

Chapter 4:

Mastery learning and Instructional Design

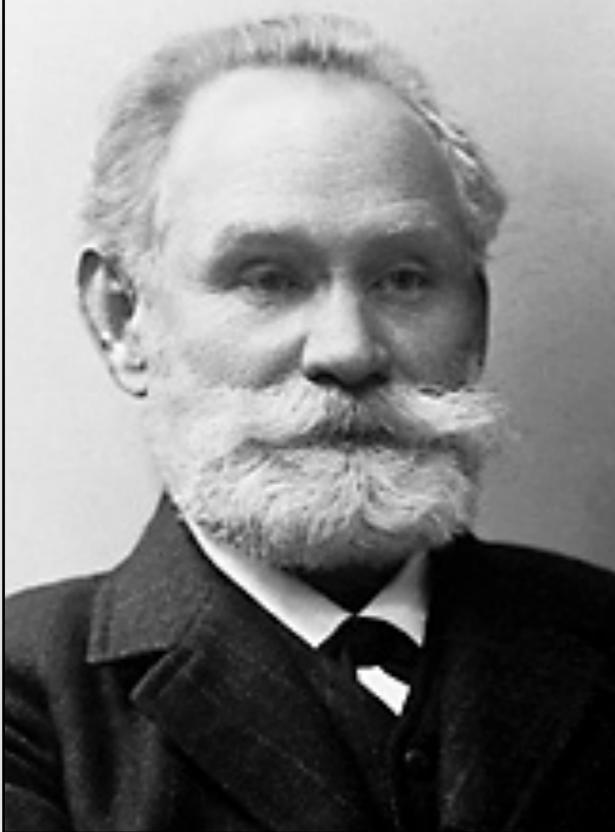
How do people learn ?

by exploration, trial and error

 **by incremental mastery**

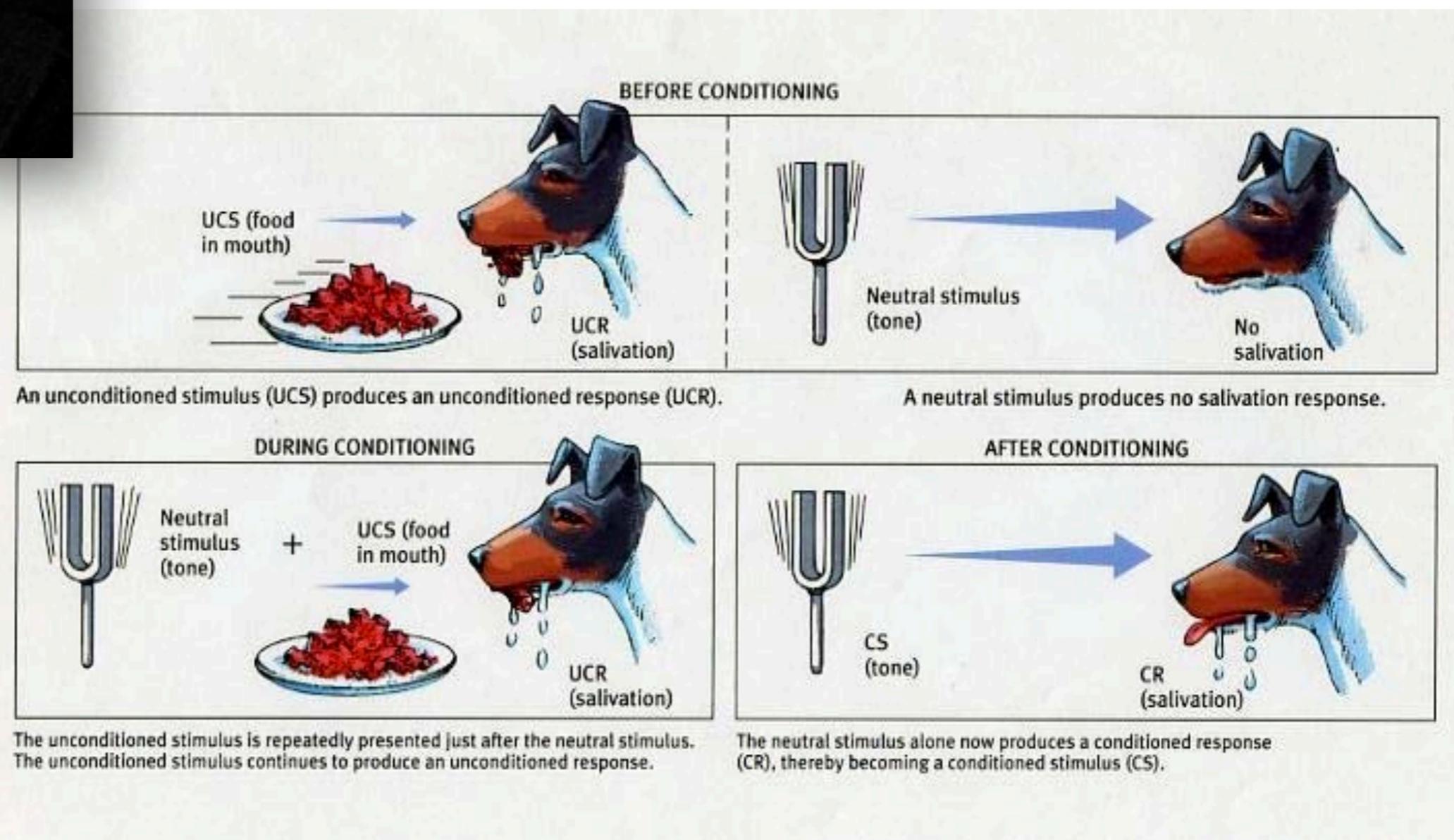
- by verbal elaboration

dogs
How do people learn ?



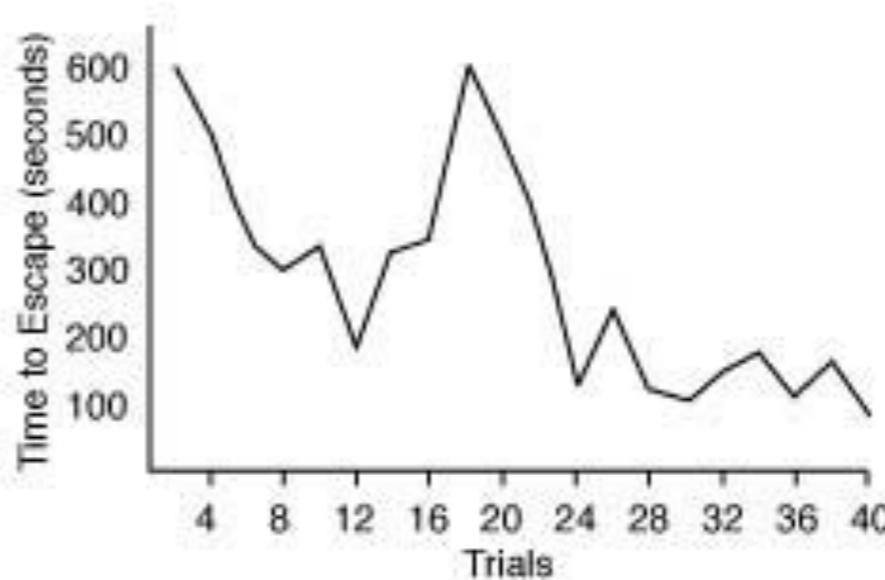
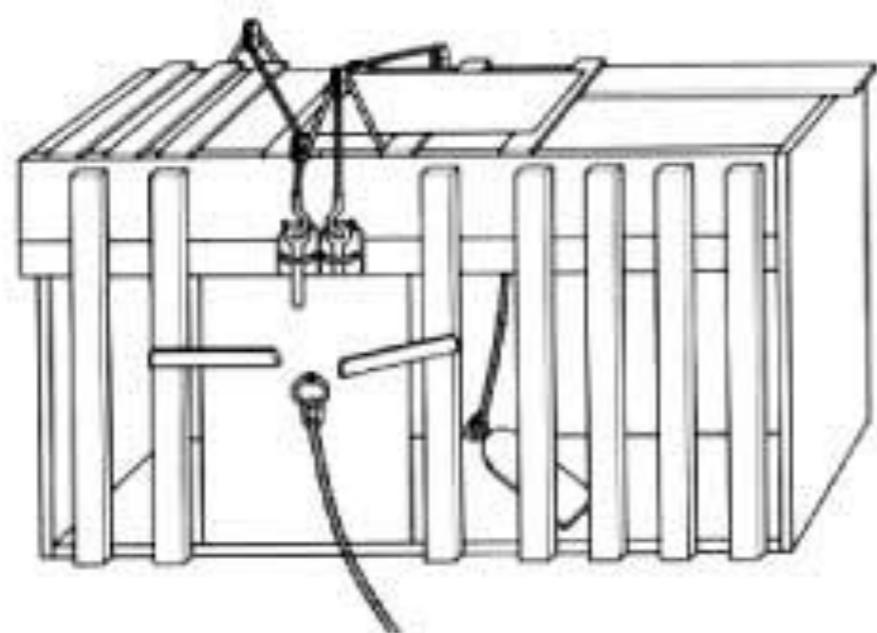
Ivan Pavlov, 1849-1936

Classical Conditioning





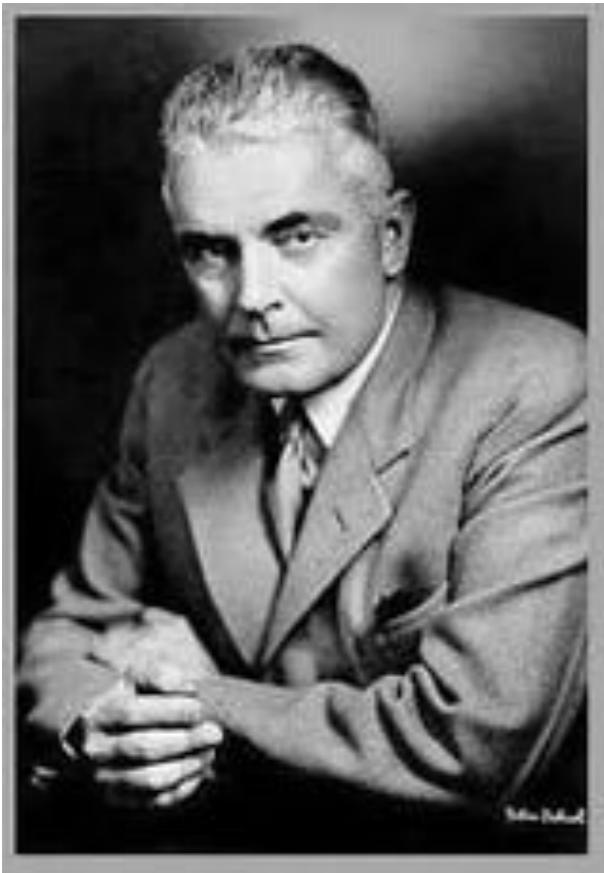
Edward L. Thorndike (1874 – 1949) [The Law of Effect](#) : any behavior that is followed by pleasant consequences is likely to be repeated, and any behavior followed by unpleasant consequences is likely to be stopped.



Adapted from Domjan, 1993 (modified from Thorndike, 1898 [left] and Imada & Imada, 1983 [right])

<http://www.simplypsychology.org/edward-thorndike.html>

Edward L. Thorndike, The Law of Effect, The American Journal of Psychology
Vol. 39, No. 1/4 (Dec., 1927), pp. 212-222: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1415413>

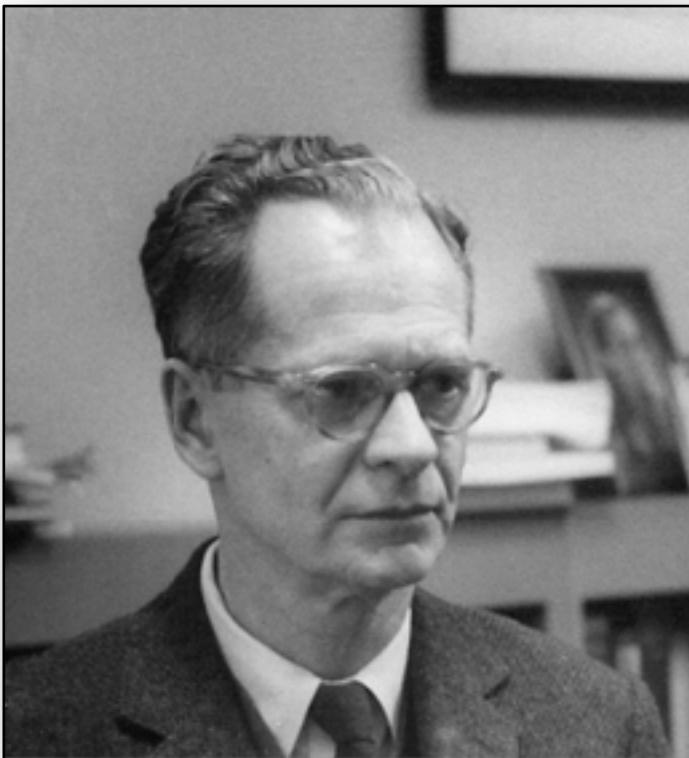


John Watson (1878- 1958) Behaviourism

"Give me a dozen healthy infants, well-formed, and my own specified world to bring them up in and I'll guarantee to take any one at random and train him to become any type of specialist I might select -- doctor, lawyer, artist, merchant-chief and, yes, even beggar-man and thief, regardless of his talents, penchants, tendencies, abilities, vocations, and race of his ancestors."

--John Watson, Behaviorism, 1930

The [Little Albert](#) Experiment



Burrhus Frederic Skinner (1904-1990), Operant Conditioning



Key ideas in behaviorism

- ① Psychology is becoming more scientific
- ② The brain is a black box; the focus is on behaviors
- ③ Learning is « engineered »
- ④ **Association** results from **immediate feedback**
- ⑤ The learner is permanently **active**
- ⑥ **Small steps** increase the probability of positive feedback → Programmed instruction



B. F. Skinner

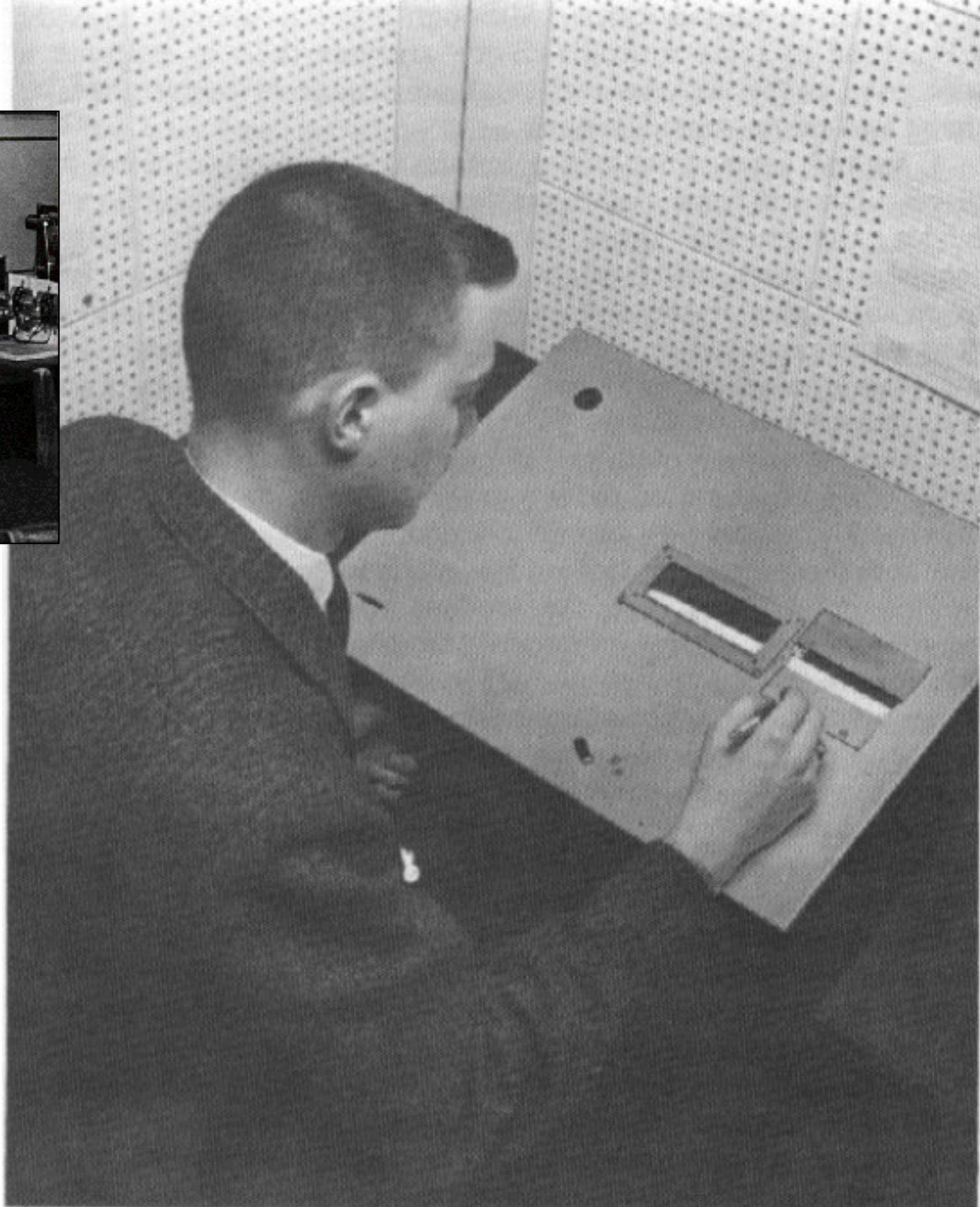
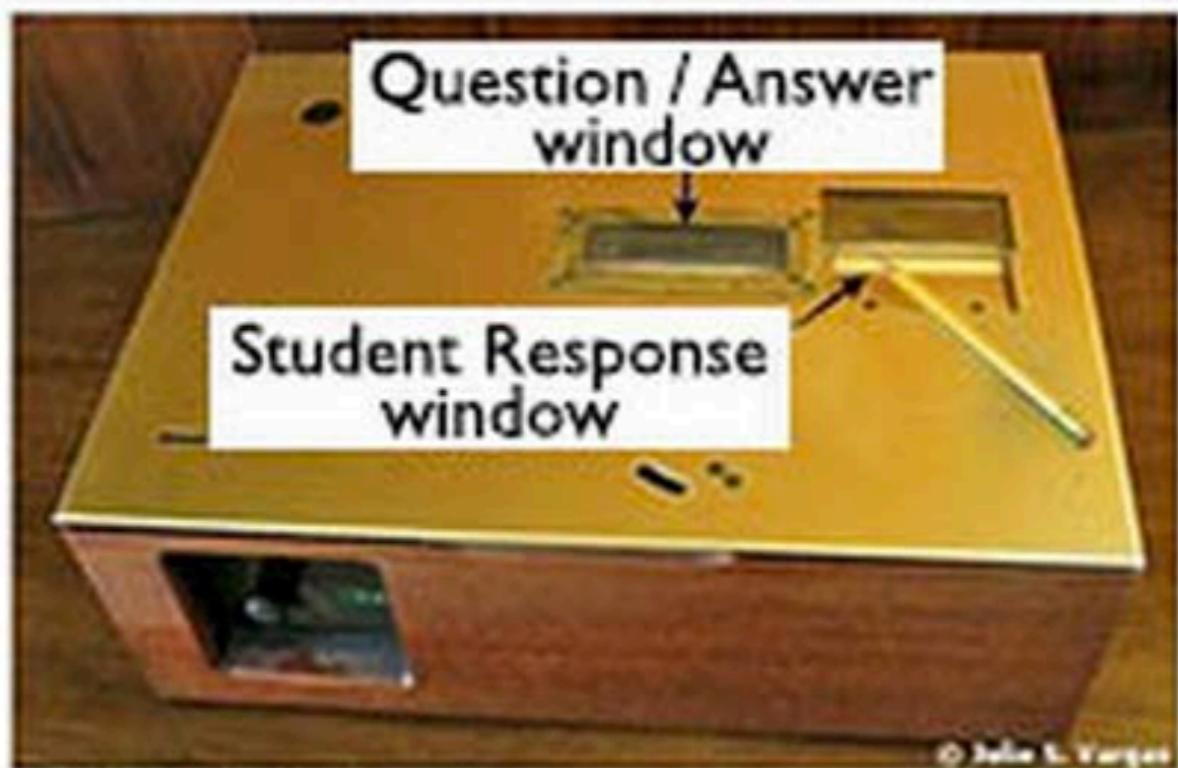
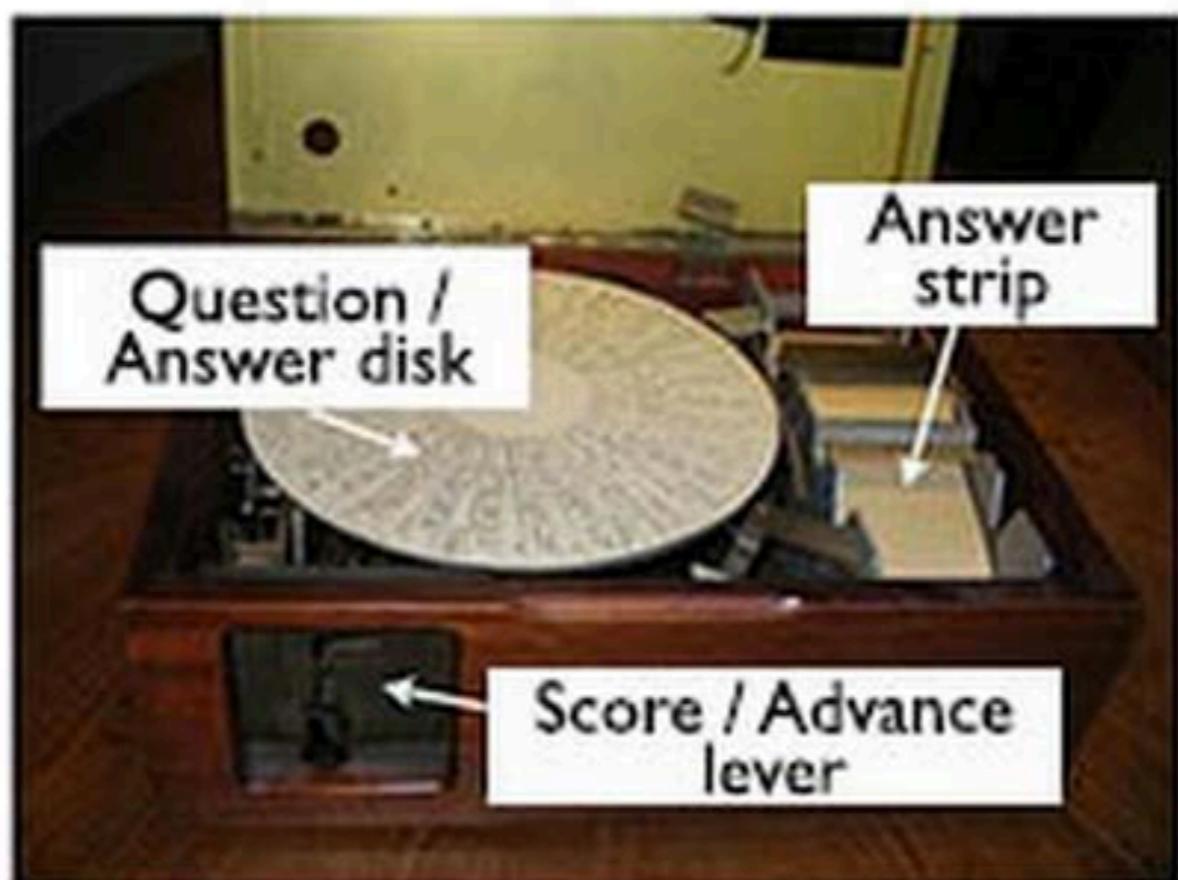


FIG. II. Student at work in the self-instruction room. Material appears in the left-hand window. The student writes his response on a strip of paper exposed at the right.

B.F. Skinner's Teaching Machine



(c) Julie S. Vargas

Instructional "disks" are placed inside the machine along with a strip or roll of paper. When the machine is closed, the student reads a question through a window and writes their response on the strip of paper. The student then compares their answer with the answer on the disk and presses the lever one way if their answer is correct or the other way if incorrect (the machine keeps score and advances).

Skinner proposed the machine improves learning by "taking into account the rate of learning for each individual learner." With this, Skinner formalizes "self-paced instruction" as part of programmed instruction.

Linear Instruction

Table 2. PART OF A PROGRAM IN HIGH-SCHOOL PHYSICS

The machine presents one item at a time. The student completes the item and then uncovers the corresponding word or phrase shown at the right.

| SENTENCE TO BE COMPLETED | WORD TO BE SUPPLIED |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. The important parts of a flashlight are the battery and the bulb. When we "turn on" a flashlight, we close a switch which connects the battery with the _____. | bulb |
| 2. When we turn on a flashlight, an electric current flows through the fine wire in the _____ and causes it to grow hot. | bulb |
| 3. When the hot wire glows brightly, we say that it gives off or sends out heat and _____. | light |
| 4. The fine wire in the bulb is called a filament. The bulb "lights up" when the filament is heated by the passage of a(n) _____ current. | electric |
| 5. When a weak battery produces little current, the fine wire, or _____, does not get very hot. | filament |
| 6. A filament which is less hot sends out or gives off _____ light. | less |
| 7. "Emit" means "send out." The amount of light sent out, or "emitted," by a filament depends on how _____ the filament is. | hot |

- 1. Information
- 2. Question
- 3. Feedback

- 1. Information
- 2. Question
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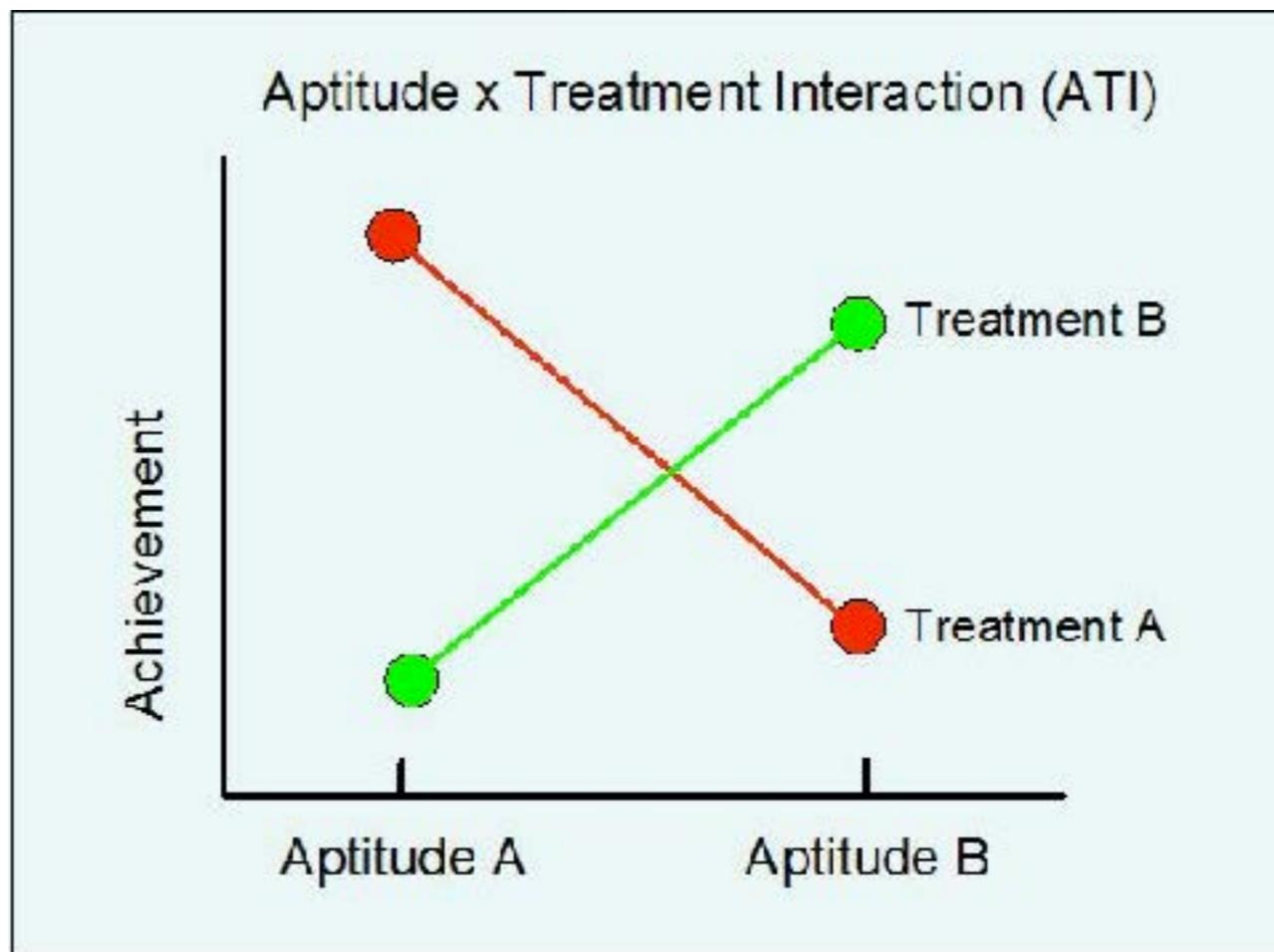
Frame-Based Models / e-learning

1. **Decomposition**: Segmenting complex contents into a sequence of learning steps that contains an elementary piece of information
2. Keep the student **active** all the time, ask the student to process any new piece of information
3. Provide **immediate feedback**
4. Let the student move on at his or her own speed

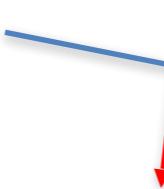
Feedback

is the 1st principle

for pedagogical effectiveness



Aptitude- Treatment Interactions:



The effect of a pedagogical **method** varies for different learners' **profiles**

The effect of a pedagogical **method**
varies for different learners **profiles**

- Personalized Instruction
- Individual instruction
- Adaptive instruction
- ...
- *Optimization in learning environments*

Evaluations of Intelligent Tutoring Systems

- Study with 17,000 students showed that Cognitive Tutor Algebra (a curriculum + ITS) doubled students' algebra learning
(Pane et al., 2013)
- Meta-review indicates that ITSs are “nearly as effective as human tutoring” (VanLehn, 2011)
- Four meta-analyses show ITSs are often more effective than other forms of instruction
(Kulik & Fletcher, 2015; Ma, Adesope, Nesbit, & Liu, 2014; Steenbergen-Hu & Cooper, 2013; 2014)

Instructional design starts with :

What should learners know at the end ?
(which they did not know at the beginning)

What should learners be able to do at the end ?
(which they could not do at the beginning)

How will I know they are able to do it ?

What would be the exam questions or tasks ?

What should learners be able to do at the end ?

Pedagogical Objectives

Reproduction
Conceptualisation

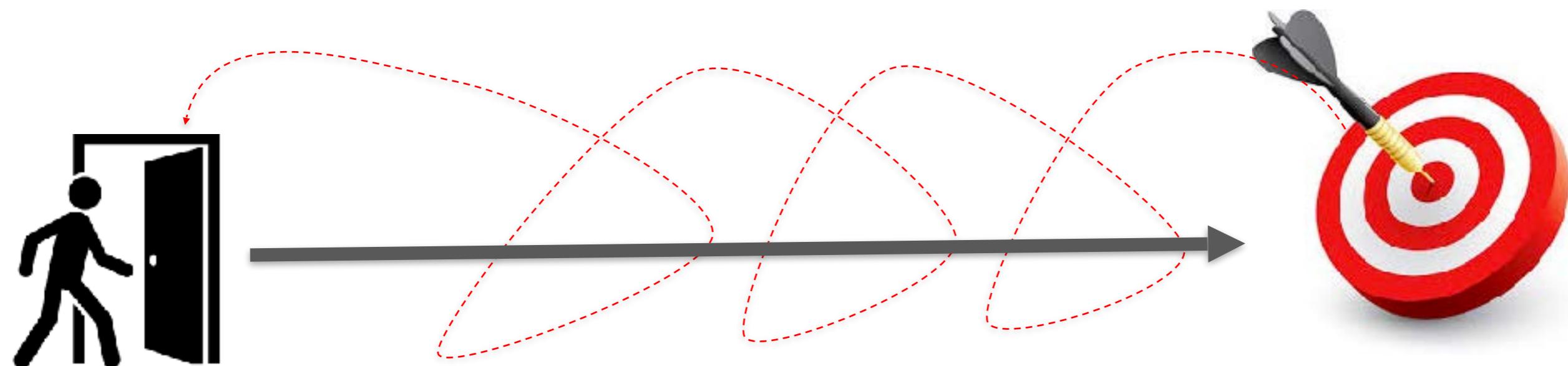
Learning Goals

Application
Exploration

Learning Outcomes

Mobilisation
Problem solving

Instructional design works backwards :



What are they able to do at the beginning

Pre-Requisites

What should learners be able to do at the end ?

(which they could not do at the beginning)

Objectives

Skill1 is pre-requisite to Skill2
if $p(\text{Skill2} | \sim \text{Skill}) \ll p(\text{Skill2} | \text{Skill1})$

Skill1 : « 6 + 9 »

Skill2: « 26 + 39 »

Skill1: to find the verb

Skill2: to agree it with the subject

Skill1 : angle

Skill2: square

Skill1 : mean

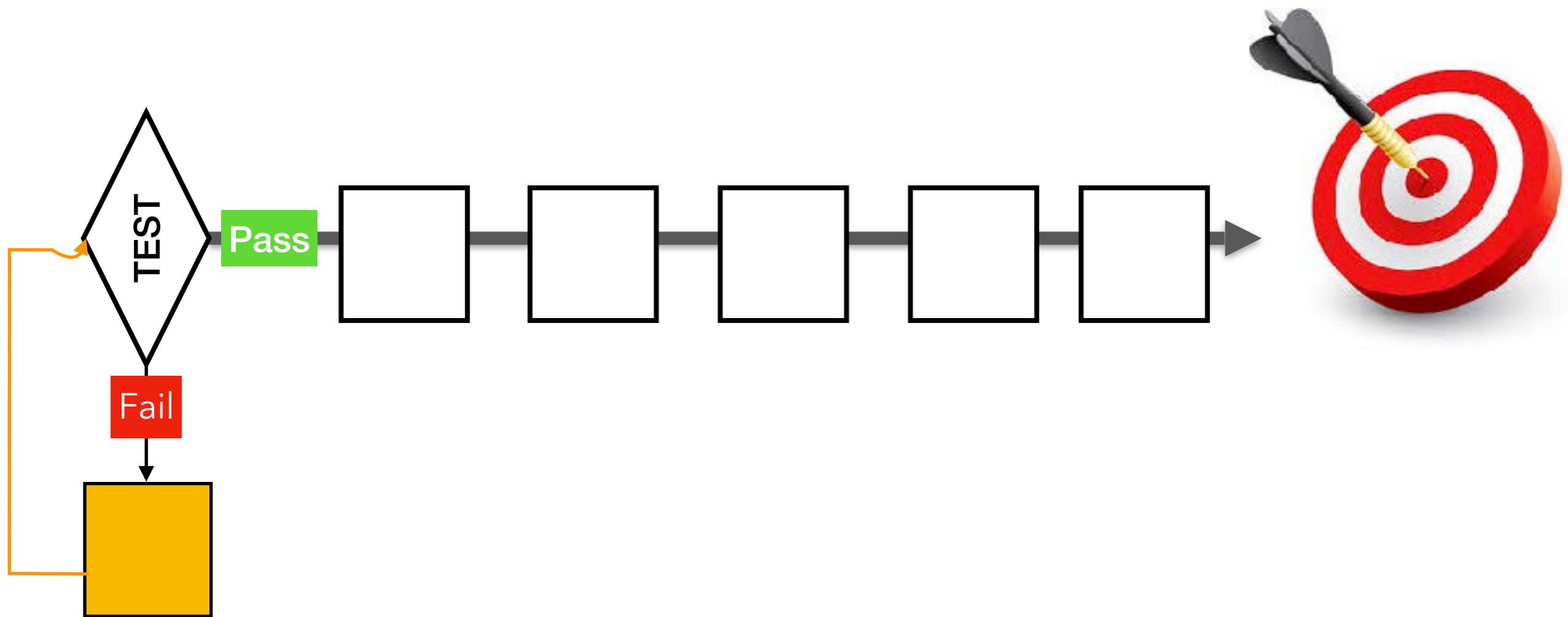
Skill2: standard deviation

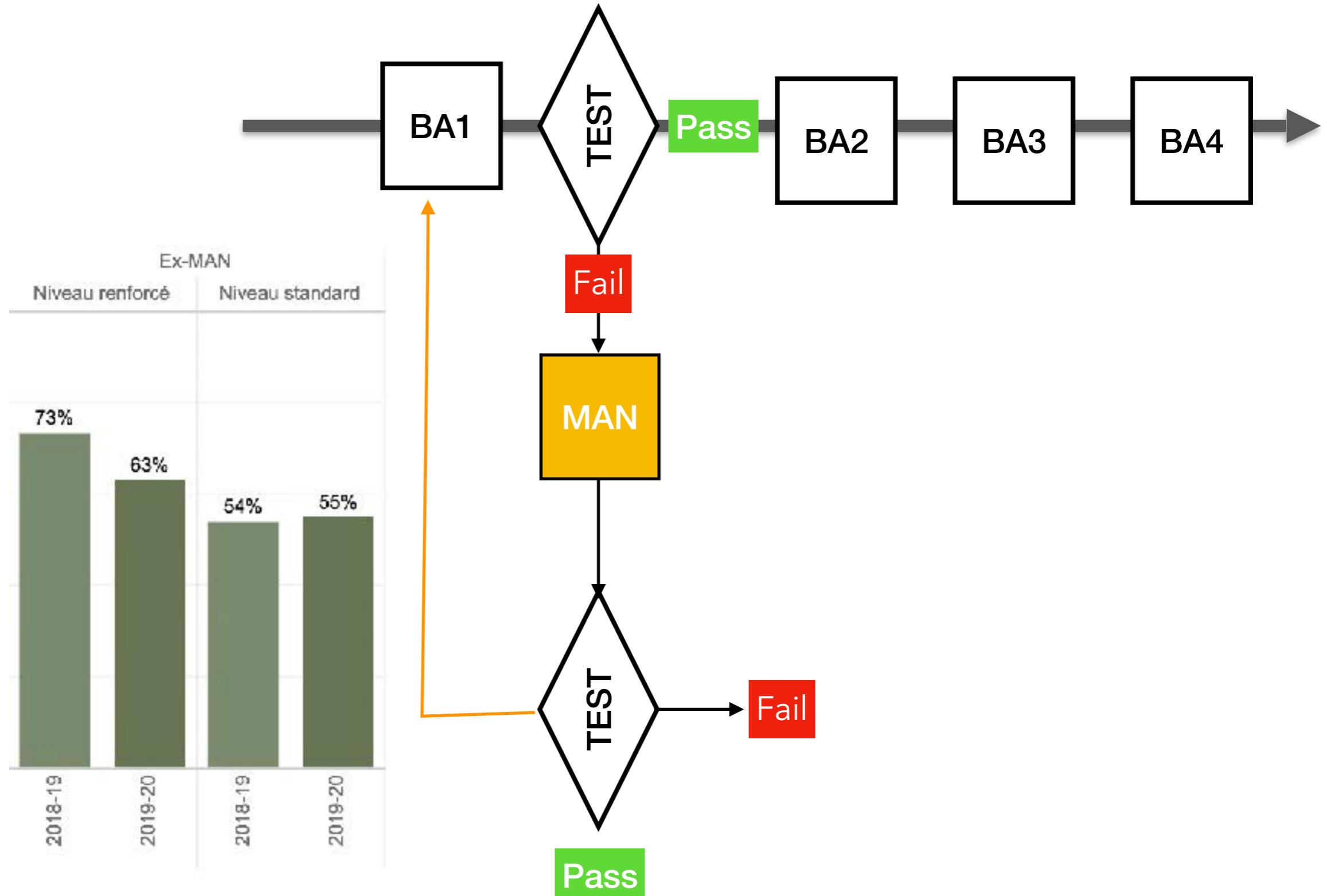
Skill1 : to read

Skill2: to code

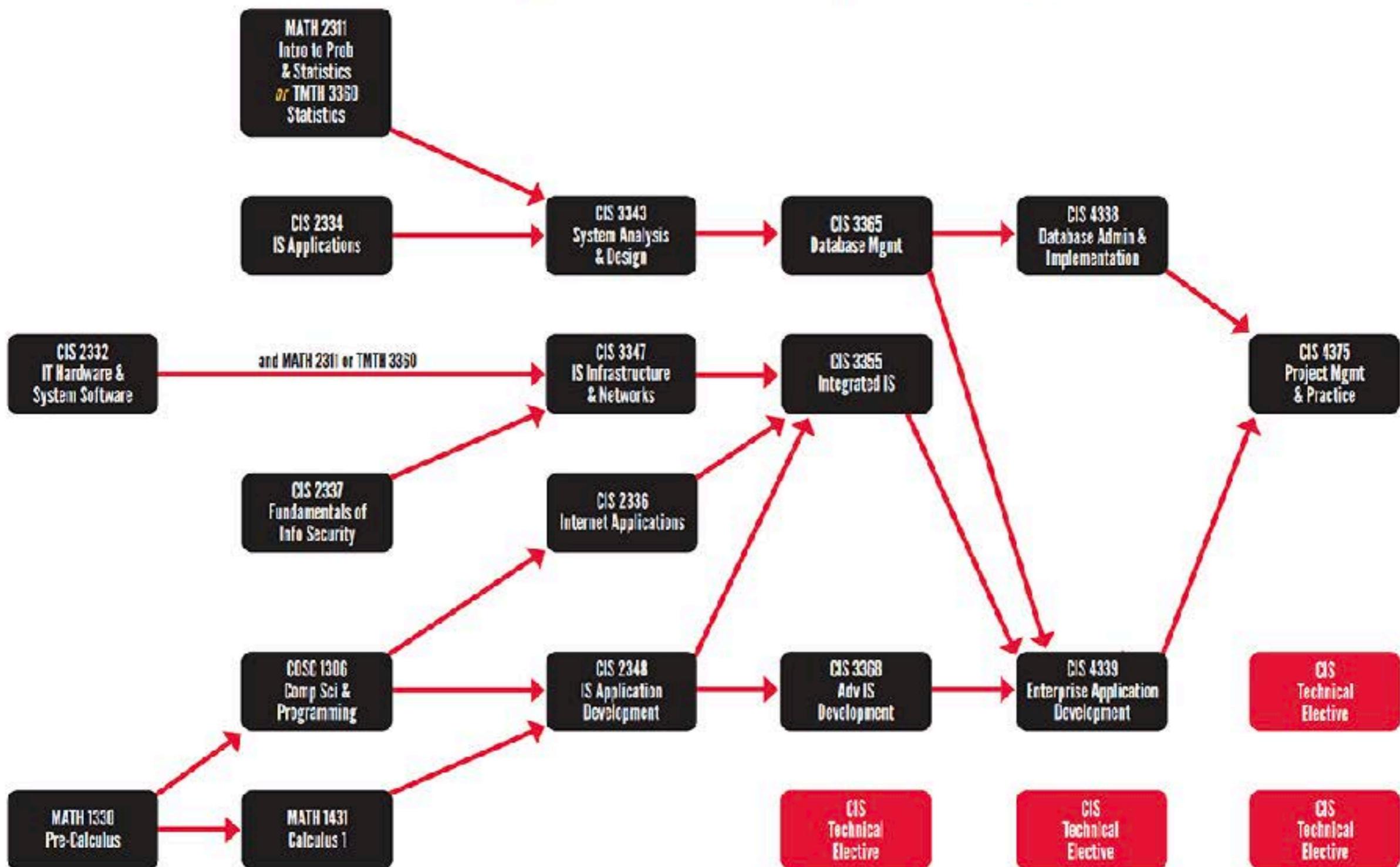
Mastery learning:

if pre-requisites are missing, remediate them before to go on



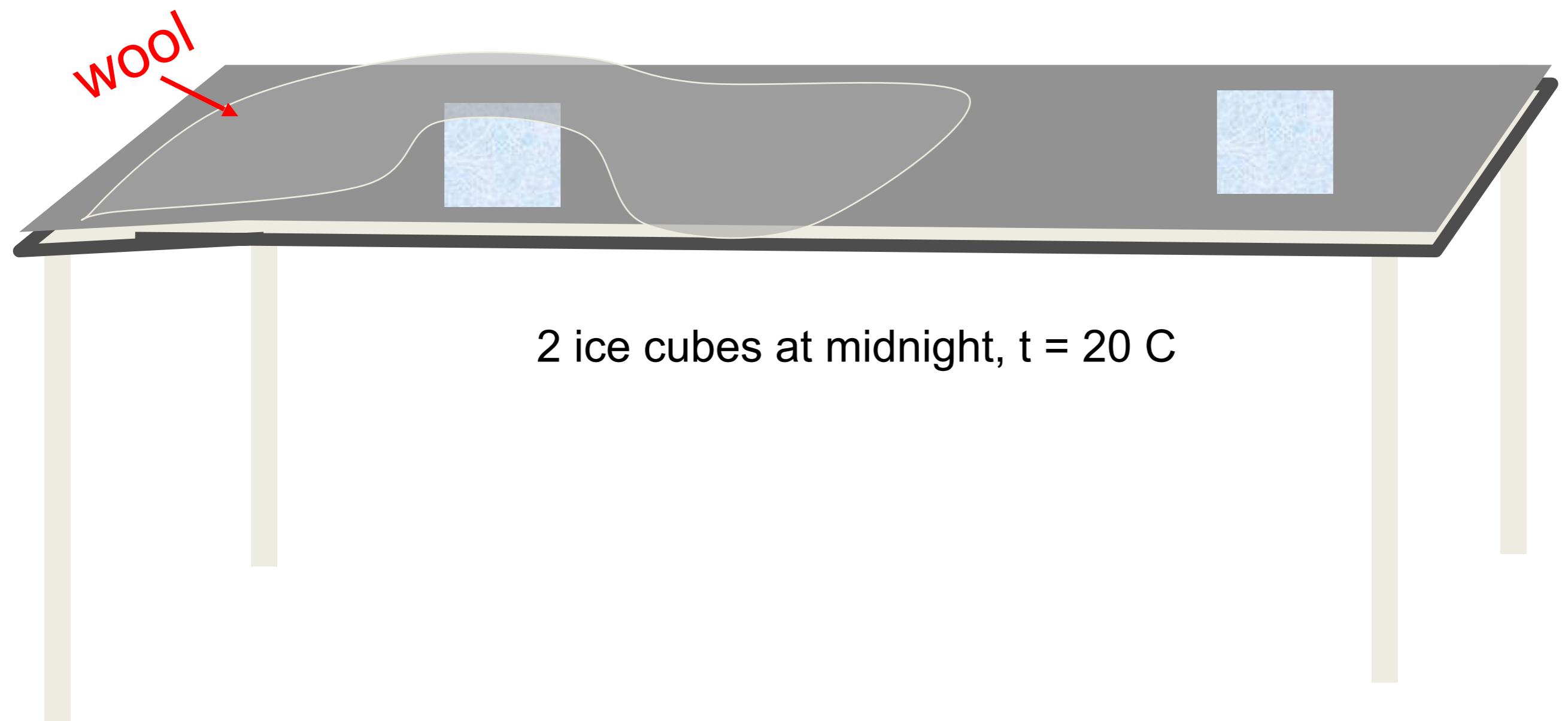


CIS Prerequisite/Course Sequence Map



Note: For a list of pre-approved Technical Electives, please visit:
uh.edu/cot/cis/technical-electives

Prior Knowledge can be wrong

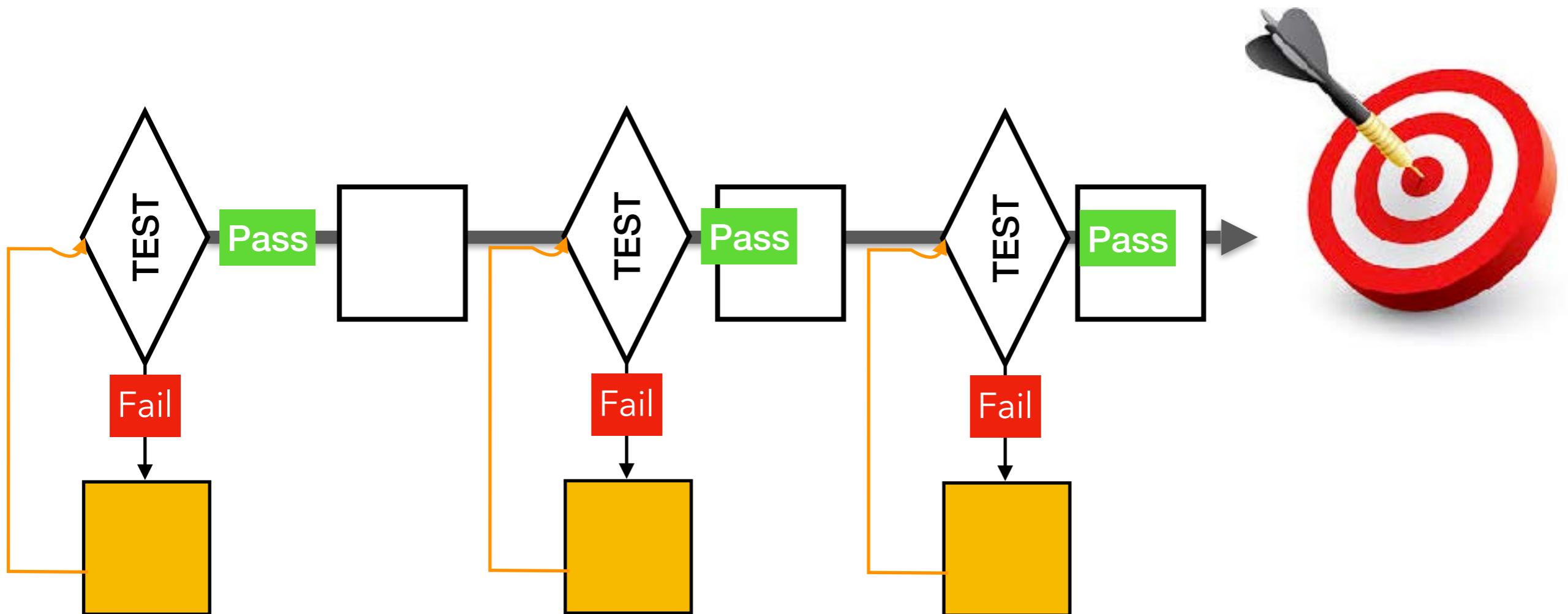


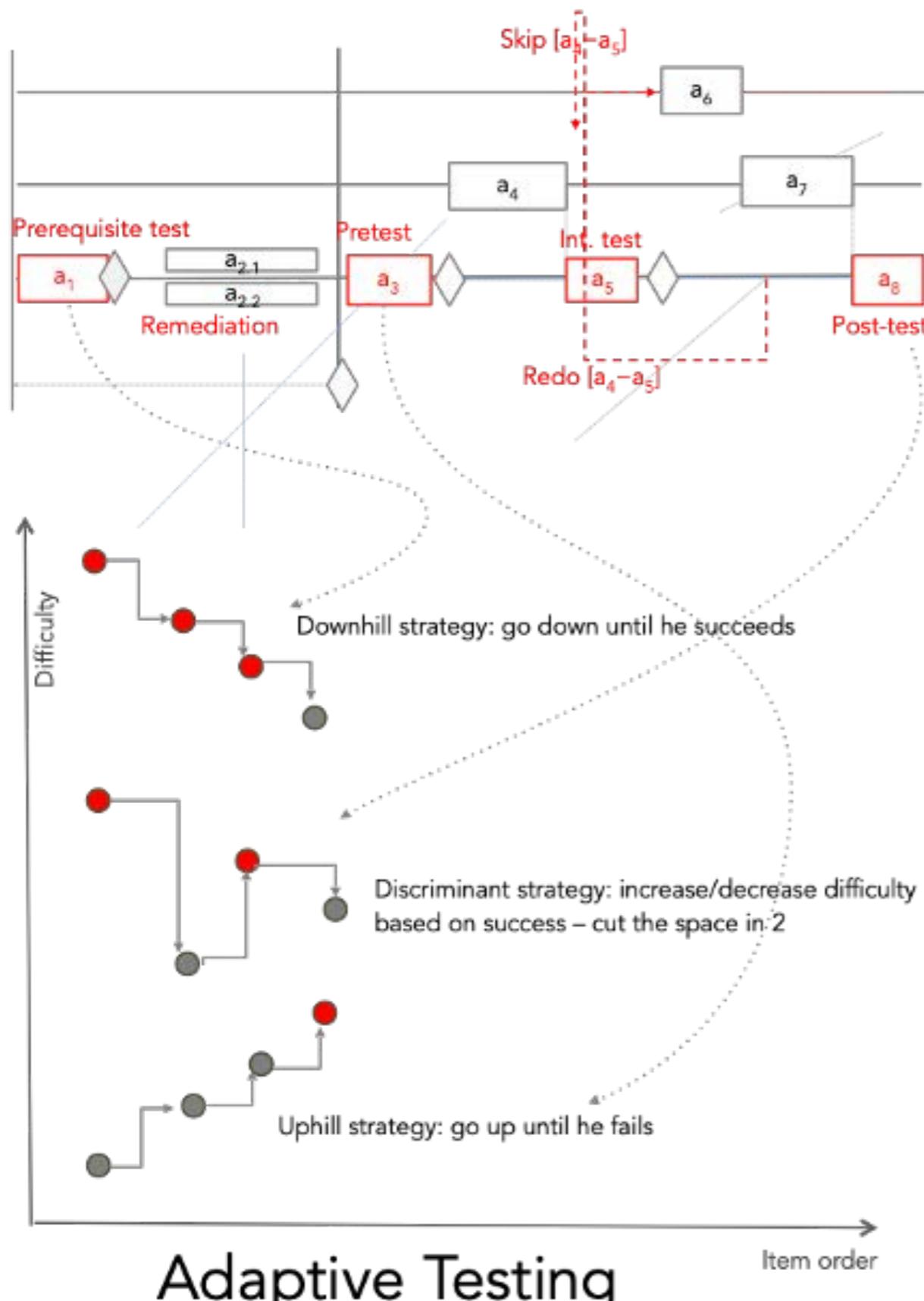
Which ice cube will melt faster ?

Misconceptions must me trapped
otherwise they survive teaching

Mastery learning:

Control mastery of skill_i before to go to skill_{i+1}





Modular Instruction

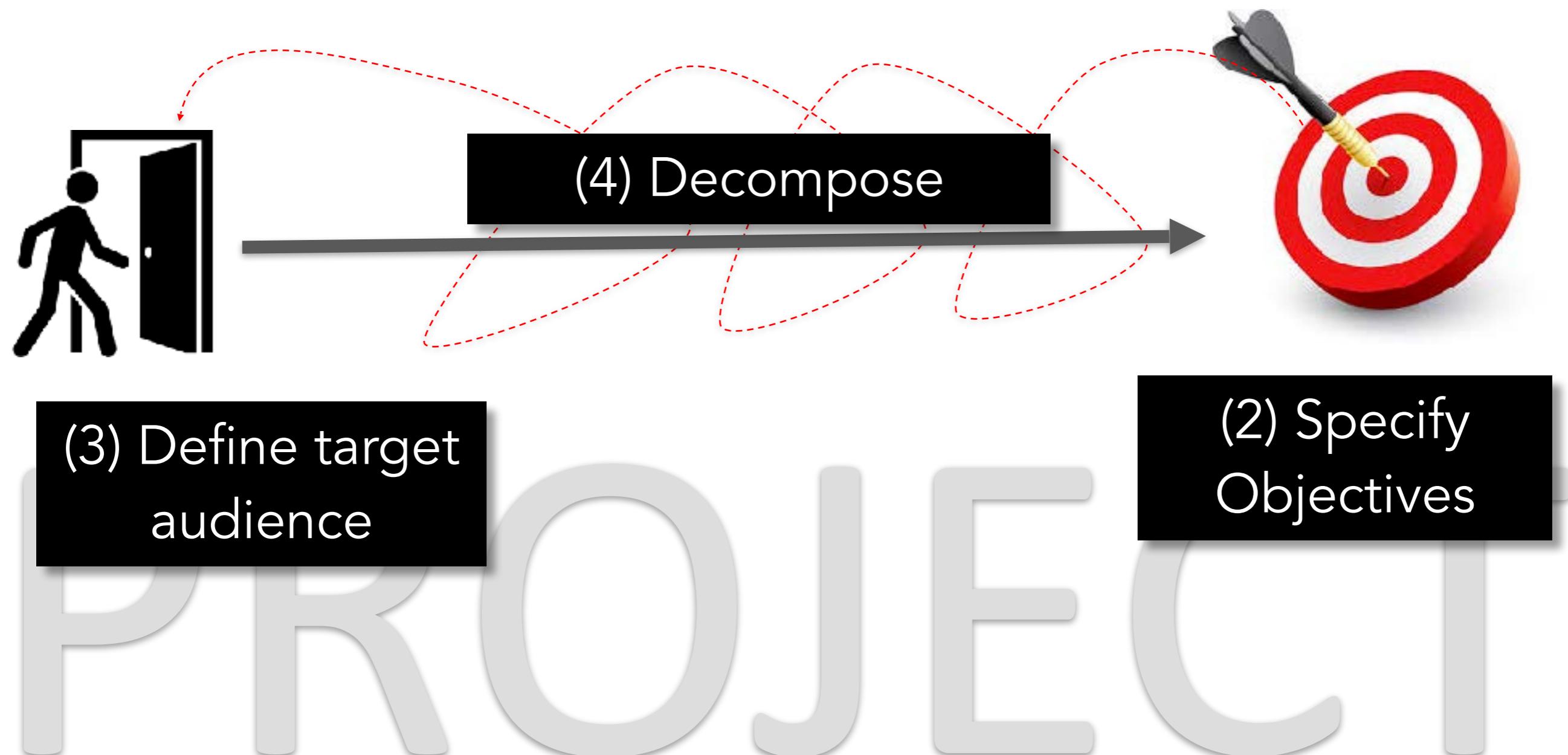
Pre-requisite test: Does the learner has the pre-requisite to start the course ?

Pre-test: Should the learner skip some modules ?

Intermediate-test: Did the learner reach the objectives of this module ?

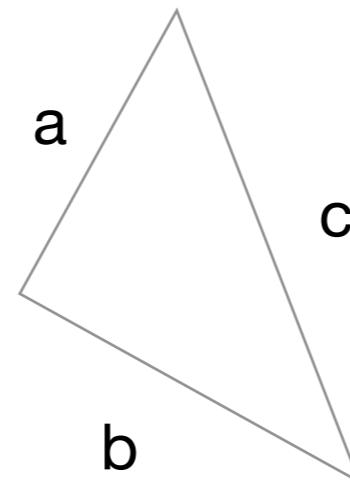
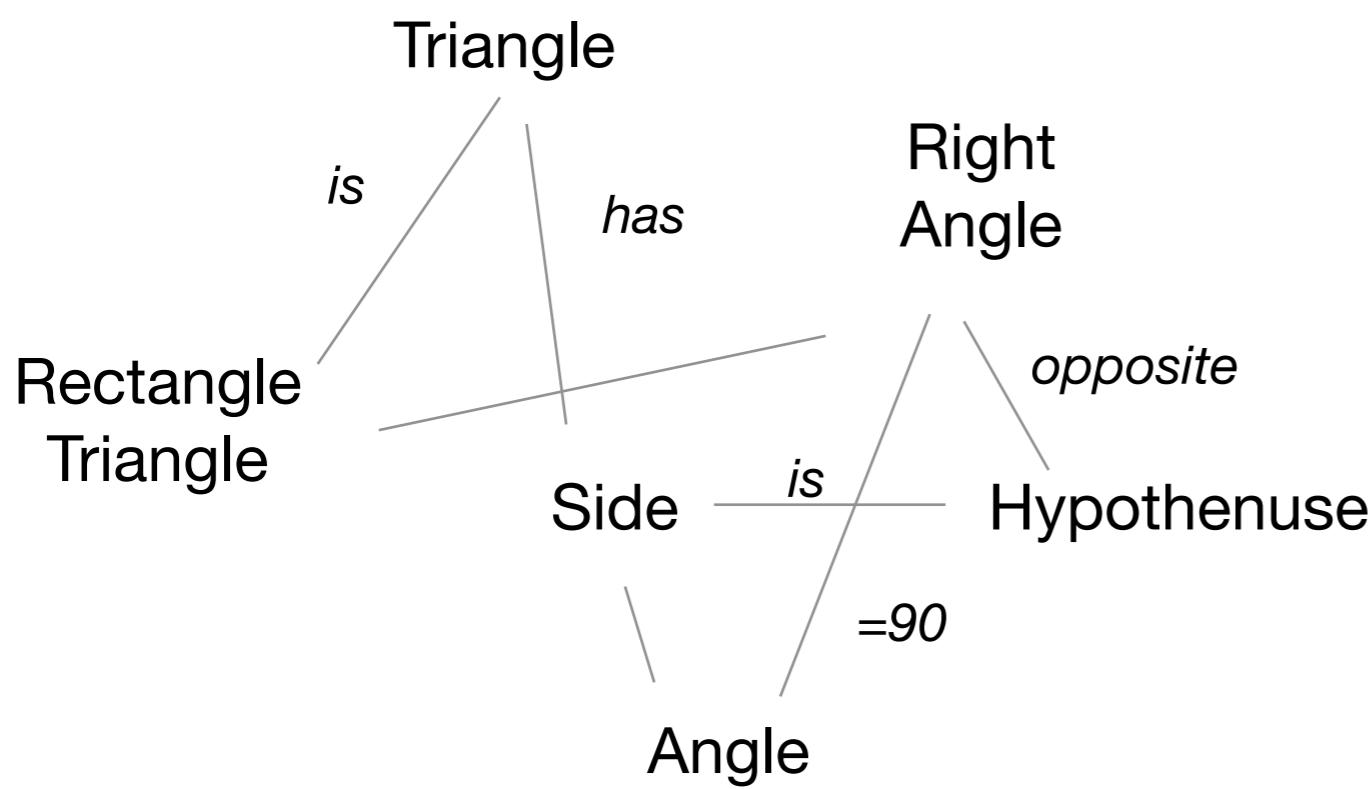
Post-test: Did the learner reach the objectives of this course?

(1) Pick a topic on which one of you is expert



(4) Decompose

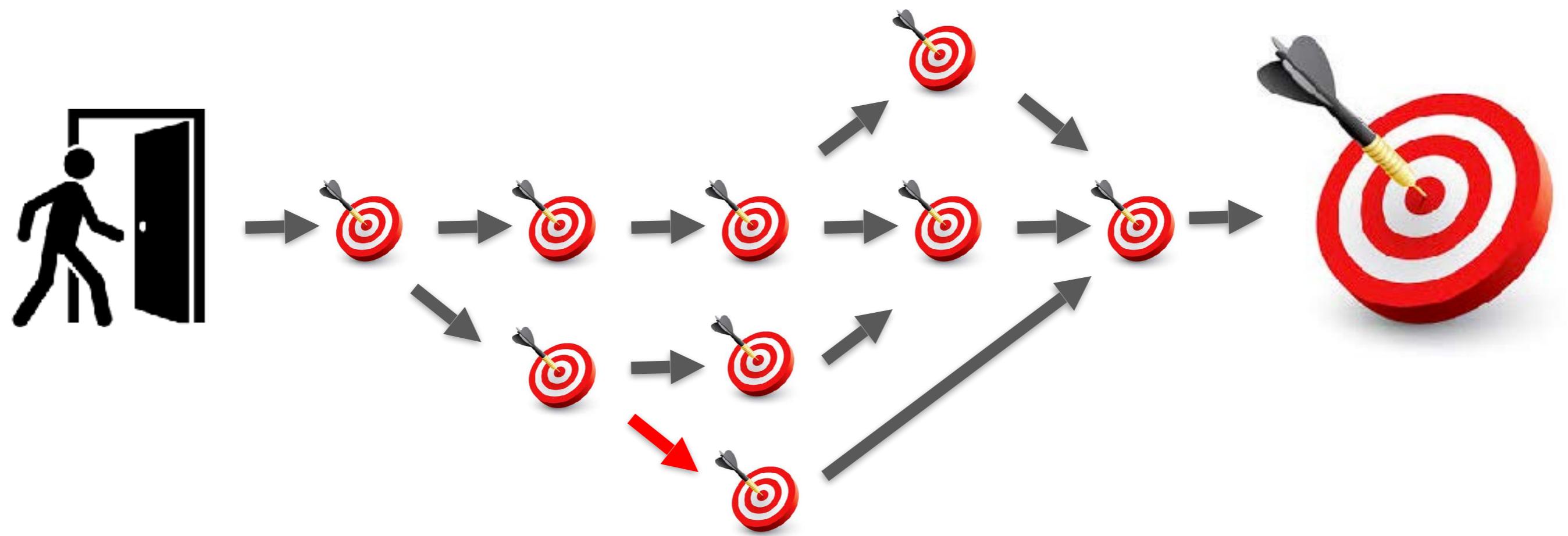
Knowledge Graph



Algorithm

1. Measure A
2. Compute A^2
3. Measure B
4. Compute B^2
5. $A^2 + B^2 = C^2$
6. $C = \text{SQRT}(C^2)$

Adaptive Instruction



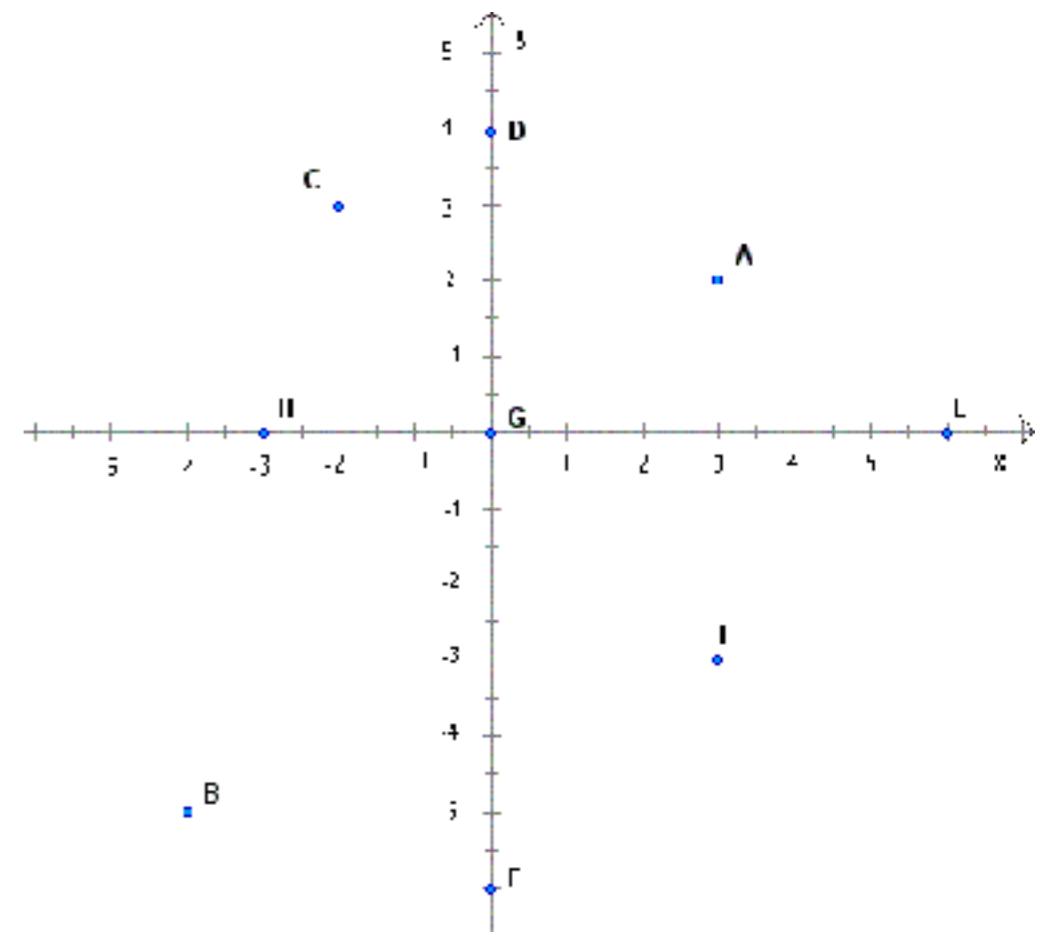
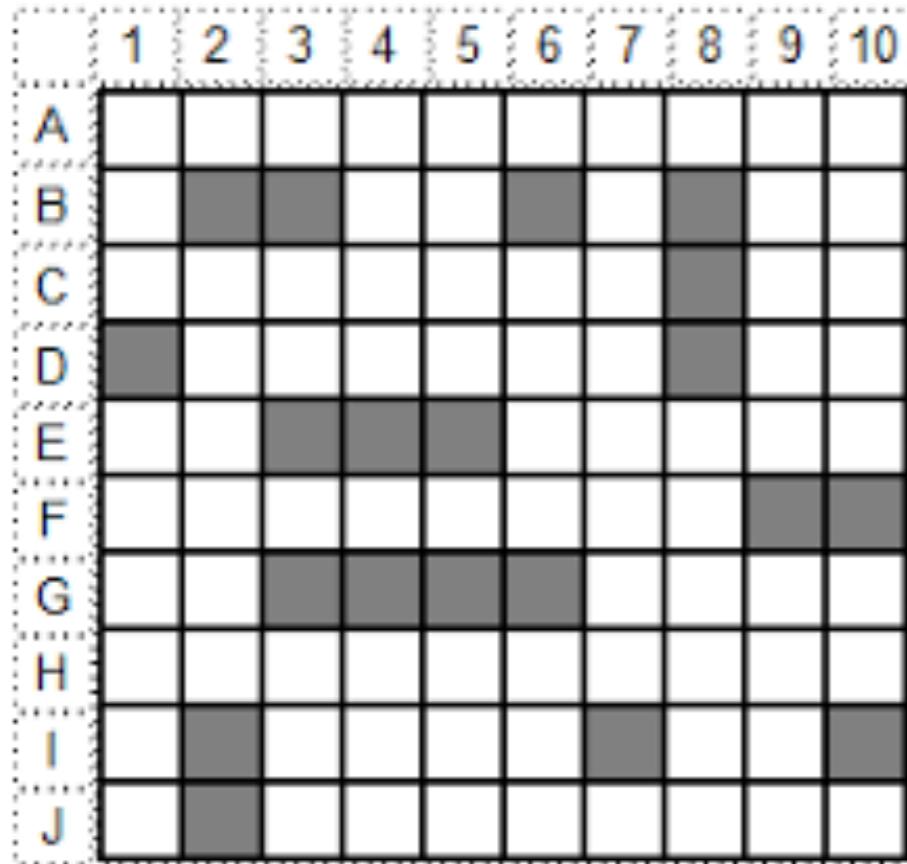
Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. ...

Why is an activity a_1 useful for an activity a_2 ?

Advance organizer :

a_1 pre-activates structures for a_2



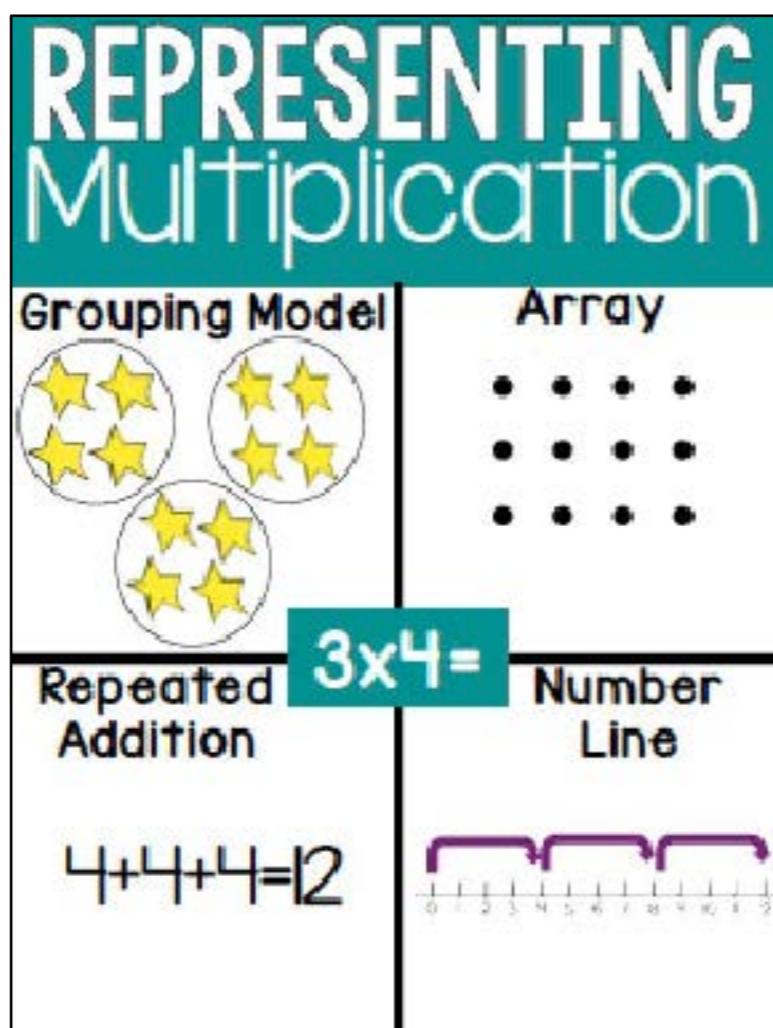
Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. a_i pre-activates cognitive schema for a_{i+1}
3. ...

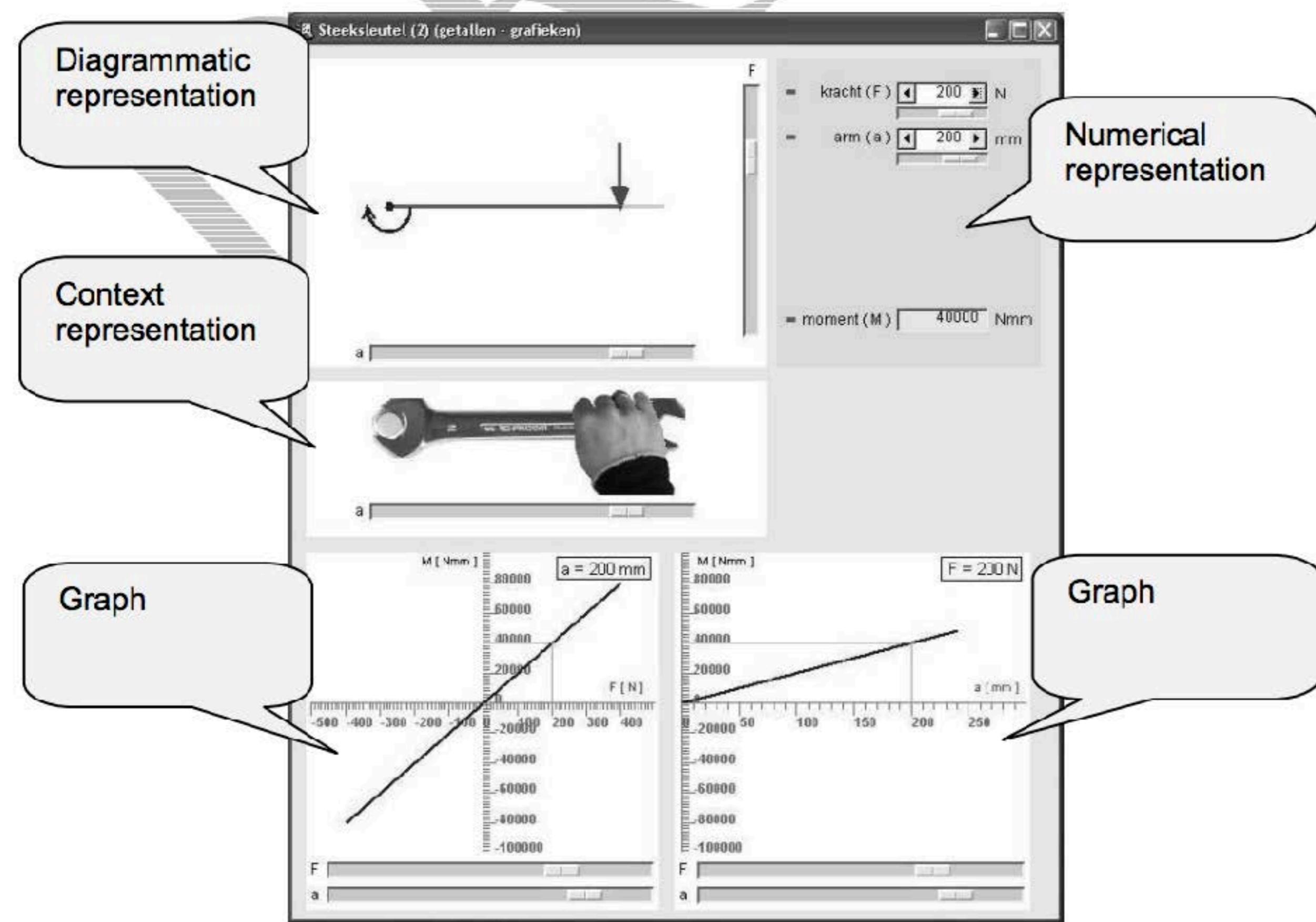
Why is an activity a_1 useful for an activity a_2 ?

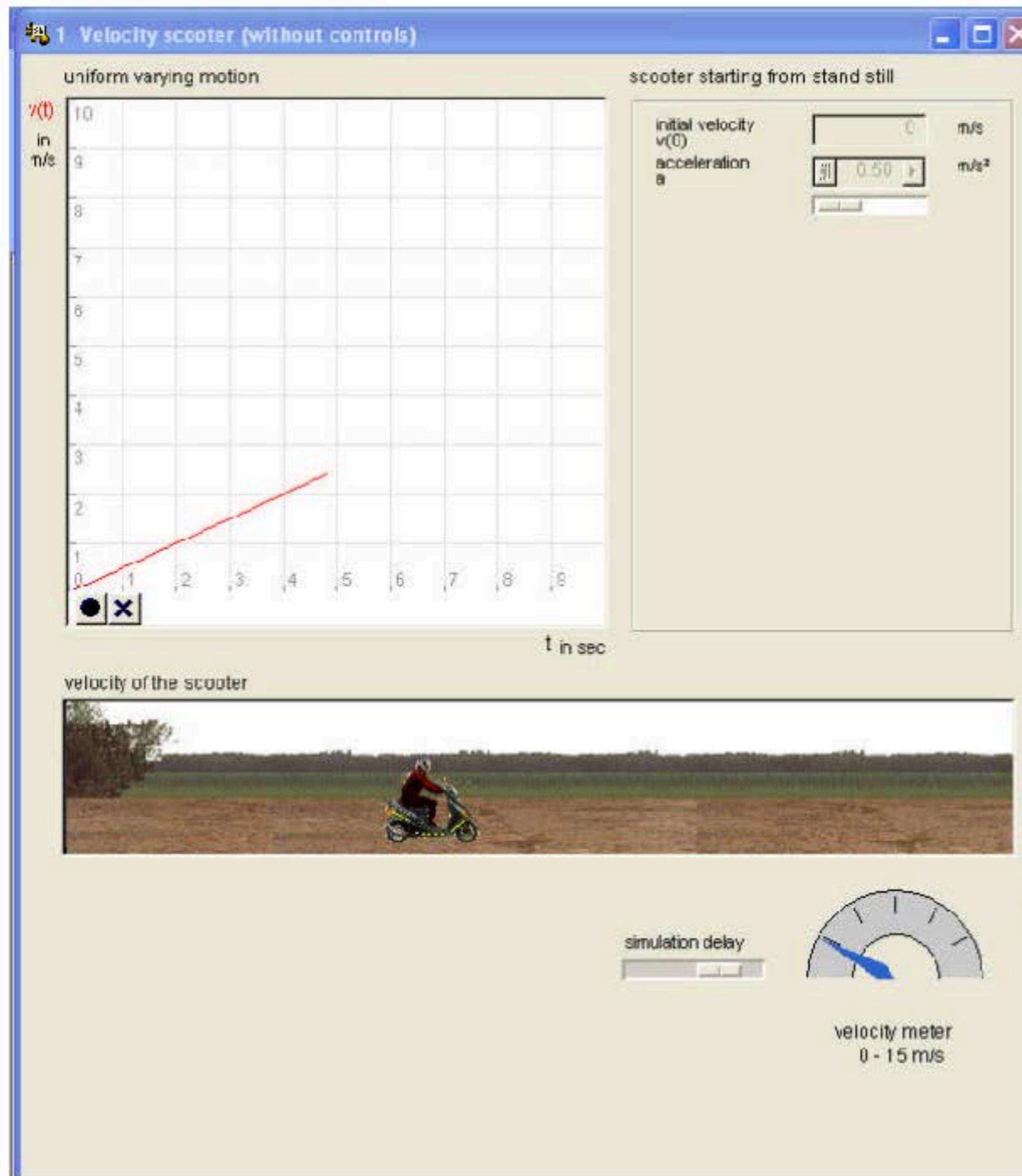
Shift Representation:

a_2 represents contents differently from a_1



There is a large body of empirical studies that show that it is beneficial for learners to **switch between multiple representations**.





Assignment Image

A photograph of a silver marker and a green and yellow scooter. The scooter has yellow dashed lines on its body. A 'Close' button is at the bottom right.

You have 1 attempt left

Assignment

Try to make the velocity of the scooter 8 m/s in 4 seconds.

You've to do this by giving the right value to the **acceleration**.

You may try two times.

Start

Close

DEMIST - tsp.mel

File Edit View Controller Window Help

ERs

Graph: P and N v Time

Time: 60

N (Field 1) P (Field 1)

Animation: Change(X) and X

Field 1

$dN/dT: 0.3764$

$N: 23.8403$

$dP/dT: 0.1076$

$P: 7.4870$

Table: N and P

| | N | P |
|----|------|------|
| 0 | 20.0 | 5.0 |
| 5 | 30.4 | 5.4 |
| 10 | 37.1 | 6.6 |
| 15 | 34.9 | 8.5 |
| 20 | 26.6 | 10.2 |
| 25 | 18.6 | 10.8 |
| 30 | 13.6 | 10.5 |
| 35 | 11.3 | 9.7 |
| 40 | 10.9 | 8.8 |
| 45 | 12.0 | 7.9 |
| 50 | 14.4 | 7.4 |
| 55 | 17.9 | 7.1 |
| 60 | 21.6 | 7.2 |
| 65 | | |
| 70 | | |
| 75 | | |

Simple Equation

Field 1

Simple Mathematical Model

$dN/dT = \text{Potential}(N) - \text{Killed}(N)$

0.38 5.73 5.35

$dP/dT = \text{Potential}(P) - \text{Dead}(P)$

0.11 0.48 0.37

NB if P density was 0, killed (N) would be 0 and the behaviour would be the same as single species limited growth.

Chart: b(N) and d(P)

b (N) d (P)

Field 1

Phaseplot: P v N

Field 1

Time: 60

Animated N and P

Field 1

Controller

Run

Start

Review

Task

Initialize

Next Unit

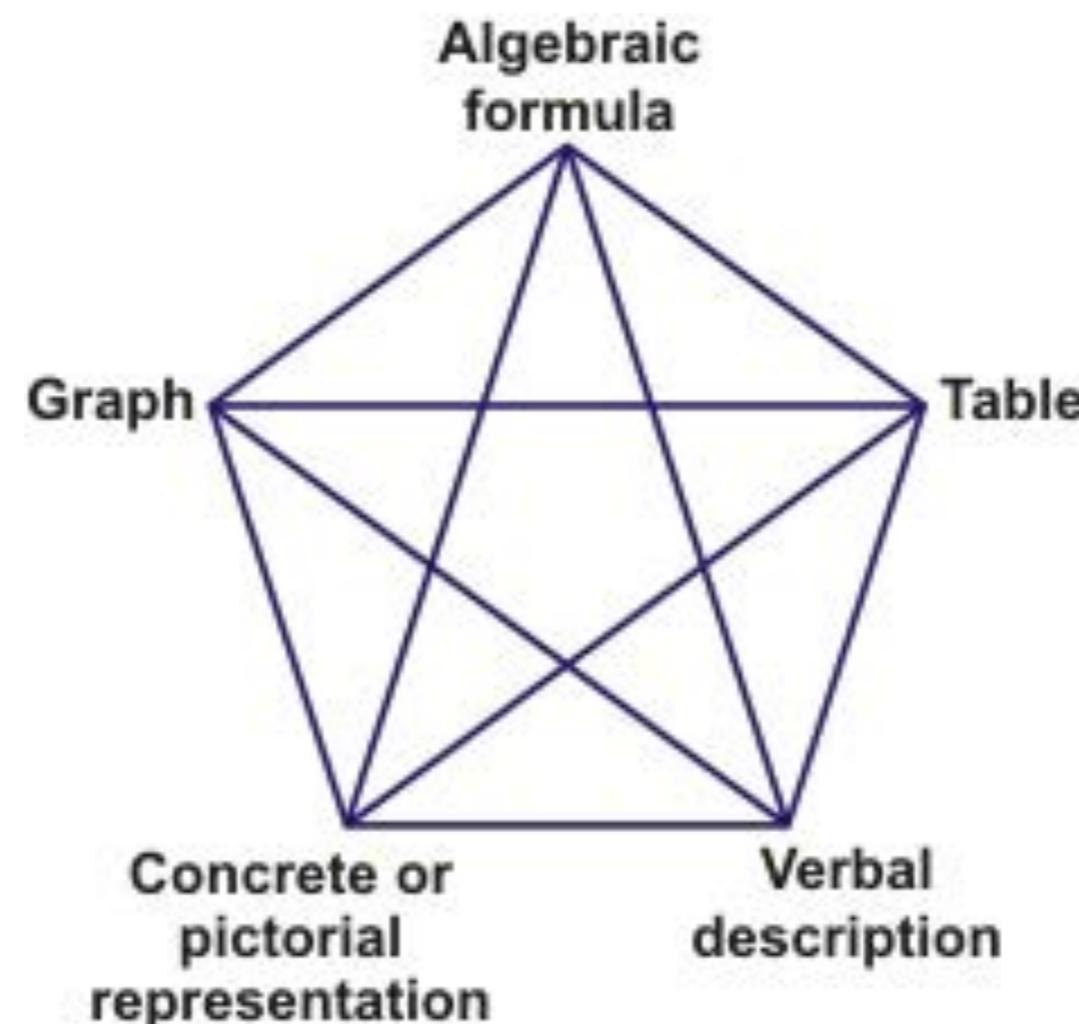
Learning mode

For Help, press F1

Why is an activity a_1 useful for an activity a_2 ?

Shift Representation:

a_2 represents contents differently from a_1

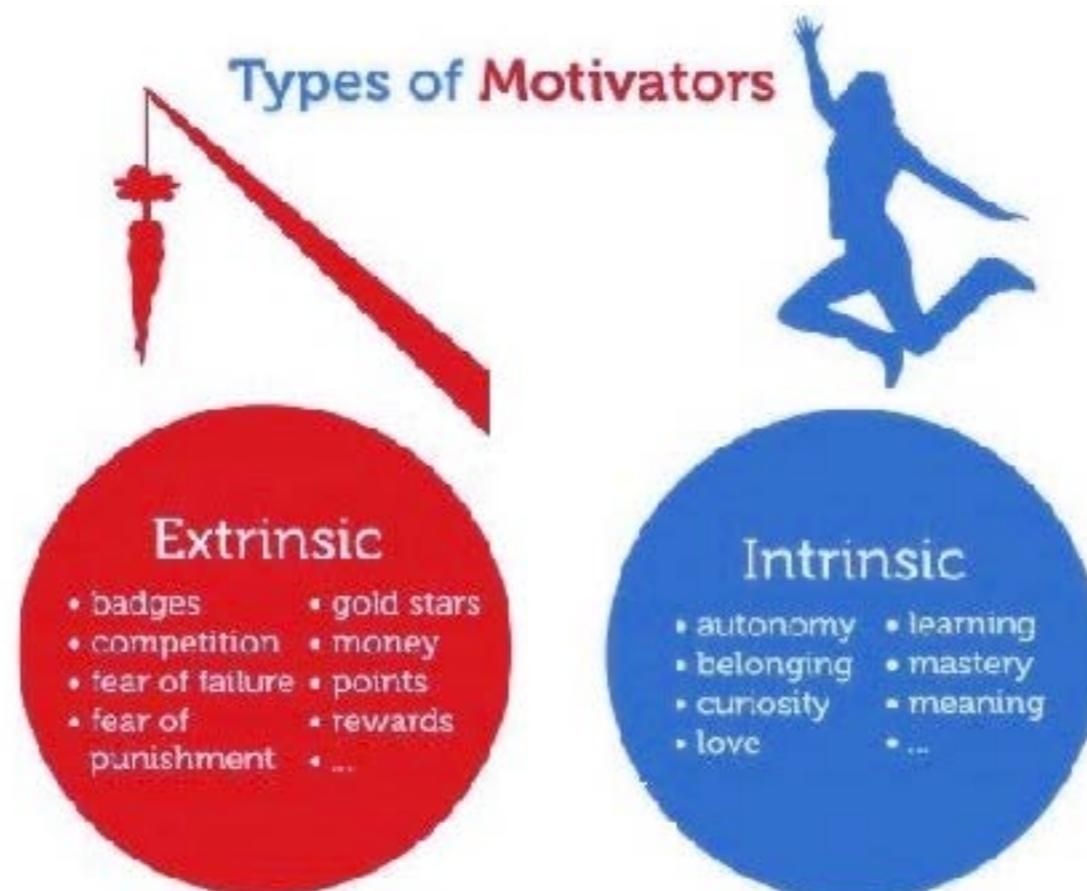


Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. a_i is pre-activates cognitive schema for a_{i+1}
3. a_{i+1} varies the representations used in a_1
4. ...

Why did you take this class ?

- A. I am passioned about education
- B. I have been told it's an easy one
- C. I had nothing on Tuesday morning
- D. I would like to create an EdTech start-up



Gamification

(even in corporate training)

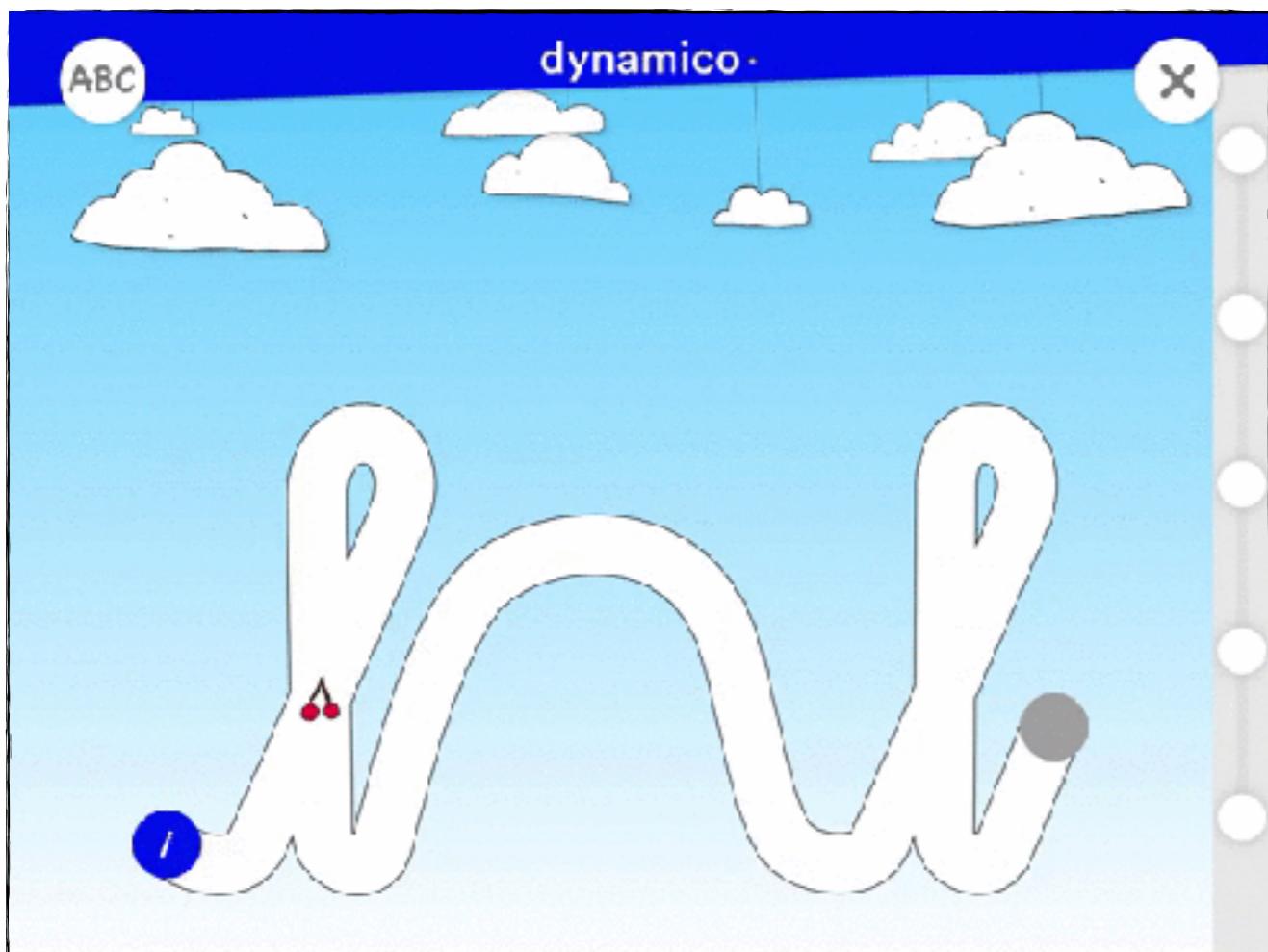
The image shows a screenshot of a corporate training platform named "coorpacademy". The top navigation bar includes "coorpacademy", "Esprit du temps", "Explorer", "Battler", "Plus", and user icons for "Me", "Mémo", and "Dépôt".

The main banner features a landscape with hot air balloons and the text: "Ravi de vous revoir Lucie, continuez votre cours" and "Du management classique au management émancipant". A "Continuer à apprendre" button is visible.

The left sidebar menu has tabs: "ACCUEIL" (selected), "MA PROGRESSION", "BATTLES", and "NEWS". The "ACCUEIL" tab shows a "VOTRE SCORE" of 48, a "BATTLES" section with "Matthieu" and a "NEWS" section.

The central content area shows a "BATTLES" section for "Matthieu" with the message: "Ravi de vous revoir Lucie, vérifiez vos demandes de battles" and "Vous avez 1 demande de battle!". It also shows a "PROGRESSION" section with a "VOTRE CLASSEMENT" of 18^{ème} and a "Bronze" achievement badge.

The bottom section displays course modules: "La femme, un leader comme les autres" (with 3/3 steps completed), "Gestion du stress et des émotions" (with 3/3 steps completed), and "Gestion des conflits" (with 3/3 steps completed).



Game

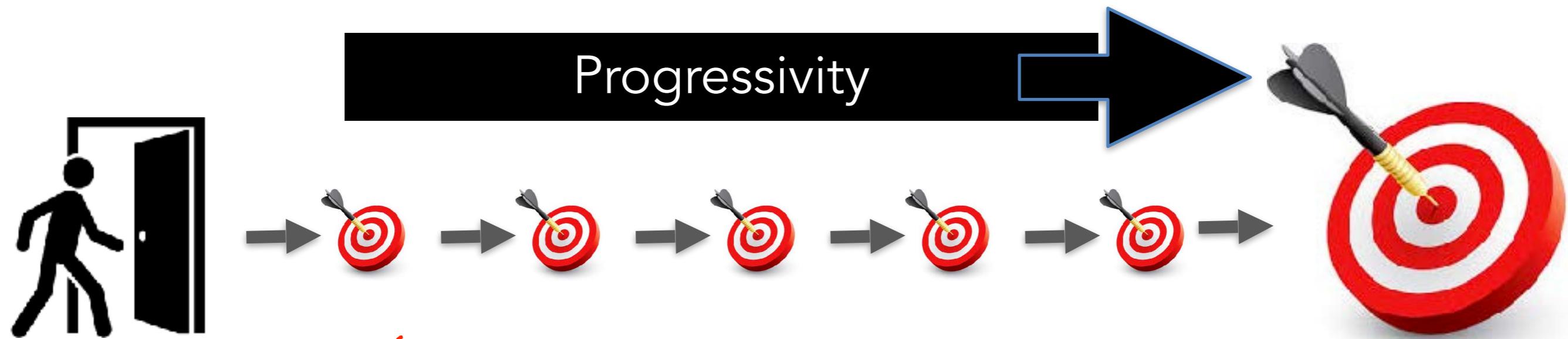
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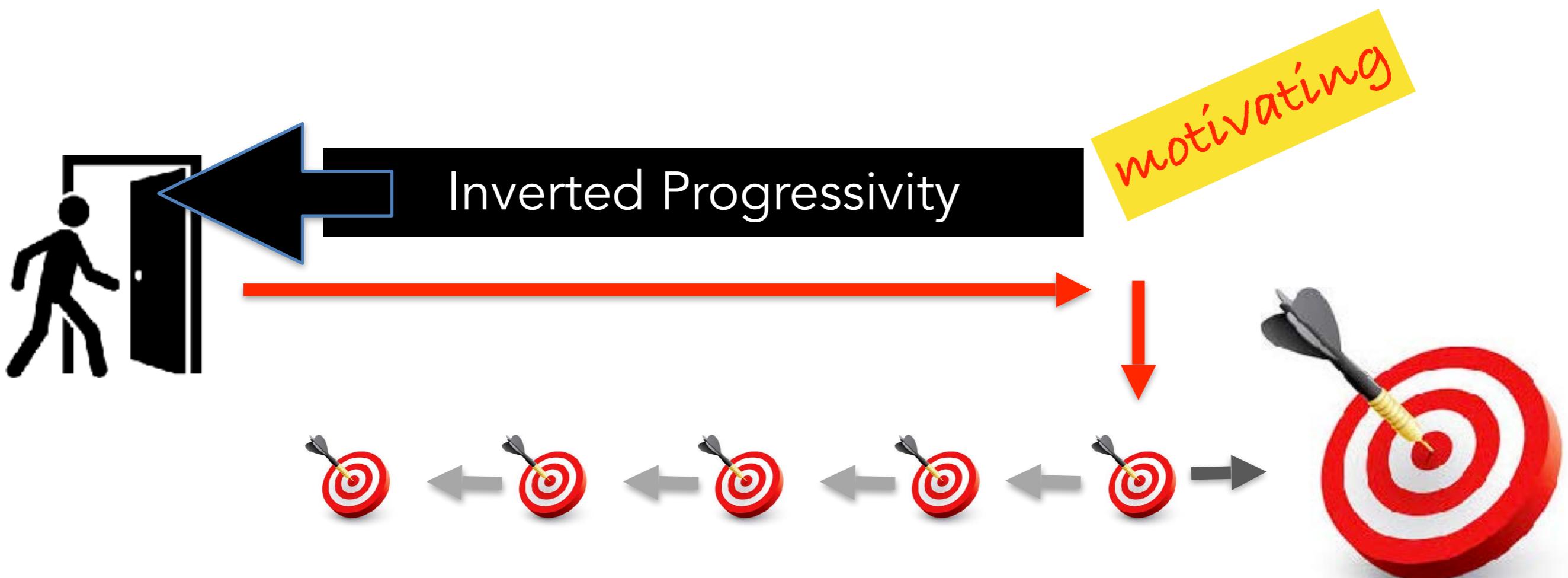
Gamification



Gamification



easier



motivating

Why is an activity a_1 useful for an activity a_2 ?

Motivation:

a_1 frustrate learners so that they want to do a_2

« what you learned before enabled you to solve problems so far, but here are new problems »

Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. a_i pre-activates cognitive schema for a_{i+1}
3. a_{i+1} varies the representations used in a_1
4. a_i brings motivation for a_{i+1}
5. ...

Why is an activity a_1 useful for an activity a_2 ?

$$5 \times < 27$$

a_i

A chocolate bar costs 5 CHF.
How many bars can you buy for 27 CHF

a_i

A man walks 1 km in 5 min.
How many km can he walk in 27 min



Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. a_i pre-activates cognitive schema for a_{i+1}
3. a_{i+1} varies the representations used in a_1
4. a_i brings motivation for a_{i+1}
5. a_{i+1} practices the transfer of skills acquired in a_1
- 6.

Why is an activity a_i useful for an activity a_{i+1} ?

1. a_i is prerequisite to a_{i+1}
2. a_i pre-activates cognitive schema for a_{i+1}
3. a_{i+1} varies the representations used in a_1
4. a_i brings motivation for a_{i+1}
5. a_{i+1} practices the transfer of skills acquired in a_1
6. a_{j+1} summarizes in $\{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$
7. a_{i+2} contrasts examples used in a_1 and a_2

How do people learn ?

by exploration, trial and error

by incremental mastery

- by verbal elaboration

There is no « modern » pedagogy