

**Grade 9 Grit Learn Lesson
Activity #1 Handout**

FAILURE = SUCCESS

PART 1:

Read each statement. Each one of these individuals eventually reached success, in spite of constant failure and adversity. Guess who the statement refers to.

Statement	Who Am I?
1. This politician ran for political office seven times and was defeated each time.	
2. All this cartoonist wanted to do was to sketch cartoons. He applied to a Kansas City newspaper. The editor said, "It's easy to see from these sketches that you have no talent." No studio would give him a job. He ended up doing publicity work for a church in an old, dilapidated garage.	
3. This writer's first children's book was rejected by 23 publishers.	
4. In the first year of marketing his new soft drink, this inventor sold only 400 bottles.	
5. This singer suffered from debilitating depression and body issues as a teenager. She continues to suffer from Tourette Syndrome (chronic body and vocal tics).	
6. This actor and comedian grew up very poor with a father who was in and out of prison for drug use. He dropped out of college and began a career working at a shoe store. During his early career as a comic, people would throw food at him because they hated his jokes.	
7. Abandoned by his father and lived in a high crime neighborhood. He dropped out of high school to sell drugs in his neighborhood. Was shot at multiple times by his mid-20's. He was a gifted lyricist but no recording company wanted him. He started his own recording company but most of the artists left his label before making a single song.	
8. As a child, he never really knew his father and bounced between homes (sometimes living in 6 different homes in one year). A shy child, he was chronically absent from schools and witnessed shootings and killings in his neighborhood. It was only when his 4 th grade football coach took him and his mother into his home that life began to turn around.	

~ STOP HERE~

PART 2:

1. How do you think these people viewed failure? In other words, what is/was their thinking related to failure?

2. Why do you think some people continue to persist after failure (or many failures) and others give up?

***3. What do you think a person would need to be more “persistent” and not give up on goals?
(You can think of what YOU would need or just anybody in general).***