## THE DAWAY TRANSFORMATION Part 3: The science of motivation



## PART 3

- How to stay motivated every day
- The factors involved in will power and learning





### WILL POWER

- The problem for 80% of students is not grammar or listening, it's motivation!
- "Will power" is not a gift from heaven that you either have or not
- There is science that we can use to train it





#### WILL POWER

- "Will power" is like a battery that you use throughout your day
- Examples:

After waking up, working all day, looking after your kids, driving to work, etc it will be more difficult to find the motivation to learn English!





"Like a muscle, you can increase your will power and make it stronger"

## HOW TO INCREASE YOUR WILL POWER

- Physical exercise
- Healthy nutrition
- Meditation
- Sleeping well
- Your loved ones



"Physical exercise is the only happiness pill you need"

## **BENEFITS OF DOING EXERCISE**

- Control your weight
- Reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease
- Reduce your risk for type 2 diabetes and metabolic syndrome
- Reduce your risk of some cancers
- Strengthen your bones and muscles
- Improve your mental health and mood
- Improve your ability to do daily activities and prevent falls, if you're an older adult
- Increase your chances of living longer
- Thousands of other benefits



### **PSYCHOLOGICAL BENEFITS**

 Students (adults and children) who do sport show:

More grey matter More white matter Better concentration More self-control and discipline It affects other areas of your life



## **KEYS TO GET THE HABIT**

- Any physical activity counts: yoga, running, strength, cycling, etc. Find what you enjoy!
- Better to do even 15 minutes a day than a lot only once a week
- If you can't go to a gym, do simple exercises: squats, push-ups, abs, etc.
- Find your "big why" to do it: without health, you can't enjoy the rest of your life (family, friends, work, etc).



"You are what you eat"

- 70% of your body composition is based on what you eat
- Our brains need glucose to work
- However, the glucose of different foods is absorbed differently



- The glycemic index of a food is how fast or slow the glucose is absorbed by your brain
- Foods with a high glycemic index offer a quick boost of glucose for your brain: processed food, cookies, coke, sugar, etc.



- When you eat high glycemic foods, you get a lot of glucose and it is too much for your body
- Your pancreas creates "insulin" to decrease the level of glucose
- This up and down gives you highs and lows in energy



- A lot of people depend on sugar to get energy
- Low glycemic index foods give you a more stable energy level throughout the day
- Studies have shown a better academic performance when students had a healthy, low glycemic index breakfast



#### WHAT TO EAT TO STAY MOTIVATED AND WITH ENERGY

- Low glycemic foods are:
  - Protein Nuts
  - Vegetables Fruit
- High glycemic foods are:
  - Processed White (bread, flour, sugar)
  - Snacks Industrial drinks



## THE KEYS

- Try to eat low glycemic foods (use the website provided for reference)
- You will have more stable energy levels during the day
- Your concentration and motivation will be more stable too
- Try to do it with your family!



"I don't care who you are, but you turn into a different person when you don't sleep" Vinny Guadagnino

## EFFECTS OF POOR SLEEP

- Your brain doesn't absorbe glucose well
- Your concentration is similar to being drunk
- You crave high glycemic foods because you don't have energy
- You are moody and emotional



### **HOW TO SLEEP BETTER**

- Get at least 7-9 hours of sleep
- Go to bed at the same time daily
- Do something relaxing to create a habit (audios, read fiction, music, radio, etc)
- Avoid screens (blue light prevents your brain from creating melatonin)



# *"Meditation is the discovery that the point of life is always arrived at in the immediate moment" Alan Watts*

## **HEALTH BENEFITS OF REGULAR MEDITATION**

- It increases your immune function
- It reduces pain and inflammation at a celular level
- Reduces anxiety and stress
- Increases social connection and emotional intelligence
- Improves your ability to control your emotions
- Increases grey matter



## **HOW IT WORKS**

- Your mind is a radio that fills with thoughts, worries, wishes, etc
- We spend our lives thinking of either the past or the future. Always in something not real, external
- To meditate is to focus on the only real moment of your life, the present



## **HOW IT WORKS**

- There are different ways to clear your mind:
  - Let your mind "speak" until it becomes silent
  - Pay 200% attention to what you are doing right now, don't resist it
  - Pay attention to your breathing



"I have found that if you love life, life will love you back" Arthur Rubinstein

## LOVE IS A MUSCLE

- The longest study on human happiness, by Robert Waldinger
- Healthy relationships and connection with others, the key factor to happiness
- Quality VS quantity
- Close relationships protect our body and brain



## LOVE IS A MUSCLE

- The more you care about others and train your love muscle, the stronger it gets
- "Love" is universal, not only with a partner: friends, pets, family, community, etc





## DO THE 3<sup>rd</sup> PART OF THE PLAN

Fill in the third section of the document "My Daway Transformation Plan" to supercharge your will power

