

Name: _____ Date: _____ Pd. _____

LETTER TO A FUTURE STUDENT #1

Take a few minutes to think of a time when you overcame a struggle to learn something. It could be anything - from adding negative numbers to learning a technique in baseball to writing an introduction for a difficult essay. Reflect on the times when you failed at first but through persevering your brain created new neural connections and you eventually became better at the task at hand.

Write a letter to a future student of your class about this struggle. In at least five sentences, tell this student your story and give them advice on what they should do next time they encounter an obstacle when learning something new. An example is below. Feel free to be as creative as you would like.

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| | Dear Future Student, |
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| ○ | When learning my multiplication tables I found it really hard to memorize the 7's table. With 5 and 10 there's a pattern to their products, but 7 really gets complicated. |
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| | I got kind of down for a while, but then I remembered how I learned to make free throws in basketball. It took try after try to get them in. I had to start from two feet from the basket and keep practicing my form. Only after a long time could I make them in with some consistency. With that in mind, I stuck with it and learned all the way from 7×1 to 7×12 . Even though it took me a little longer than other students at that time, I am now able |
| ○ | to recall them very easily. Stick with what you're working on. The struggle means you're getting close. |
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| | Sincerely, |
| | Charlie |