**Which is worse, Failing or Never Trying? (250 words)**

One morning, I felt great and in tiptop shape. I woke up from a dream of breaking my personal best. Michael Phelps’ secret – to visualize success before any swim – came into my mind.

Excitedly, I went to the aquatic stadium, got changed, warmed up, got up the starting block, wore my goggles, closed my eyes, and started visualizing.

I leapt and swam hard, pushing my limits. Suddenly, my shoulders started to feel off. Fixated on the goal, I ignored the signs from my body. The next thing I knew, there was a pop from my shoulders.

I failed and injured myself. Nothing serious, thankfully.

Things may not go as planned, but that doesn’t keep me away from my goal. This became a valuable lesson: it’s important to have a goal, but one has to stay in check of the present and be aware of any tripping wires along the way.

While many view failure as unacceptable, I believe that failing is necessary. The lessons learned from failing are many times more worth it compared to never trying at all. It’s definitely better than the latter.

Failure is a blessing in disguise. It made me realize my physical limits and served as a reminder on how I can be better. Had I never pushed my limits, I would’ve just be fixated on the goal without thinking about the present.

Failure is a delayed success. Here I am now, better than ever and broke my personal best.

Editor’s note:

Hi Dwiki, great essay! Very straightforward but has a deep meaning to it. Strong essay overall, I just have little edits to it. Good luck, good luck!

Matahari K