

## Journal 1 - Mistakes

The **purpose** of this assignment is to have you reflect on your beliefs about learning mathematics. In particular I want you think about the purpose of making mistakes. This assignment will set the stage for all the (possibly different) ways you will experience mathematics in this class. This journal will also help me in knowing how you feel about mathematics and what you have experienced in mathematics classes and will help me create the course for you. The **audience** is just me, your professor, and of course you.

### **Assignment:**

Please watch the video

[https://www.ted.com/talks/carol\\_dweck\\_the\\_power\\_of\\_believing\\_that\\_you\\_can\\_improve#t-338324](https://www.ted.com/talks/carol_dweck_the_power_of_believing_that_you_can_improve#t-338324)

Then write a 2-page journal using the following prompts.

- Why does having a growth mindset or fixed mindset matter in mathematics?
- Do you think you have a growth mindset or a fixed mindset? How do you know?
- What could a mathematics class look like in which students can change their mindset and become confident and successful mathematicians?
- How does your own experience of learning mathematics connect to the idea in Dweck's talk (or not)?
- How does your own idea of teaching mathematics connect to Dweck's ideas?
- Anything else that you found insightful/interesting about the movie clip?

### **Rubric**

To pass this journal:

- You write at least 2 pages (double-spaced) addressing all the prompts above.
- Your writing shows clearly that you have watched the movie.
- You show depth in your thinking and reflection about learning mathematics and yourself as a mathematician and emerging teacher.