

Example 3: Failure / Challenge Essay

Prompt: *Describe a professional setback and what you learned from it.*

In my first role as a project coordinator, I underestimated the time required for a client deliverable. My team missed a key milestone, which caused client dissatisfaction and internal stress. Reflecting on the situation, I identified two root causes: poor task delegation and lack of proactive communication with stakeholders.

To address this, I implemented detailed project timelines, held regular check-ins with team members, and established “blocker calls” for early problem detection. In subsequent projects, these measures prevented delays and improved client satisfaction. This experience reinforced the importance of planning, accountability, and clear communication.

It also shaped my approach to leadership: success comes not from avoiding mistakes, but from learning quickly and taking concrete corrective actions. I aim to apply this mindset to my MBA studies, embracing challenges as opportunities for growth and encouraging collaboration within my cohort.