

Rehearsing ahead of failure

Prepare yourself to acknowledge and learn from mistakes

Directions: Complete the organizer below by drafting your own “failure language” in response to different scenarios.

When you forget something little in the middle of an event: Oh! I’m so sorry. I forgot _____. Let’s try _____ and then go on from there. Sound okay? Any questions?

When something like an activity just doesn’t work: Hey, team. You know what? This just isn’t working. I apologize. In my mind, the activity would have let us _____. However, I can see that it’s not clear enough. Let’s try _____ instead. Sound okay? Do you have questions or ideas about how I could have framed this better?

When you break a cultural or social norm: Let me stop us for a moment so I can apologize. Before I said _____, I should have thought about _____, but I did not. I am sorry for doing that. Let me restate it this way: _____. Let’s try the rest of the activity, but first, I am happy to hear any feedback you have for me now or later in the day during reflection time. Again, I apologize to you.