**EDUCATIONAL SPEECH**

**FOR**

**DERICK FERNANDES**

**REVISED**

Hello everyone! I want to thank all of you... **ALL** of the parents and students who are here today. Students, education is a priority in life and I am gratified to see that you are dedicated to learning. Parents, you have considerably more experience than our students. You see how the world works.... what doors open for those who are presentable, smart, educated, prepared, and most of all **WILLING** to learn and to improve. We have some excellent students enrolled in our classes, but there is always room for improvement.... for **EVERYONE**. The American inventor, Thomas Edison once said this, “When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this: **YOU HAVEN’T**.” We live in a world that is constantly changing and evolving. While we are all aware that we have to know more than ever in order to survive, we’re also faced with increased competition in every phase of existence. In 2015, a study was done that told us the following... at the time, China had a population of **1.38 BILLION** people while India’s population was **1.31 BILLION**. According to research done by the United Nations, the world population is expected to increase to a total of **8.5 BILLION** people by 2030. CNN, the News resource, predicts that the population of India will exceed that of China by the year 2022 with a proposed count of **1.4 BILLION** people. With the percentage of younger people constantly increasing, I have only one thing to say, and it would be typical of me to say this... **YOU DO THE MATH**. (**Wait for the laugh**). 2022 is **NOT** that far away... and for those of you that I’ve known since 6th grade, which was just **FOUR** years ago, it’s just another four years from now... the time has really flown by and as your teacher, while I take pride in the work you’ve done and do, I want do make sure each one of you is prepared the best way possible for what will probably be a rather unpredictable future. The time really is **NOW** to work hard, plan, and make sure you are in a position to be able and ready to take your educational strategy constructively, and do well in life.

Students... when your parents tell you how important your schooling is... when I and your other teachers are relentless in encouraging each one of you to pay attention, learn your lessons, and continue to improve, we are **NOT** kidding!!! Life is getting increasingly more complicated and we **ALL** have to be committed to being knowledgeable. How many of you remember Shakuntala Devi? She said, “Without mathematics, there’s nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is **numbers**.” Think about it. What professions or occupations **DON’T** involve numbers? What activities outside of school or work don’t involve numbers? People in accounting, engineering, finance, manufacturing, farming, international trade, retail, sports... **everyone** must understand numbers and the critical roll they play in our lives and in every phase of society... and we are here to understand that critical importance together. If you will pardon the pun... mathematics is the “**great equalizer**.” (**Wait for the laugh**). No one is above math... no one is below... and no one can get by without some knowledge... we want you to have as much knowledge as you can on this subject.

I think you all know by now that this school and I, as well as all of the teachers, are dedicated to the success of each and every person that attends our programs. We’ve been together long enough to really know each other. Believe me when I tell you that your success in life means a lot to me... and to your parents... and it begins right here. You’ve also gotten to see the difference that hands-on teaching makes in the life of a young person, training to enter the professional world. We all need firm foundations and now, more than ever, we need to be informed and knowledgeable. Students, I encourage you, to not only learn, but **understand** what it is you’ve learned. I really believe you are old enough at this point to take a more active roll in this part of your education. So let’s think about this... what can we do ?

I want to say again that I believe in each one of you and your ability to find success in the completion of this year’s program.... and beyond that. I want to see all of you succeed through **ALL** of your studies. The possibility of any one of you not completing your high school and college education is not an option...you are all too smart for that. We adults know that school can be challenging but we also know how bright you are. We know **YOU CAN**. It’s up to **YOU** to be strong, face the hard parts, and learn.

One of the most important elements required for you to be successful is that you need to understand what the goals and objectives are. Would you agree? (**Give the students and parents one or two sentences stating your objectives for the coming term)**. This coming school year we will be focusing on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. That, in turn, will help us to understand\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Do any of you have any questions so far? Please also know this... while we know the work will get increasingly more complex, it still has to be done.... you will need to have all of the pieces of the mathematics puzzle ready to use in order to solve the problems you will face in the future. I want you to know it’s okay to ask questions. Perhaps I will ask you to keep a list of questions you might have and we will set aside a dedicated bloc of time for us to ask and answer those points that aren’t clear.... because if one of you has an issue, chances are.... Parents, I also encourage **YOU** to get involved by following along with your students... perhaps some of the points can be reviewed at home... let’s see how much you will learn and grow as all of us are involved together!! How many of you think it might be helpful to form after school study groups? If you think that might be something to encourage you and help you through the course, we can take a look at that.

To all students, I want you to know that we... your parents and I... believe in you. We want to see you succeed. We are here for you and we encourage you to do your best work... what does that look like? If you think you’ve already given your **ALL**, remember what Thomas Edison said. And keep in mind that **HE** was actually forced out of school... at a very young age. His teachers didn’t know he had some health and learning problems... they weren’t identified back in those days, but he had people who believed in him... his mother taught him at home, and as we know, he went on to become what is known as “America’s greatest inventor.” With creations like the motion picture camera, the modern lightbulb, and the phonograph... that’s what people used to hear music... before telephones did everything!! (**Wait for the laugh**). He was strong enough and worked very hard to overcome his challenges... and so are you... and another thing we can safely say about Edison and his inventions? He needed to use **MATH** for each and every one!!!

I am confident of two things... We know that our courses work... I am proud to say that (**Name the percentage of students receiving grades of 90 or above**) in the current classes, we have **THIRTY-FIVE** students that are on track to receive grades of 90 out of 100. We even have one student who has ranked **number** **THREE** all India!!! As a group we should all be very proud of these results. At the same time, we must read between the lines. What these numbers also show us is that there is **VAST** room for improvement! These scores and percentages tell us that it is **POSSIBLE** to excel in the programs we offer. Excellence is not beyond the scope of **ANY** of you. And the second thing I know is that you are **ALL** capable of achieving excellent grades throughout this course, and I am confident that your improvements and performance will make a tremendous difference in the way you see your life, your education, and your future..

In 2016, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics claimed that there were **47 million young** people in India of **secondary and high school age**. And as reported by the New Delhi Institute for Policy Research Studies, while the enrollment in the tenth grade was 77 percent at the time, enrollment in class 11 declined to only **52%**. Just about **HALF** of India’s youth eligible for the eleventh grade didn’t go to school. Let me see a show of hands.... who besides me finds this **SHOCKING**? Now let me see another show of hands... who in this room is determined to change that statistic and is willing to work hard to improve and achieve **UNPRECEDENTED** success in the coming school year... and the **NEXT**??? I’m just going to take a quick look at the hand count, but it is my intention that **ONE HUNDRED PERCENT** of our students’ hands are raised!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). By a show of hands, who’s **READY** for the challenge??? **GOOD**!! Because we have to demonstrate that high school students your age are committed to the quality of their education and that previous trends can be shifted and **shaken**.... it all starts right here... with each one of **YOU**

Here at Global Tutorials, we know that lessons and testing are only **PART** of the educational process. After years of study and application.... yes... you **KNOW** that we, **TOO** are constantly learning and adapting to the educational needs of our society and communities, we have an effective foundational formula that we find brings consistent positive results.... there’s only one thing we need for you students to do...that is **WORK**!! (**Wait for the laugh**). We know that as young adults, there are probably a thousand things you’d rather be doing than studying, but I **PROMISE** you...success and satisfaction in life become more and more remote the **less** diligence you show for your studies.

Each year we carefully create a plan of action, designed to suit the needs of the student while encouraging the parents to participate as well. Once the entire family is engaged in process and has a stake in the eventual outcome of the program, it is very clear that the extra attention outside of the classroom is very effective. We believe in educating the **WHOLE** student.

I want to take a moment to share something with all of you parents and students here today. A large part of the success of this program is the structure or matrix provided within which the students must complete the allotted work. While each year it may seem strange or overwhelming at the start.... and I **KNOW** a lot of information is coming out at one time, just pay attention, take notes if necessary, and by focusing, placing one foot in front of the other while breaking down and concentrating on the present discussion and lessons, you **WILL** begin to understand and get through the curriculum. In life... after tenth grade... (**Wait for the laugh**), we are constantly presented with “batches” or grid like assignments that must be handled in a scheduled, timely manner... it’s part of learning to be responsible and considering the whole while zeroing in on the part currently being discussed, taught, or questioned. I urge you all to be patient, concentrate, do your best... and **THEN pick up speed**!! (**Wait for the laugh**). And ask questions if you don’t understand something.... but don’t expect me or your classmates or your parents to do the work for you. Asking questions is a “nearly last resort.” Lessons are only as valuable as the effort it took for you to learn them.

Lastly, I want to say, be proud that you’re here. Show that pride and confidence in the way you present yourselves and in the manner of your preparedness to take each test. Have you ever heard the expression to “**dress the part**?” All of you are young professionals in training. Show us your discipline and determination each time you present yourselves to complete a test or task. Knowing that your personal appearance will reflect your positive and confident spirit and enthusiasm is the best reason to put in the effort.

Keep in mind that **OTHERS** are watching... no.. not **ME**... and not your parents either. You have an entire younger generation that are preparing to walk in your footsteps... on your shoulders... to their **OWN** future success. Think of the people that preceded **YOU** and think of the impact they have made on your life. The best gift you can give the future is to be a good example in the present... and that, **I KNOW**... is a natural extension of who you are.

I want to thank you all for being here and for expressing your enthusiasm in the lessons of Global Tutorials and I wish all of you the best of luck in the coming school year and **BEYOND**!!