"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." –Ralph Waldo Emerson. I have found this quote to be very applicable to my life. One of the main examples that comes to mind is when I tried out for my school's academic decathlon team. I was a sophomore, at least a year younger than everyone else, and I was absolutely terrified. On our first quiz, I made a 65. I went home crying, wondering if it was too late switch classes. However, the next day I found myself back in that classroom, taking another quiz. I made an 80 that time. It took a lot of time and effort, but I managed to start making consistently higher grades. I was never top of the class, and I only made a handful of 100's, but pushing through the initial struggle taught me a lot about what it means to work hard and give something your best. While being in the class taught me so much, I think I learned the most on the day the coach told me I didn't make the team. I had overcome, I had read the materials for hours, and I felt like I had nothing to show for it. After a few weeks, however, I realized that trying, and failing, to make the academic decathlon team was one of the best things that could have happened to me. I didn't try for the team this year, and I don't plan to in the future. I fell, I rose, and I learned that moving on from something that's not right for you is not a failure, it's an accomplishment.