



From Right to Wrong: Learning From Experience

Assignment

Making mistakes is an important part of learning and growing as a human being. If we were to do everything perfectly all the time, we would never have reason or opportunity to grow and develop. We would never learn about ourselves or about each other, and we would never gain the experience needed to make good decisions. This assignment asks you to think critically about your actions and gain insight on how to learn from your mistakes.

Consider the following quotation:

“Recognize that there will be failures, and acknowledge that there will be obstacles. But you will learn from your mistakes and the mistakes of others, for there is very little learning in success.”

- Michael S. Dell, Chairman and CEO of Dell Computer Corporation, from the 2003 University of Texas Commencement Address

You will write a reflection on the quotation and how it relates to you and your incident, using the questions below as your guide. Your entire response should be a minimum of 650 words, and should be written in a respectful and reflective style that is free of grammatical and spelling errors.

- 1) What do you take away from Michael Dell’s words? What initially strikes you about what he is saying?
- 2) Explain the incident that warranted you to complete this assignment. What mistakes did you make?
- 3) Why do you think you made those mistakes? Have you made similar errors in judgment before?
- 4) List 3 ways that you can actively avoid making the same mistakes again.
- 5) Why is it important to learn from those mistakes?
- 6) How can you relate Michael Dell’s words to your own goals and aspirations?

Format: Your responses must total a minimum of 650 words. This assignment is due back to the Community Standards Assistant, rezrules@uoguelph.ca by 11:59 pm on the deadline indicated in your sanction letter. Please include the title of the assignment in the subject line of your email.

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