Keys to Success
building analytical, creative, and practical skills

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PEARSON
Toronto
Dedication

This book is dedicated to the memory of my parents Peter and Blanka Maurin.

—Peter Maurin
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“IT’S NOT JUST WHAT YOU KNOW; it’s what you know how to do.”

*Keys* sets the standard for connecting academic success to success beyond school, showing students how to apply strategies within college or university, career, and life. *Keys* retains its tried-and-true emphasis on thinking skills and problem solving, re-imagined with two goals in mind: one, a risk-and-reward framework that reflects the demands today’s students face and two, a focus on student experience specific to institutions with a more extensive research base. The material helps students take ownership, develop academic and transferable skills, and show the results of commitment and action so they are well equipped with the concentration, commitment, focus, and persistence necessary to succeed.

**WHAT’S NEW IN THIS edition?**

- **Risk-and-reward theme.** To be rewarded with goal achievement in the fast-paced information age, students must take calculated, productive risks. The benefit of risks small (putting in the work your courses require) and large (aiming for a degree in a tough major, working toward a challenging career) is learning transferable skill building, persistence, and confidence.
- **Inspiring, motivating case studies focused on risk and reward.** Students derive motivation from reading about how others have taken risks, gotten through struggles, overcome challenges, and earned rewards. Each chapter begins with a case study focusing on a personal challenge and details the risk taken to face and surmount it. The closing section at the end of each chapter finishes the story and shows the reward earned at that time and the rewards that the person has subsequently gained from continued risk and effort. This section also relates the story to the reader’s lives and challenges them to think expansively about how to make personal improvements related to the chapter.
- **Brain-based learning and metacognition.** Cites research on building intelligence, the science of learning, the changes in the brain that happen when you remember, the cost of task switching, brain development in adolescence and early adulthood, and more. This information builds student metacognition.

**WHAT ELSE HAS CHANGED IN THIS edition?**

- **Successful intelligence framework.** Builds a comprehensive set of analytical, creative, practical thinking skills to empower students to strengthen their command of the problem-solving process and take practical action.
- **In-chapter exercises focused on analytical, creative, and practical thinking, and financial literacy.** These exercises give readers a chance to apply a chapter idea or skill to their personal needs and situations in a particular type of thinking.
  - *Get Analytical* builds analytical thinking skill.
  - *Get Creative* builds creative thinking skill.
  - *Get Practical* builds practical thinking skill.
  - The NEW exercise *Get $mart* builds financial literacy.
End-of-chapter exercises, each with a distinctive practical goal targeted to develop a particular skill to have readers perform a chapter-related task that has specific personal value.

- Know It builds critical thinking skill
- Write It builds emotional intelligence and practical writing skill
- Work It builds career readiness

The importance of developing 21st-century skills as part of one’s post-secondary experience is introduced in Chapter 1 and highlighted throughout the text. This framework for 21st-century learning includes Fundamental, Personal Management, and Teamwork Skills as outlined by The Conference Board of Canada’s Employability Skills 2000+.

STUDENT Supplements

MyStudentSuccessLab (www.mystudentsuccesslab.com): Whether face-to-face or online, MyStudentSuccessLab helps students build the skills they need through peer-led video interviews, interactive practice exercises, and activities that provide academic, life, and professionalism skills.

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Peter J. Maurin, M.A.
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Finally, and most importantly, Peter been together since 1981 with his soul mate Kim. Together, they have two amazing children: Sonja and Josh.
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