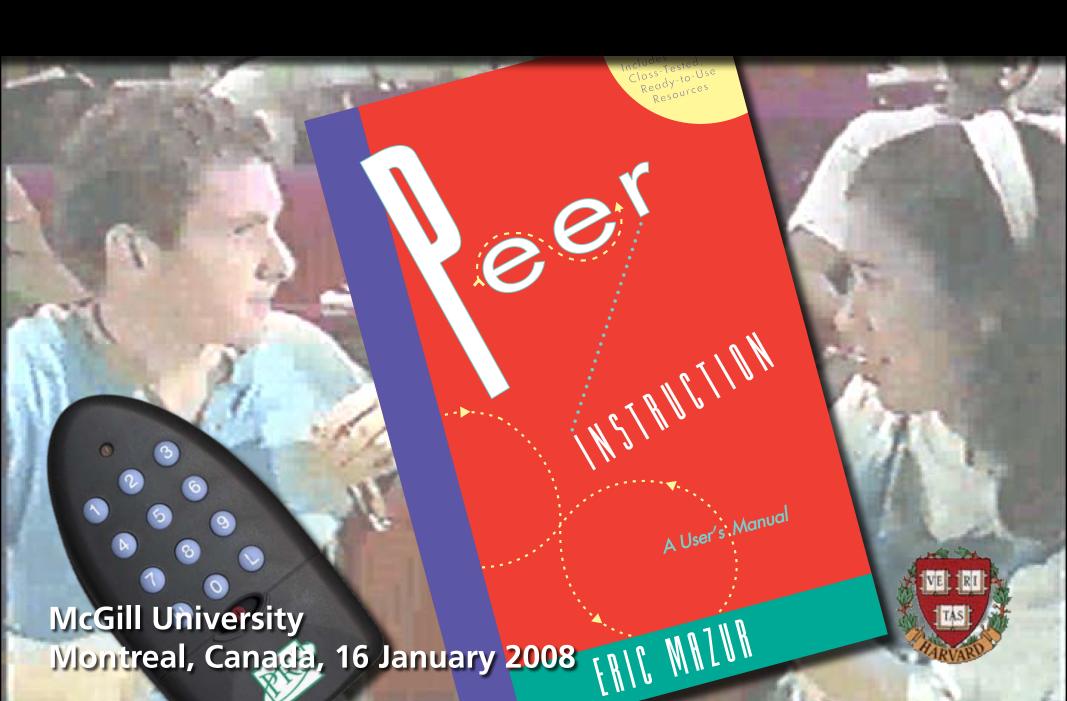
#### **Peer Instruction Workshop**



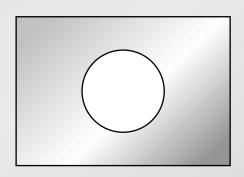


### **Outline**

#### Some options:

- Let's try it!
- Feedback methods
- Research: providing the basis for change
- Problems with problems
- Resources
- Barriers to reform

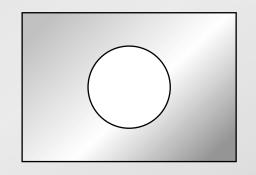
Consider a rectangular metal plate with a circular hole in it.



Consider a rectangular metal plate with a circular hole in it.

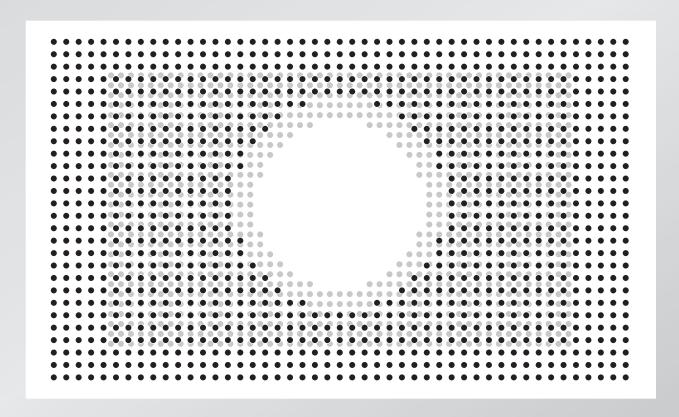
When the plate is uniformly heated, the diameter of the hole

- 1. increases.
- 2. stays the same.
- 3. decreases.

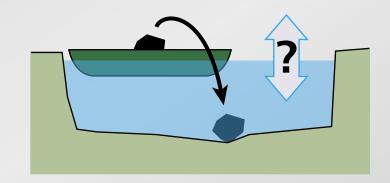


It's easy to fire up the audience!

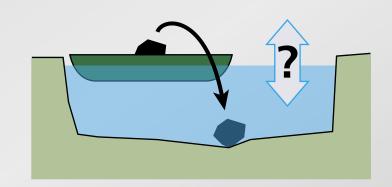
The distance between the atoms increases uniformly



A boat carrying a large boulder is floating on a small pond. The boulder is thrown overboard and sinks to the bottom of the pond.



A boat carrying a large boulder is floating on a small pond. The boulder is thrown overboard and sinks to the bottom of the pond.



After the boulder sinks to the bottom of the pond, the level of the water in the pond is

- 1. higher than
- 2. the same as
- 3. lower than

it was when the boulder was in the boat.

We all make mistakes!

When we hold a page of printed text in front of a mirror, the text on the image in the mirror runs from right to left:

#### The New York Times

When we hold a page of printed text in front of a mirror, the text on the image in the mirror runs from right to left:

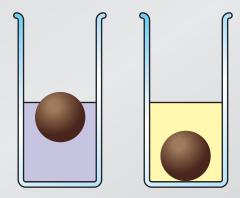
#### The New York Times

Why is it that right and left are interchanged and not top and bottom? Because:

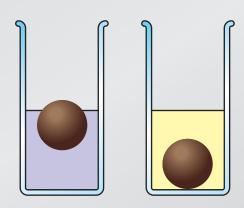
- 1. the mirror is oriented vertically.
- 2. we have two eyes in the horizontal plane.
- 3. the Earth's gravitation is directed downward.
- 4. a habit we have when looking at images in a mirror.
- 5. It only appears to run from left to right.

It's "simple" only if you know the answer

Consider an object that floats in water, but sinks in oil. When the object floats in water, most of it is submerged.

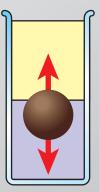


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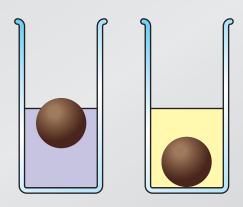


If we slowly pour the oil on top of the water so it completely covers the object, the object

- 1. moves up.
- 2. stays in the same place.
- 3. moves down.

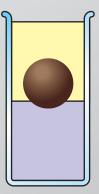


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It's easy to make simple demonstrations fascinating!

### **Developing ConcepTests**

#### **Good ConcepTests:**

- are based on student difficulties
- focus on single concept
- cannot be solved by "plug and chug"
- are clear and concise
- are of manageable difficulty

#### **Developing ConcepTests**

Try writing a ConcepTests on the following topic:

The acceleration due to gravity is constant

### **Developing ConcepTests**

A ball is thrown downward (not dropped) from the top of a tower.

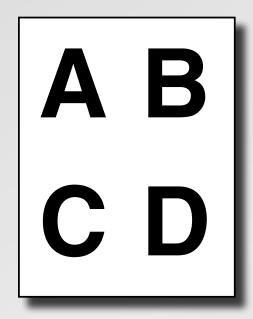
After being released, its downward acceleration is:

- 1. greater than g
- 2. exactly *g*
- 3. smaller than g

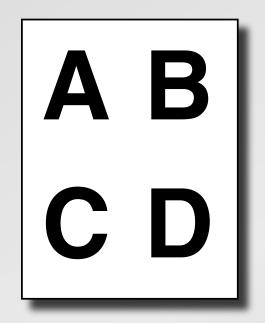
**Show of hands:** 

easy, but only moderately effective

Flashcards: simple and effective



#### Flashcards: simple and effective





Meltzer and Mannivanan, South Eastern Louisiana University

Infrared transmitters (PRS): easy collection of data



#### Infrared transmitters (PRS): easy collection of data

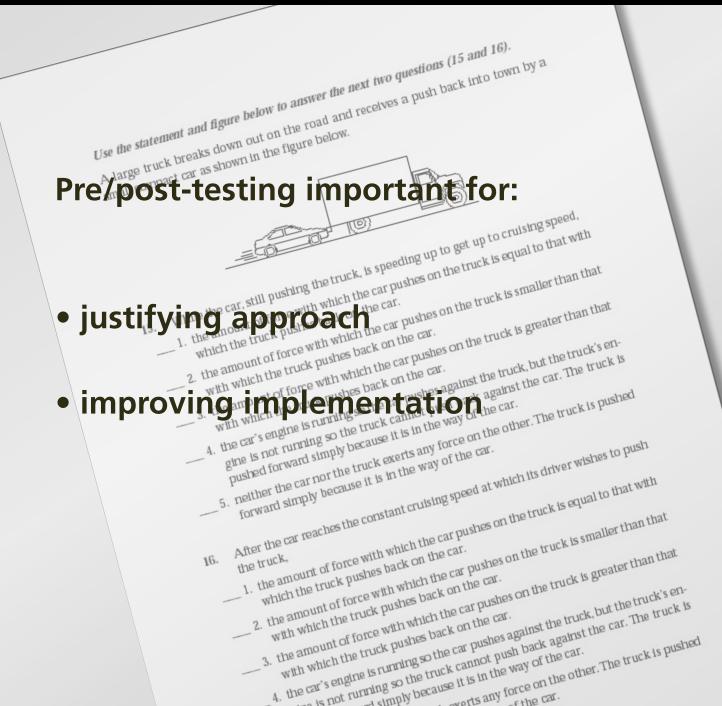




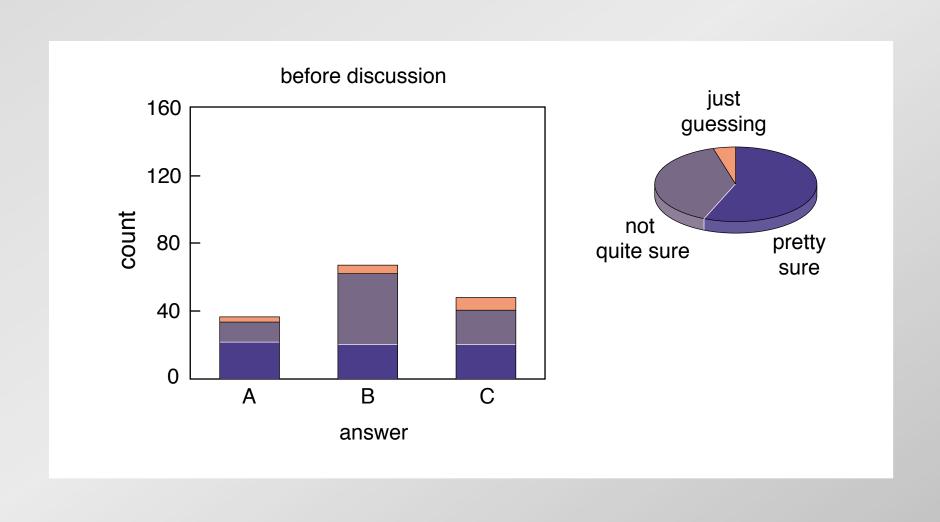
Kristy Beauvais, Concord Carlisle High School

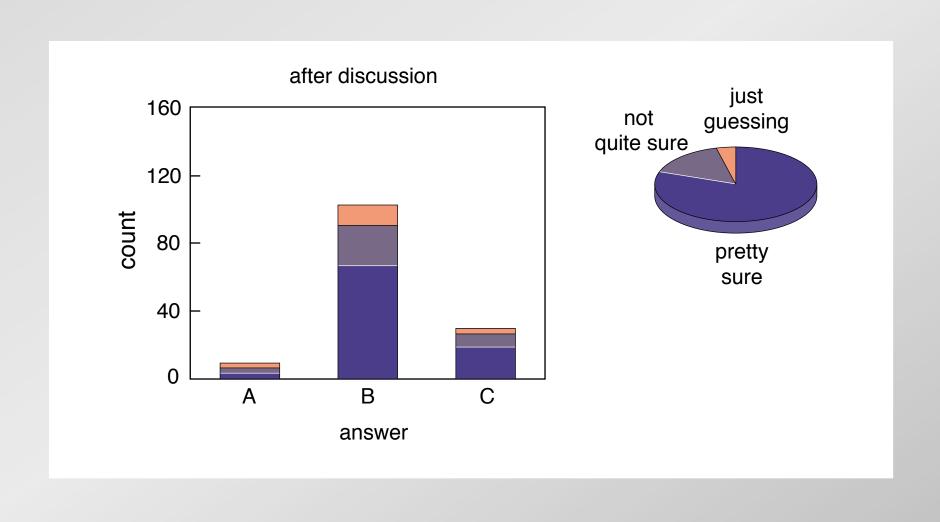


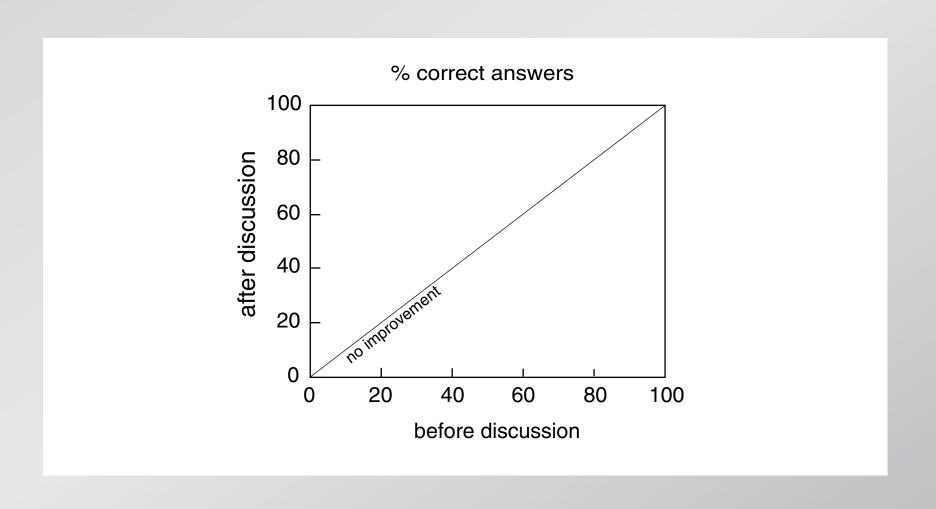


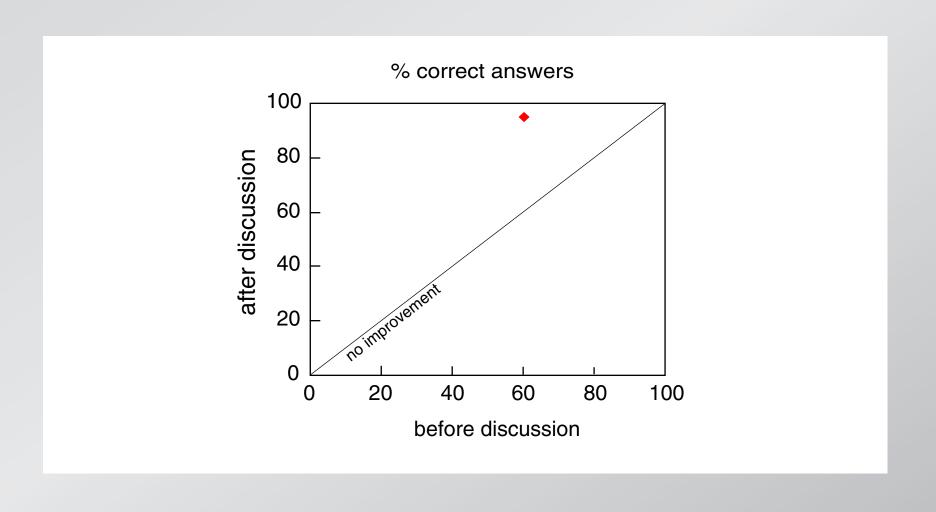


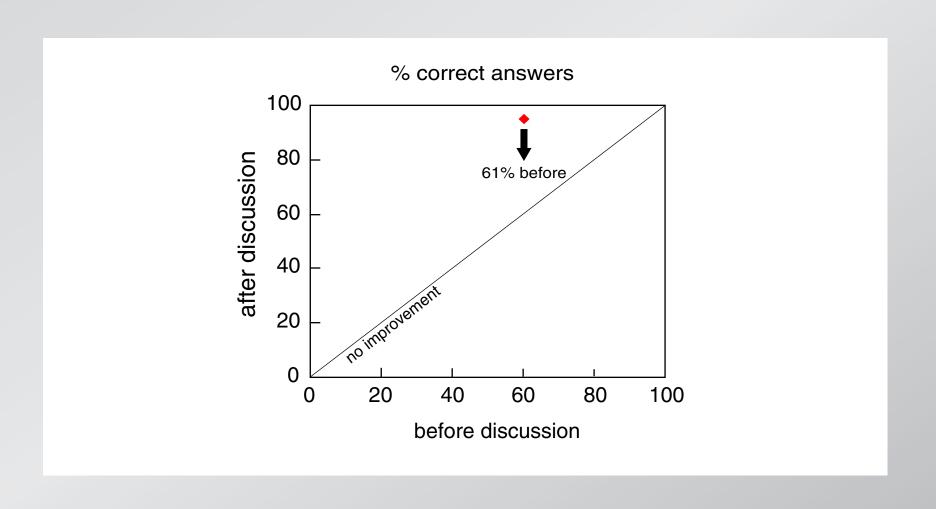
Evaluate assessment by comparing student performance on various kinds of problems

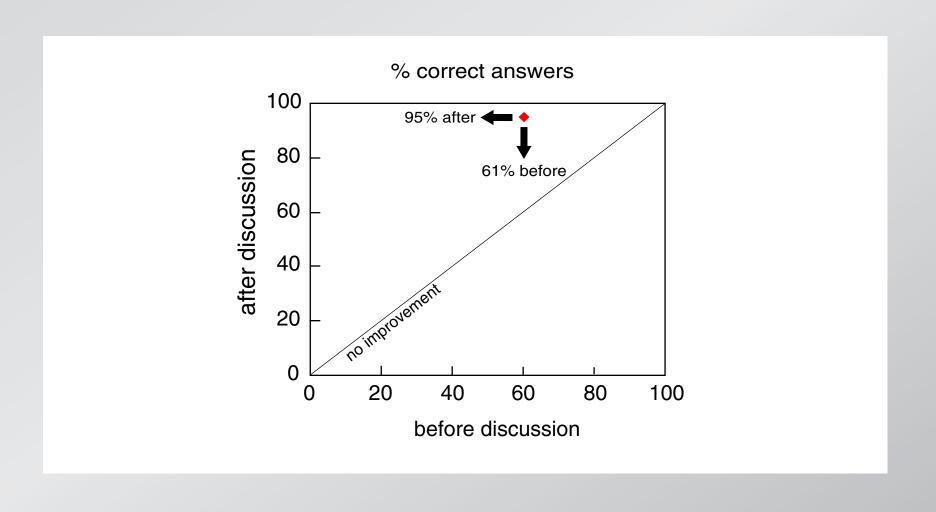


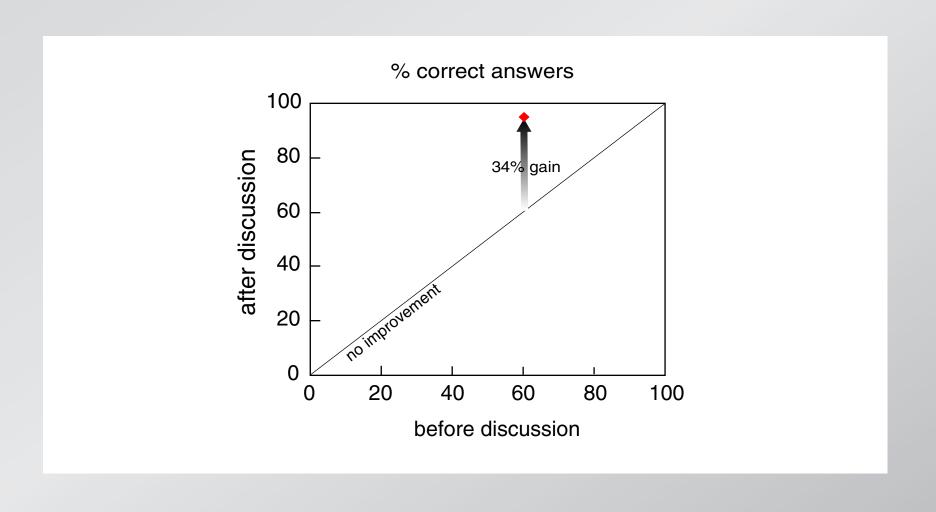


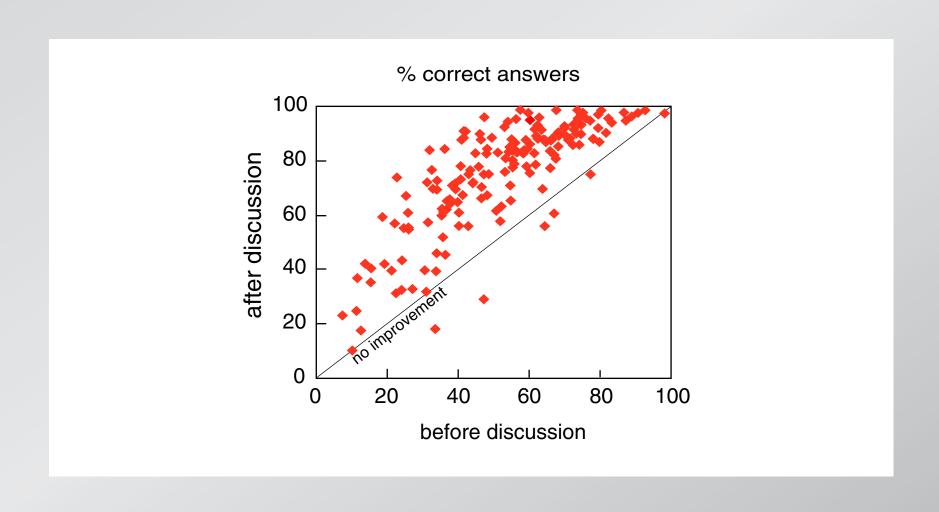


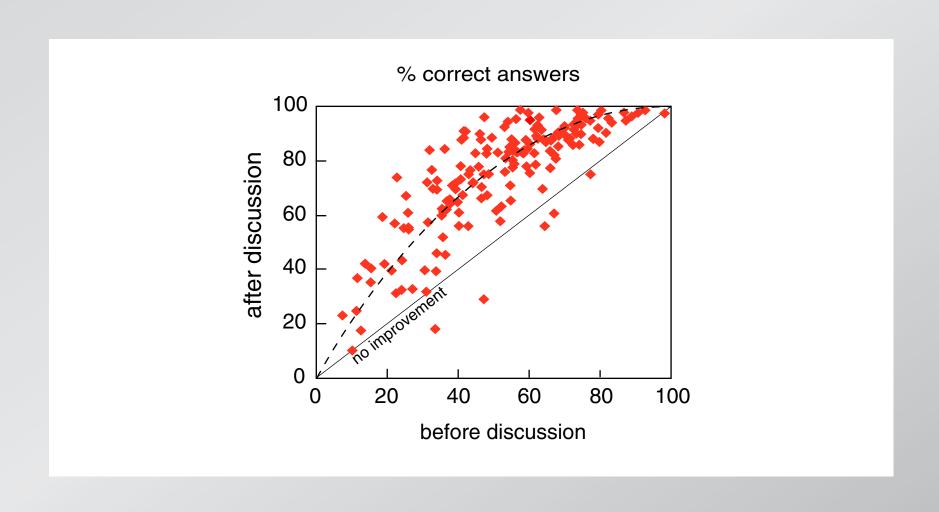




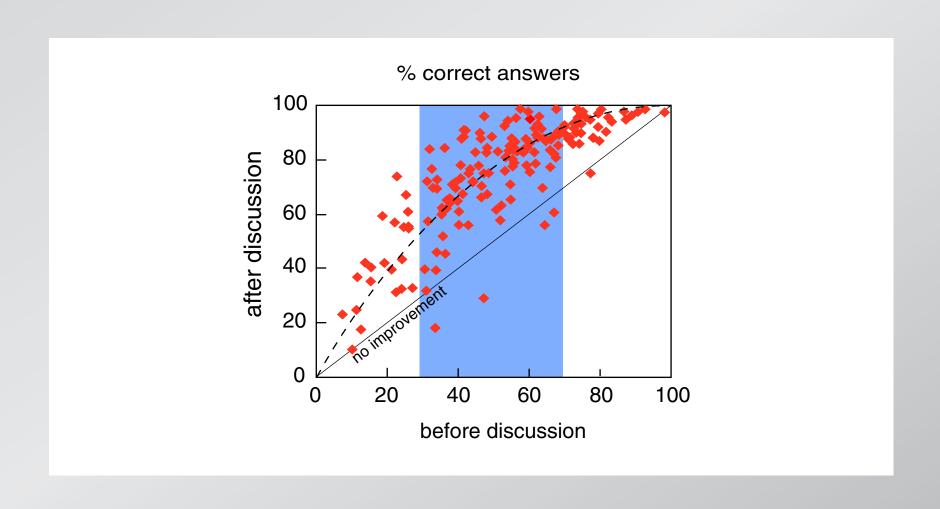




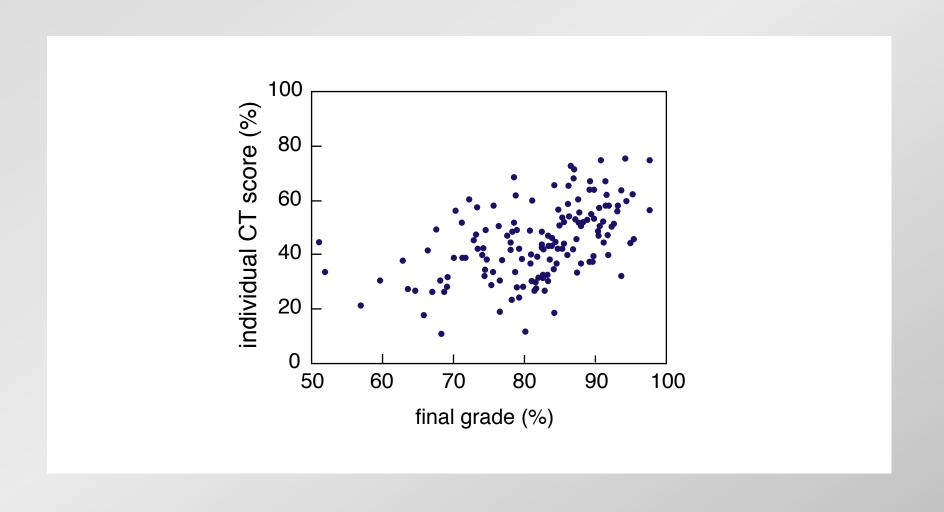




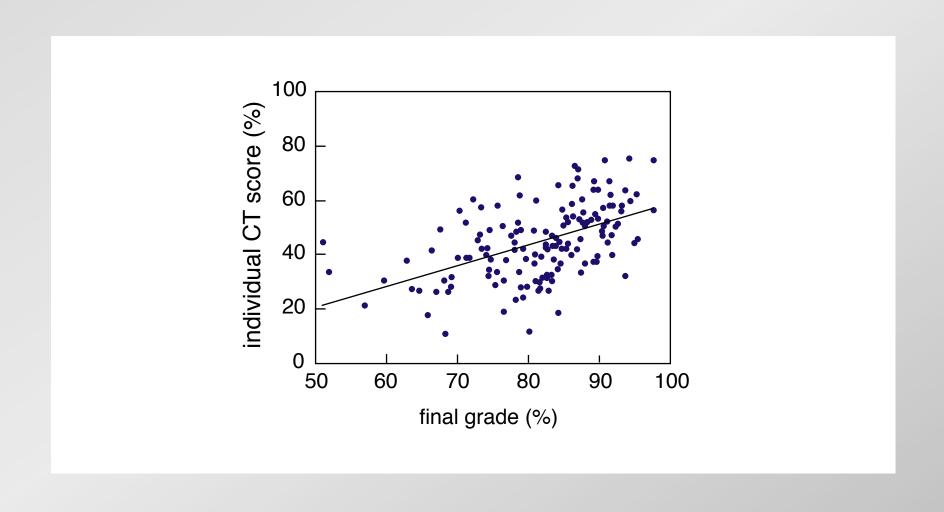
#### ConcepTest data



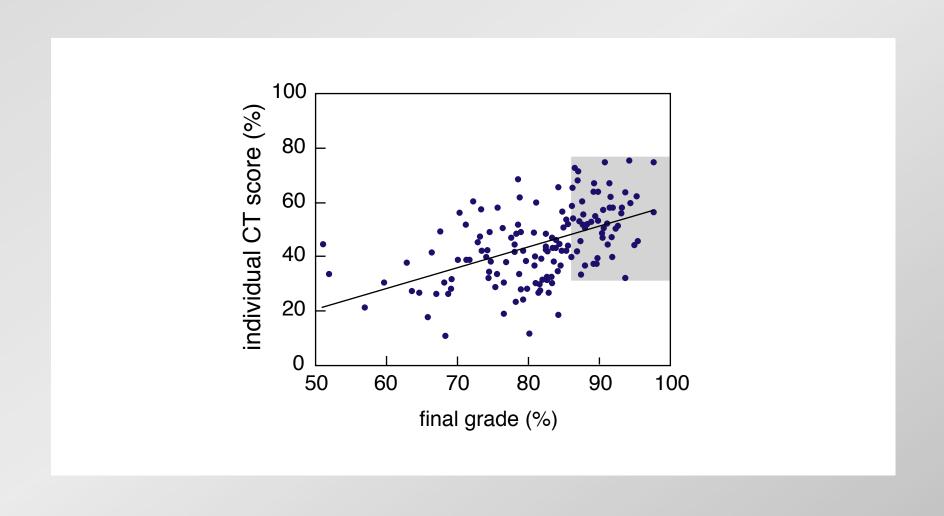
#### who benefits from the ConcepTests?



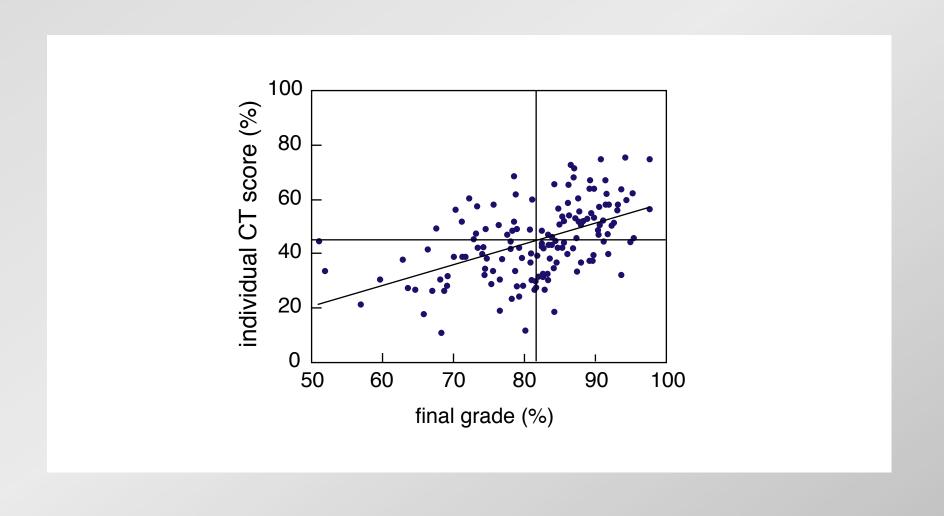
#### who benefits from the ConcepTests?



#### even the best students are challenged



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On a Saturday afternoon, you pull into a parking lot with unmetered spaces near a shopping area. You circle around, but there are no empty spots. You decide to wait at one end of the lot, where you can see (and command) about 20 spaces.

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How long do you have to wait before someone frees up a space?

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**Requires:** 

Assumptions
Developing a model
Applying that model

On a Saturday afternoon, you pull into a parking lot with unmetered spaces near a shopping area. You circle around, but there are no empty spots. You decide to wait at one end of the lot, where you can see (and command) about 20 spaces. On average people shop for 2 hours.

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**Requires:** 

Applying a (new) model

On a Saturday afternoon, you pull into a parking lot with unmetered spaces near a shopping area, where people are know to shop, on average, for 2 hours. You circle around, but there are no empty spots. You decide to wait at one end of the lot, where you can see (and command) about 20 spaces.

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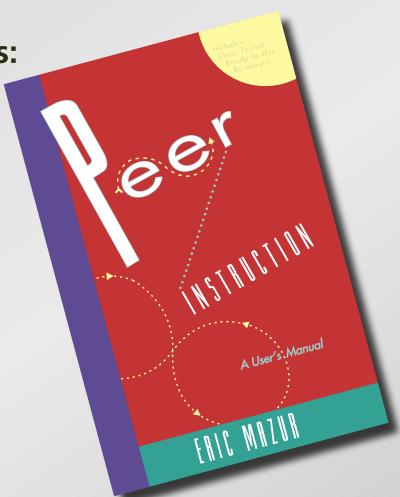
**Requires:** 

**Using a calculator** 

$$t_{wait} = \frac{T_{shop}}{N_{spaces}}$$

**Books with ConcepTests:** 

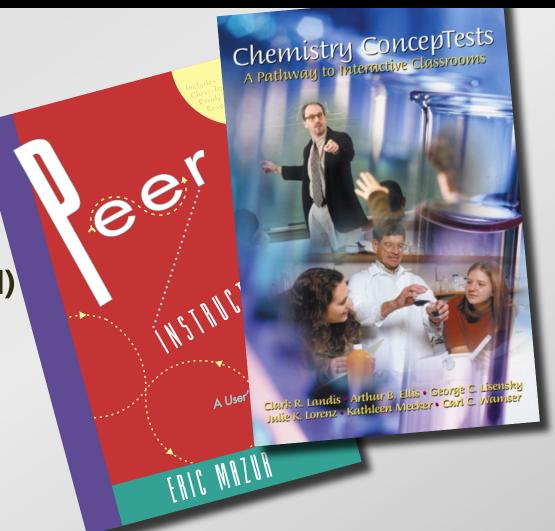
• Physics (Prentice Hall)



**Books with ConcepTests:** 

Physics (Prentice Hall)

Chemistry (Prentice Hall)

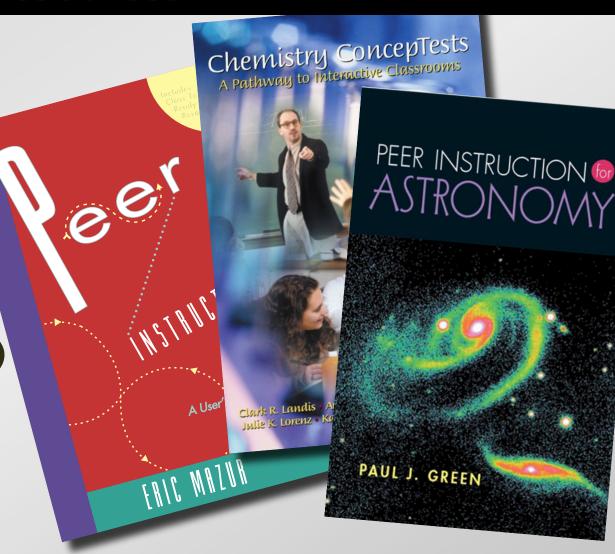


**Books with ConcepTests:** 

Physics (Prentice Hall)

Chemistry (Prentice Hall)

Astronomy (Prentice Hall)



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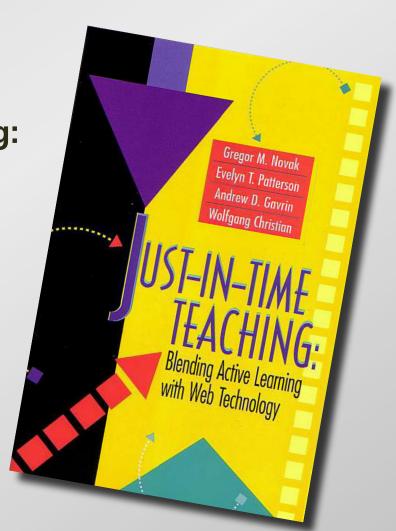
Astronomy (Prentice Hall)

Calculus (Wiley)



Information on Just-in-Time-Teaching:

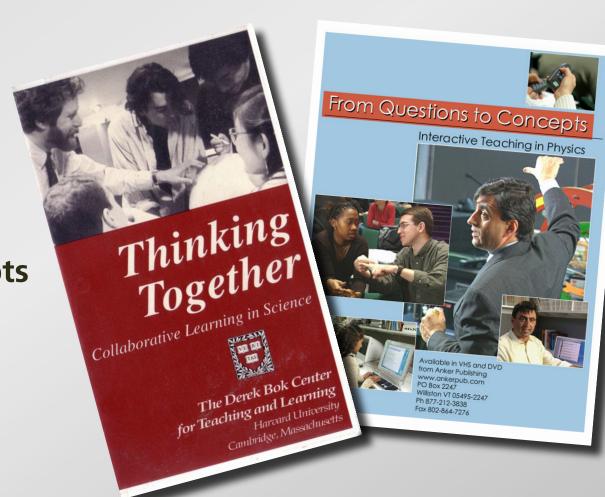
- Prentice Hall book
- http://www.jitt.org



#### **Videos:**

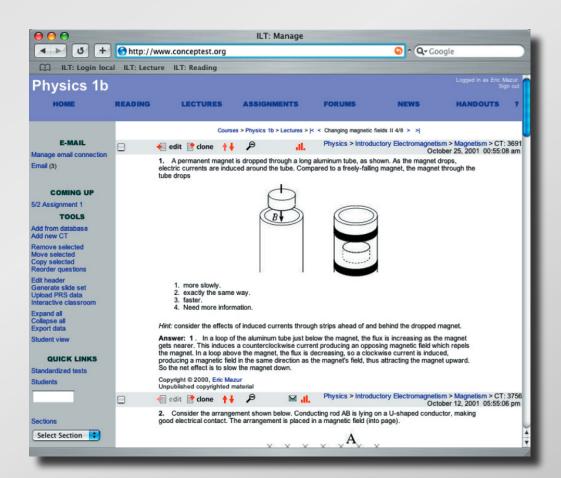
- Thinking together
- From questions to concepts

http://www.ankerpub.com



**Course management:** 

http://deas.harvard.edu/ilt

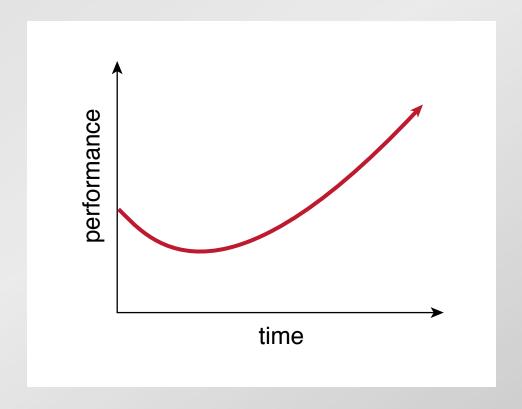


**Challenges:** 

- skepticism
- growing pains
- limited circle of influence

Two things to watch out for

After changing, things might get worse before they get better!



Better understanding leads to more — not fewer — questions!

(must recognize confusion as step towards understanding)

Things to do:

- take data
- motivate students
- be prepared for initial adjustments

	"lectures"	PI
coverage	complete	partial
preclass reading	none	cover everything
confusion	little none	substantial
evaluations	known	unknown

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evaluations	known	unknown	important
learning	little	better	not measured
retention	little	better	not part of grade

### **Funding:**

**National Science Foundation** 

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