

## Real Analysis Journaling Assignment 10/11/16

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Recall the following quote from the presentation given on the first day of this course:

“Any creative endeavor is built on the ash heap of failure.”

– Michael Starbird, Professor of Mathematics at UT Austin

Here are two more:

1. “It is hard to fail, but it is worse to never have tried to succeed.” – Theodore Roosevelt
2. “Time spent thinking about a problem is always time well spent. Even if you seem to make no progress at all.” – Paul Zeitz

On the first day of the course we discussed the value of making mistakes. Now that we have had our first midterm exam, both in-class and take home, I am asking you to re-visit the notion of “productive failure.”

1. Watch this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wh0OS4MrN3E>.
2. Comment on a time a time during this course when you have experienced failure. Did you make it into productive failure? What can you do to make future experiences of “failing” more productive? Why will this help you moving forward in the course? Use some of the quotes and video content above.

Your responses can be very short (about a page, either written or typed), longer if you are so inspired. They should be honest and informal. There is no need for a specific format. The goal is for you to put your thoughts on paper and for you to compare as we move through the course. Include your responses in your portfolio. I will be checking to make sure this journal exercise has been completed when I collect your portfolio during the second midterm exam.