. Carter: I agree. We must **strive to** accomplish tasks faster.

Taro: If jobs are finished early, we can take on more projects in the future. It's good for the company's reputation.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. UNICEF is **striving to** feed thousands of Syrian orphans in refugee camps.
2. The government is **striving to** keep the Japanese economy afloat.
3. Jane is **striving to** lose weight. She's been on a diet for 3 weeks now.

* **strive to ~** / ~しようと努力する

3. Your Task

You have just been hired as a hotel manager. You noticed that a lot of tasks are not accomplished on time, and you get a lot of complaints from hotel guests. Only two people work during the night shift, the kitchen needs one more cook, and there's always just one person at the front desk. Furthermore, the hotel is quite dirty, yet the janitors are always busy. Talk to the hotel owner (=your tutor) about this. Make it your goal to hire and train more employees, and to organize the tasks.

4. Let's Talk

Talk about your short-term and long-term goals.

Is it easy to achieve departmental goals? Why or why not?

How important is teamwork in reaching departmental goals?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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