

Started Out Feeling Defeated

Deron Mebane

Taking my GED test and failing was a big setback for me. I had been so nervous before the test. It felt like the biggest test of my life. The day before the test, I tried to study, which made me more nervous. When I took the test, it was so long. After a while, I started doubting myself.

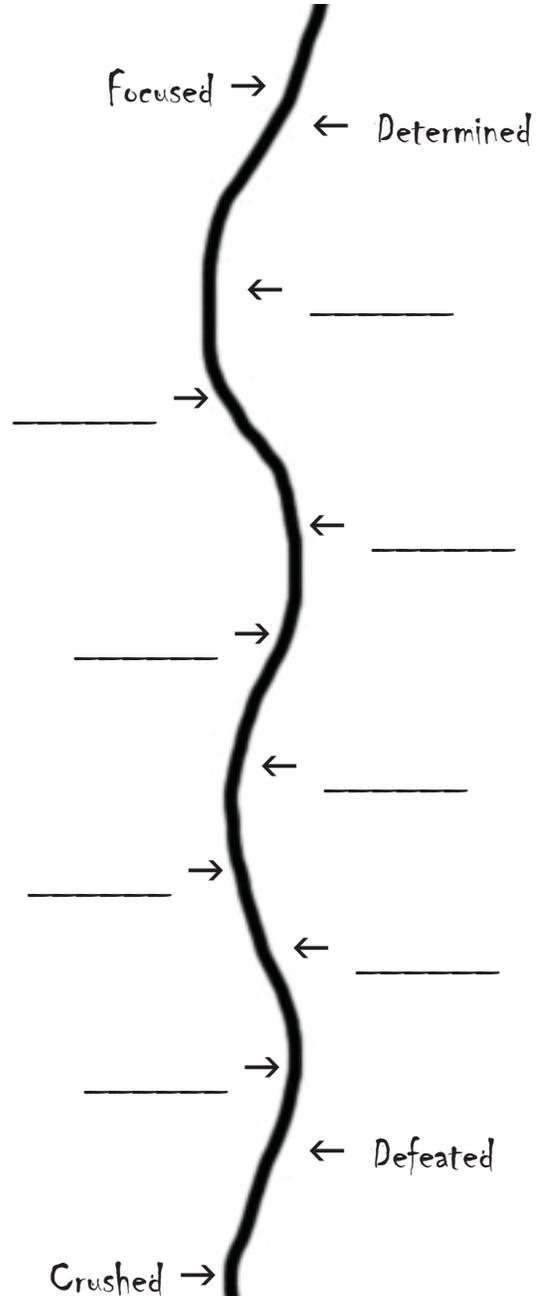
Taking the test was nerve-wracking. But waiting on my results was worse. Then I got them back and I failed by 40 points. I felt defeated and crushed. It was a major setback for me.

Instead of just retaking the test I started making excuses about why I could wait to do it later. My job became more important. My daughter was born around that time so taking care of her was my excuse not to go back and try again. Those things were important, but they were just excuses. The real reason I didn't retake the test was because I felt so bad about failing.

I think it was silly of me not to just go back and retake it. I made the decision to stick with it. Now I'm focused and determined to take and pass the GED. I feel like nothing can get in the way of me doing that. Even if I do fail again, I will just retake it until I pass.



Deron Mebane is a student at North Kansas City Schools Adult Education and Literacy in Kansas City, MO. He wants to obtain his GED because he wants to be a good example to his daughter and because he wants to go to college. Deron learned recently that he passed the test. He said, "Hearing that you passed the test is an amazing feeling."



Words that Describe Feelings

Deron went from “crushed and defeated” to “focused and determined.” What are some of the feelings he might have experienced along the way? Write them in the spaces provided.