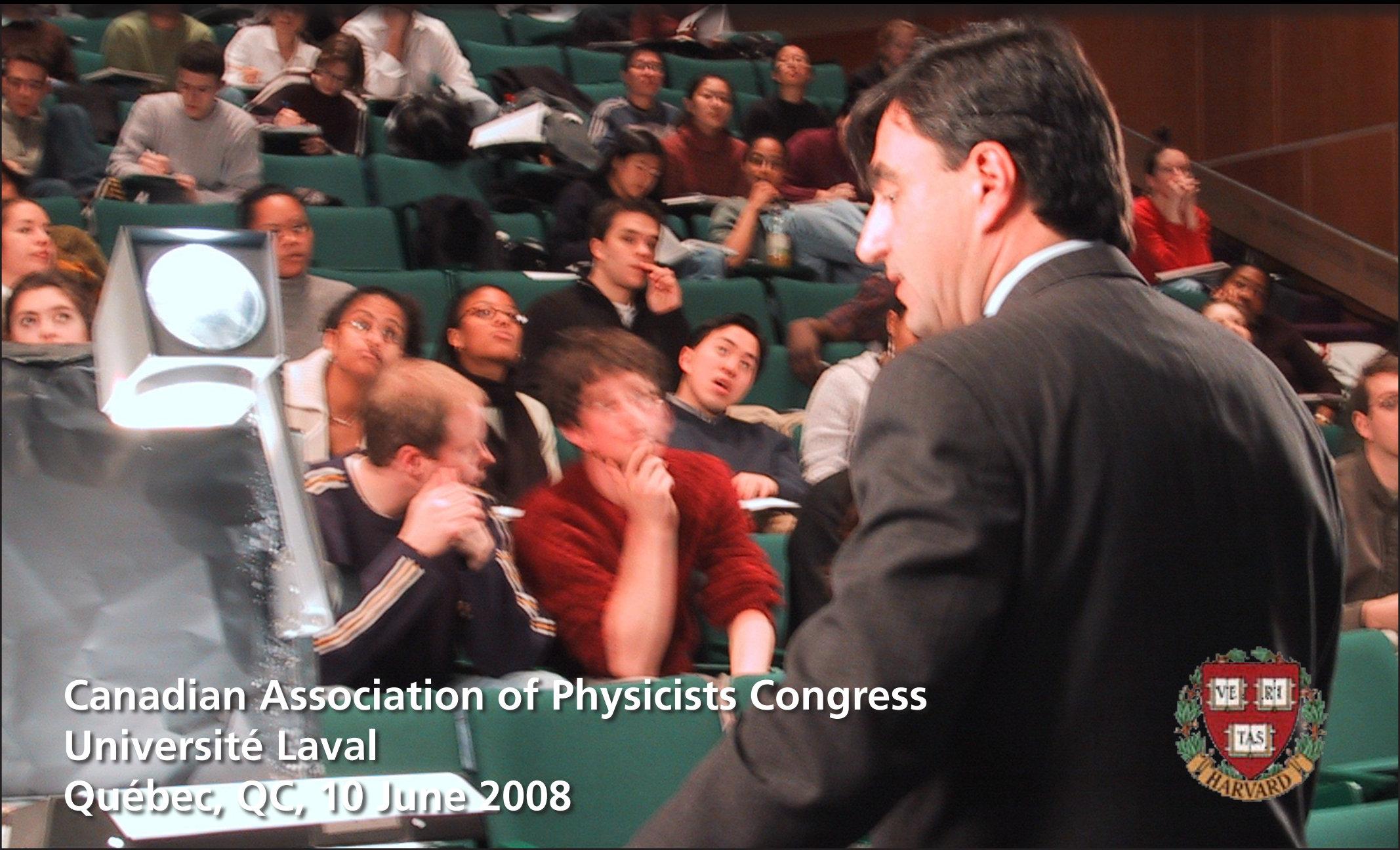


# Confessions of a converted lecturer

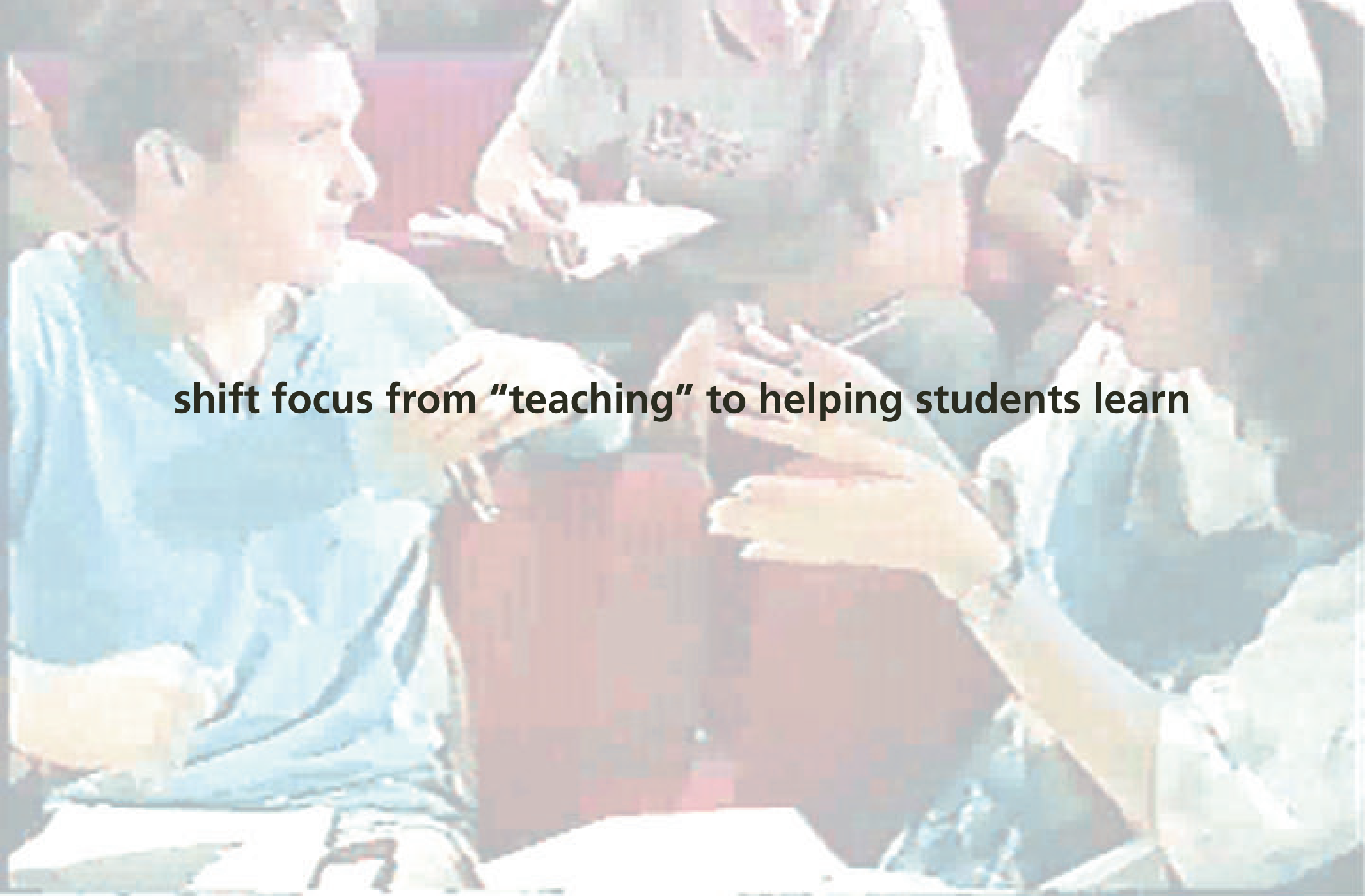


Canadian Association of Physicists Congress  
Université Laval  
Québec, QC, 10 June 2008



# My message

**shift focus from “teaching” to helping students learn**



# Outline

- Education



# Outline

- Education
- Peer Instruction



# Outline

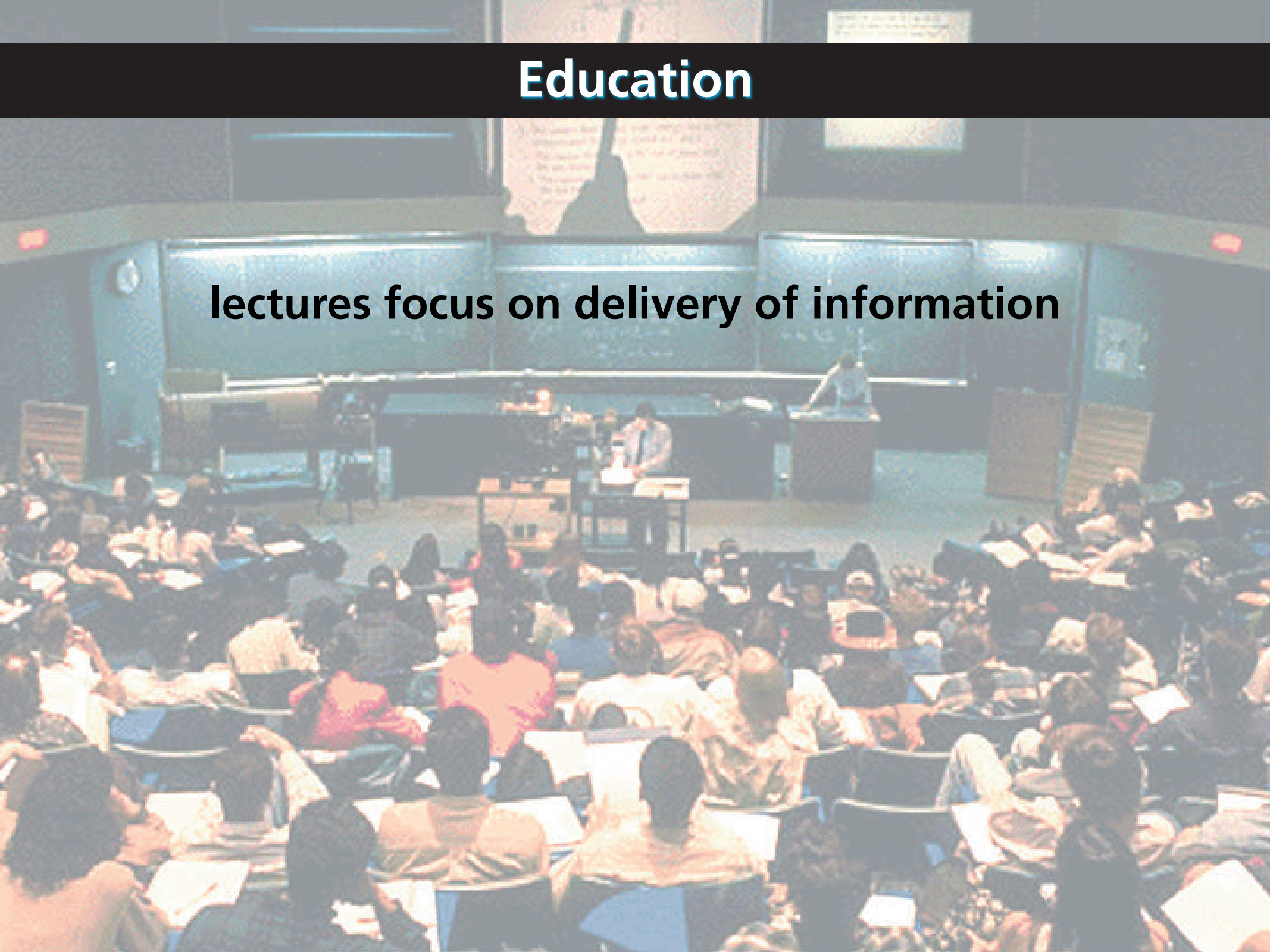
- Education
- Peer Instruction
- Results

# Education



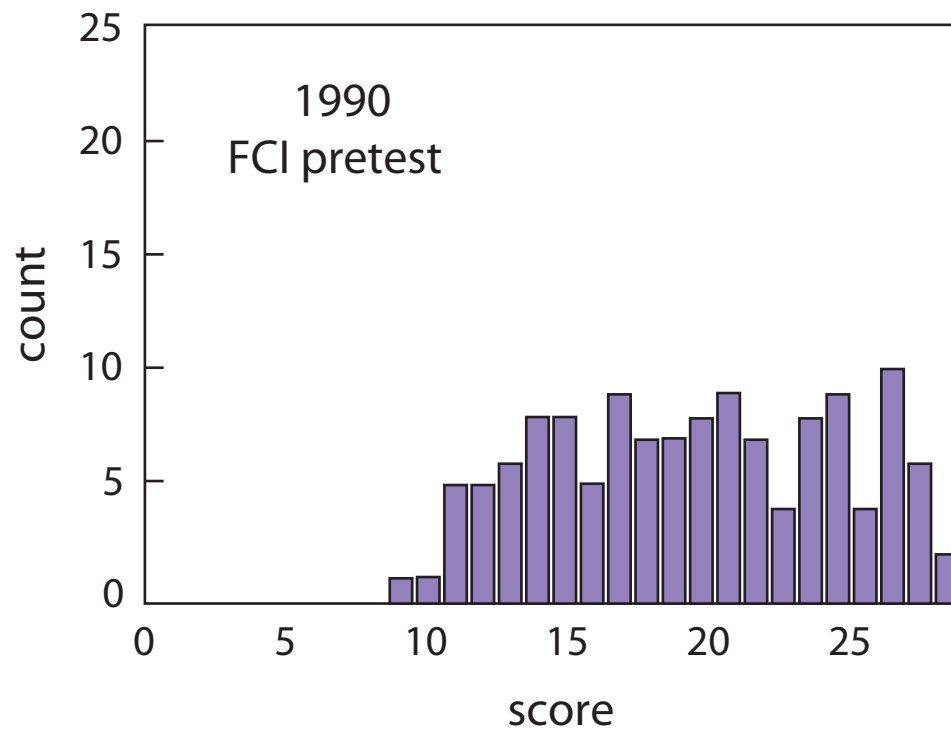
# Education

lectures focus on delivery of information



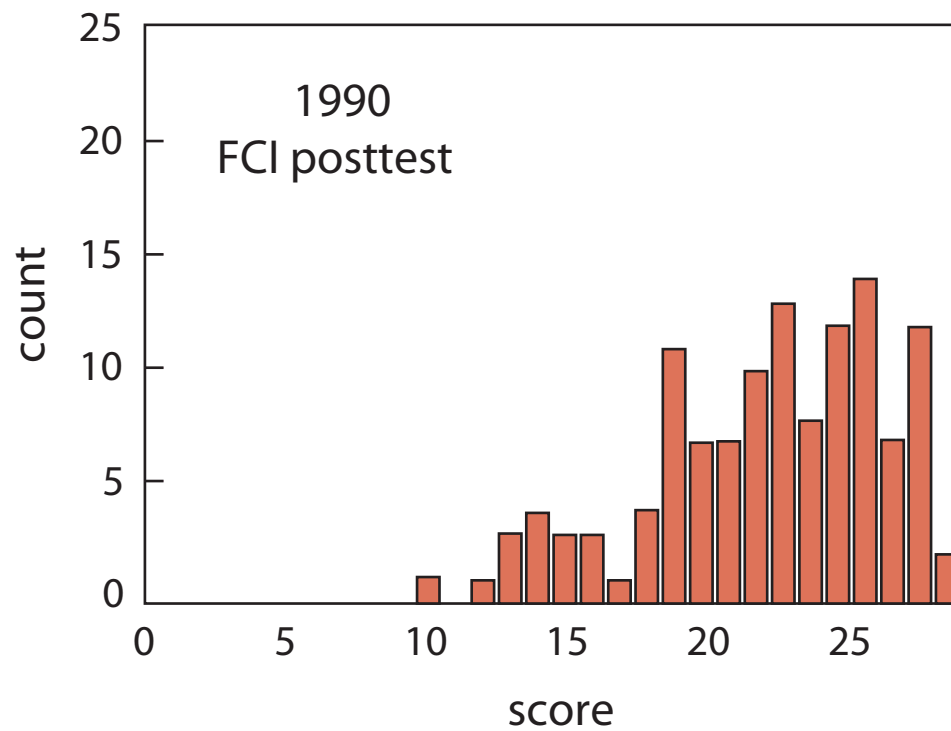
# Education

education is not just information transfer



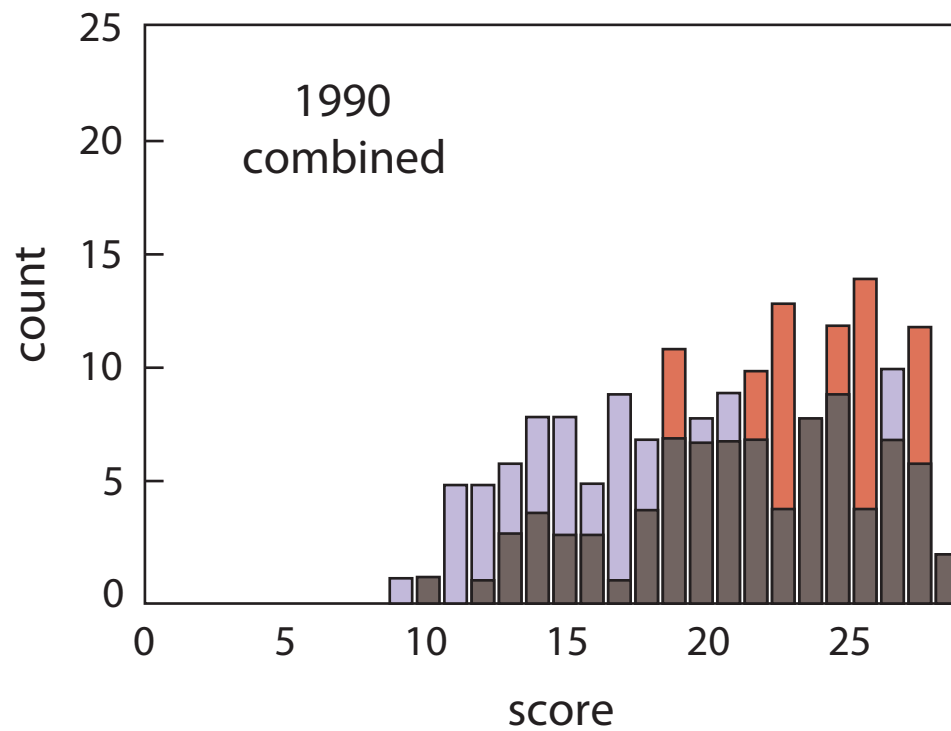
# Education

education is not just information transfer

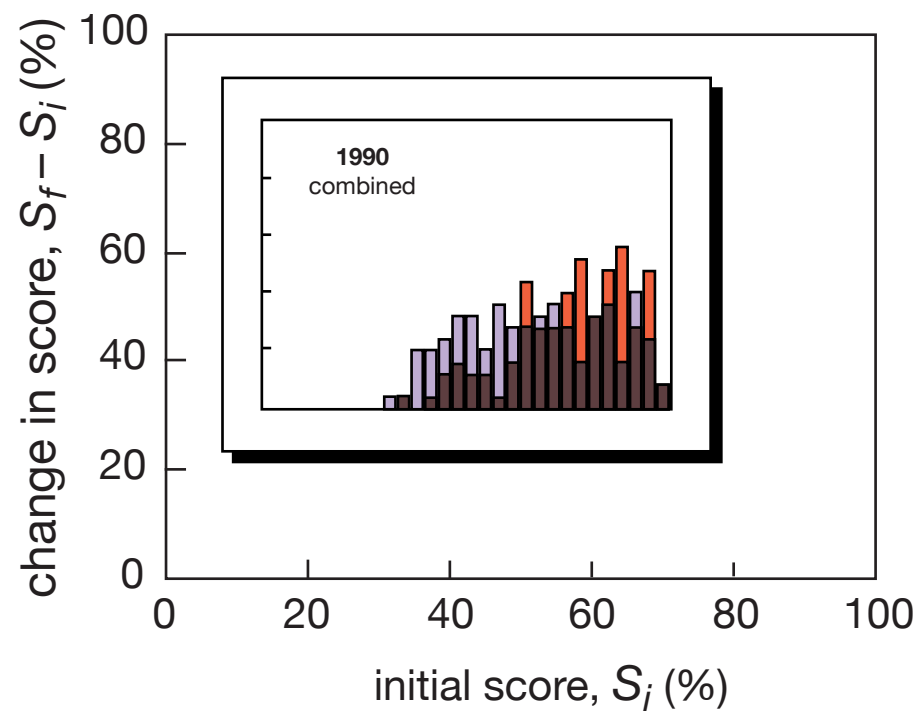


# Education

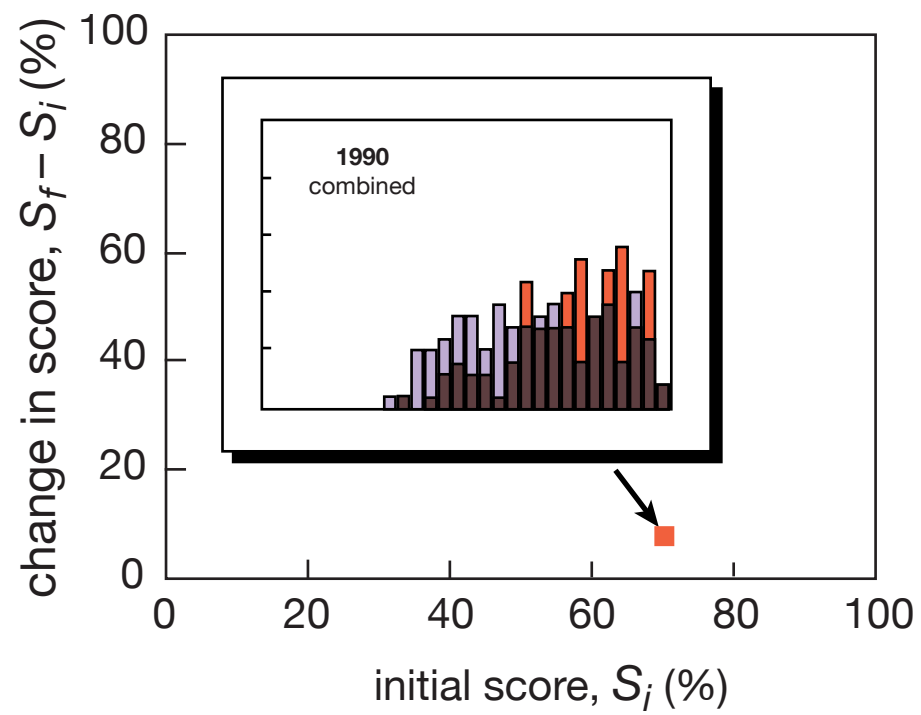
education is not just information transfer



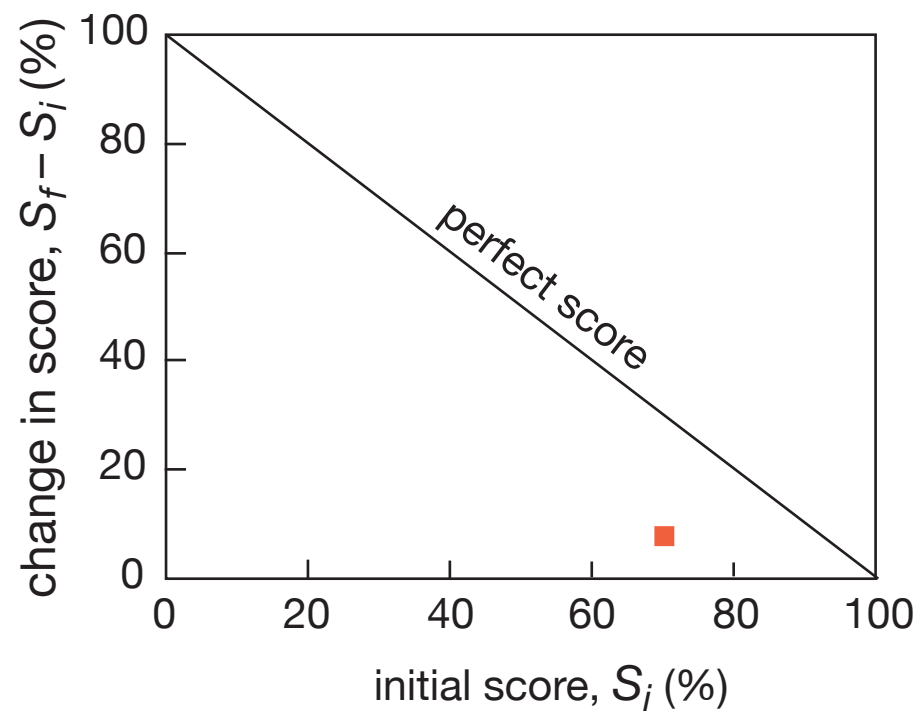
# Education



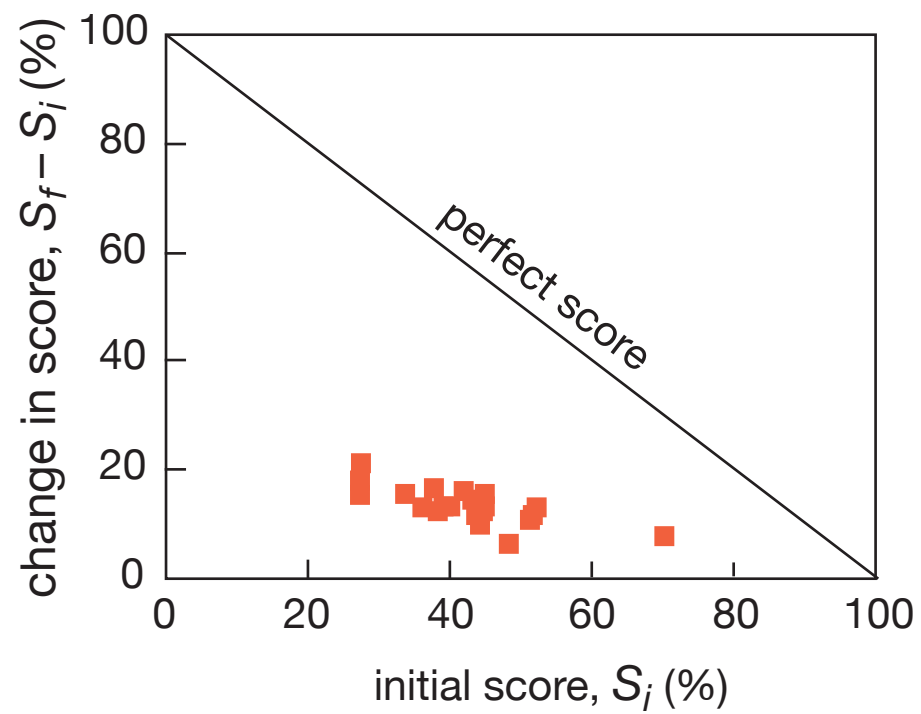
# Education



# Education



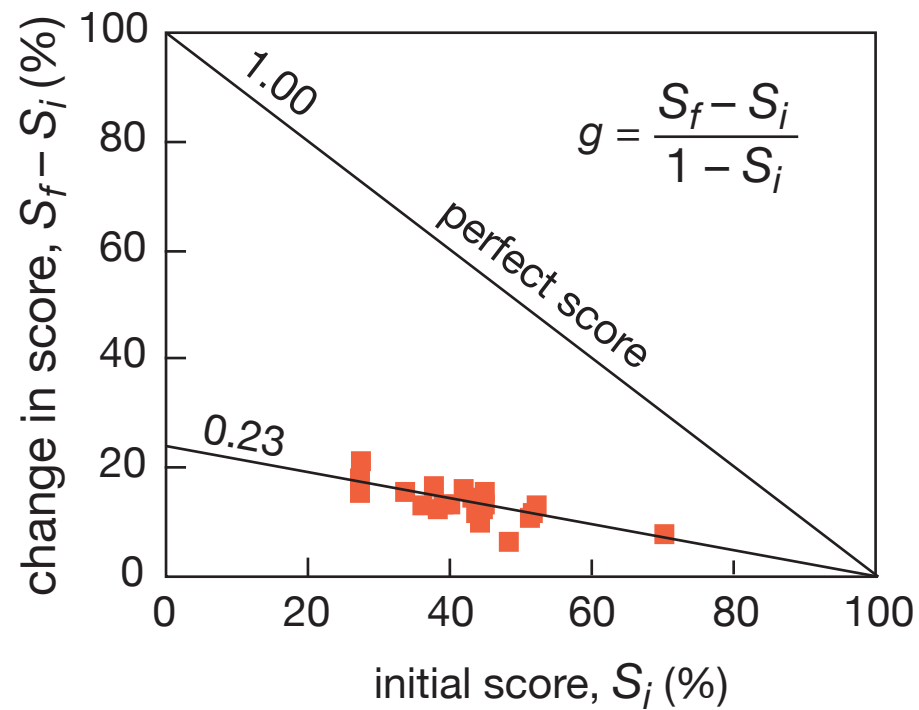
# Education



R.R. Hake, *Am. J. Phys.* 66, 64 (1998)

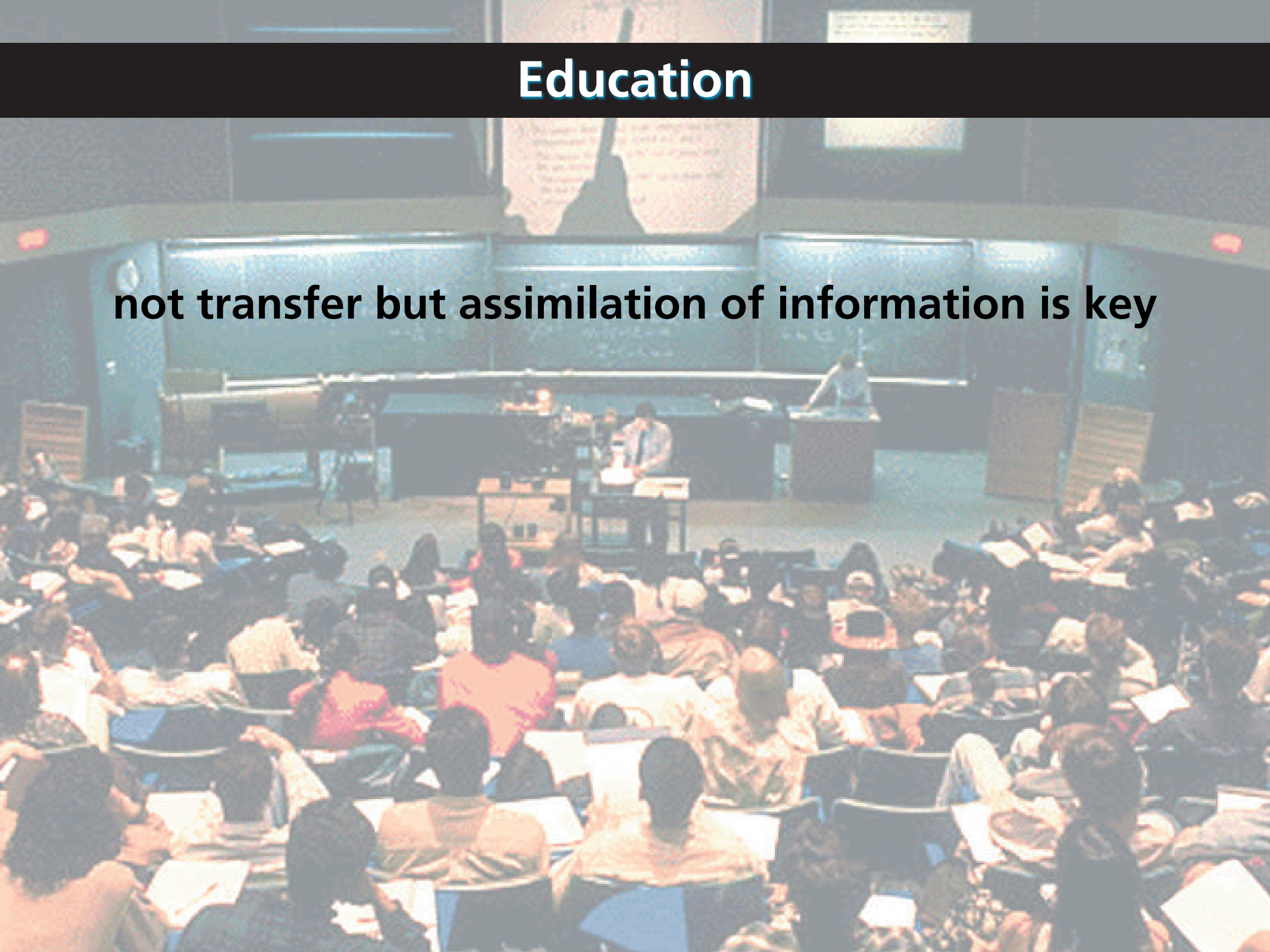
# Education

only one quarter of maximum gain realized



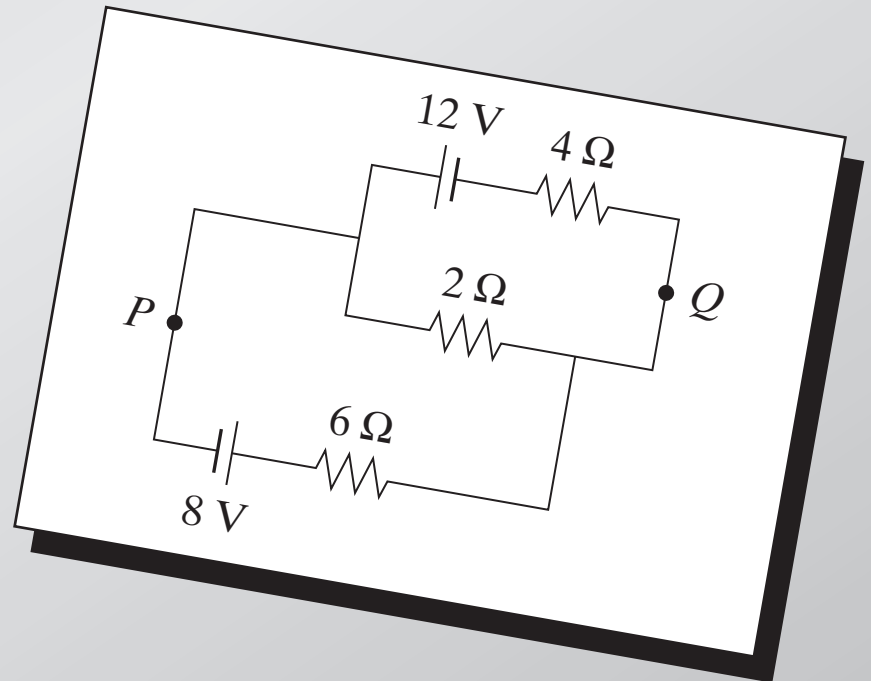
# Education

**not transfer but assimilation of information is key**



# Education

conventional problems misleading



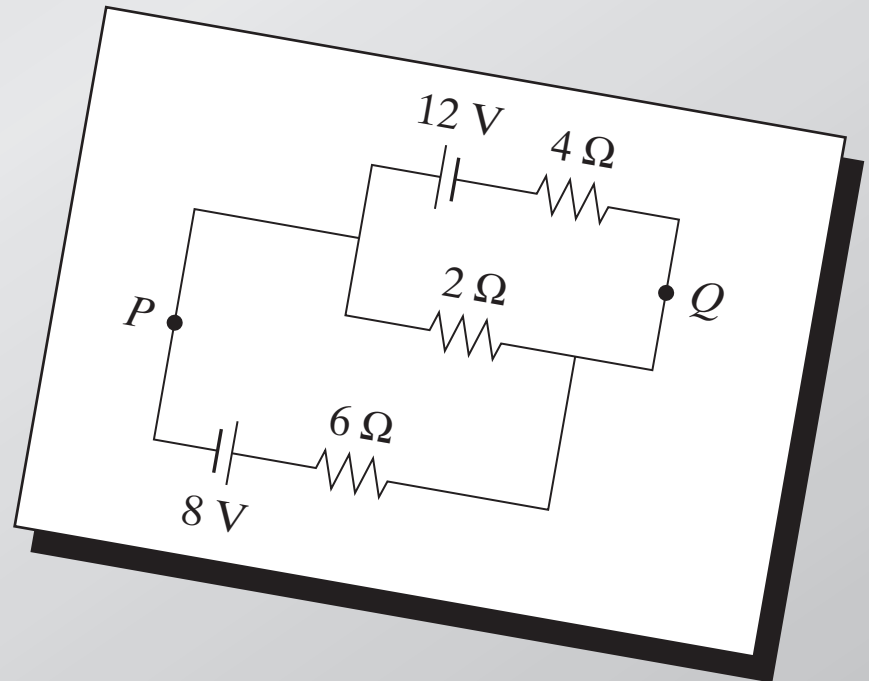
# Education

conventional problems misleading

Calculate:

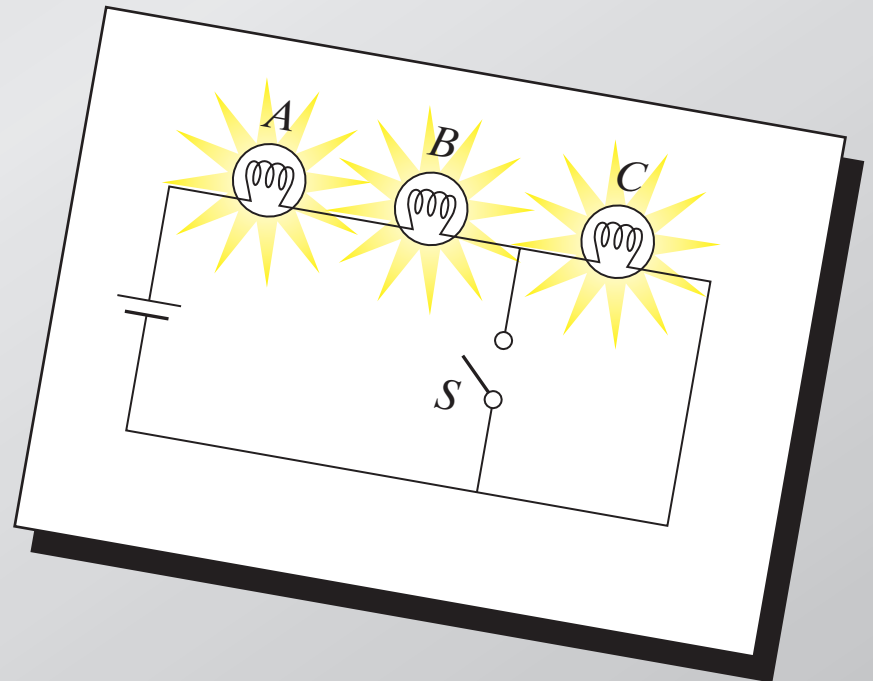
(a) current in 2- $\Omega$  resistor

(b) potential difference  
between  $P$  and  $Q$



# Education

are the basic principles understood?

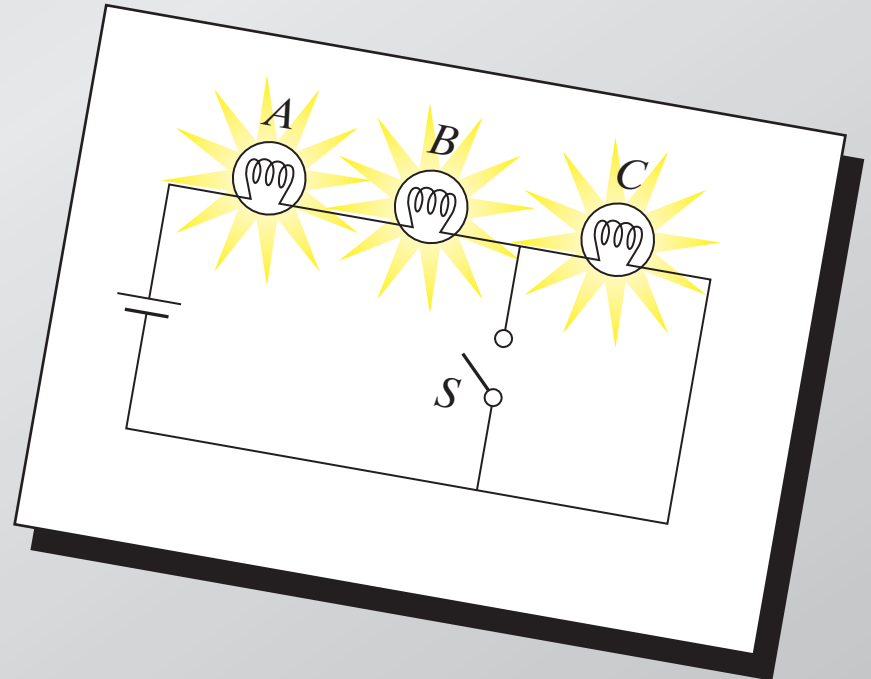


# Education

are the basic principles understood?

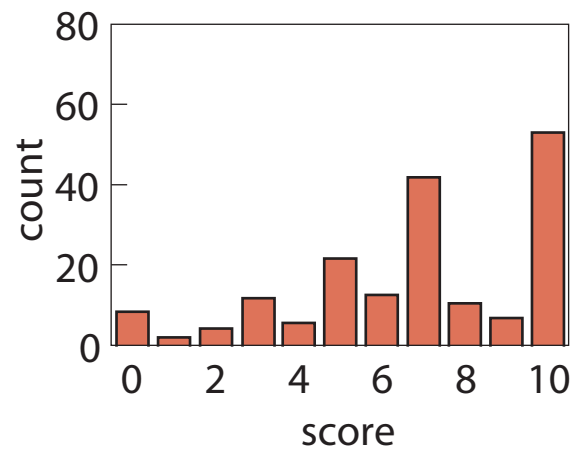
When  $S$  is closed, what happens to:

- (a) intensities of  $A$  and  $B$ ?
- (b) intensity of  $C$ ?
- (c) current through battery?
- (d) potential difference across  
 $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ?
- (e) the total power dissipated?

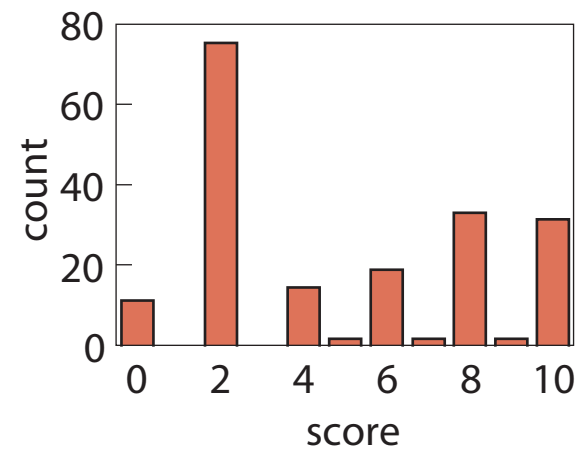


# Education

**conventional**

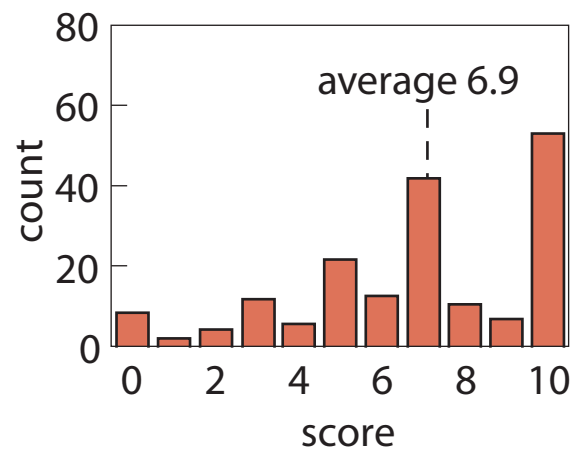


**conceptual**

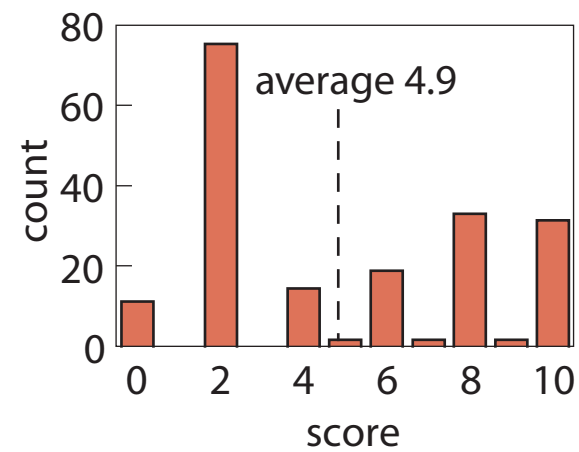


# Education

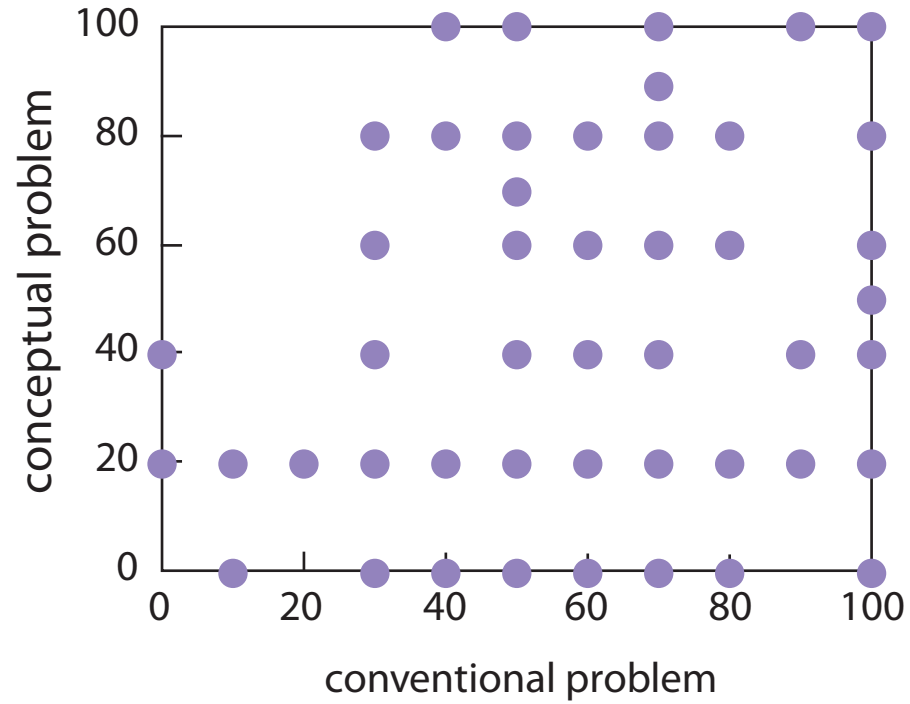
**conventional**



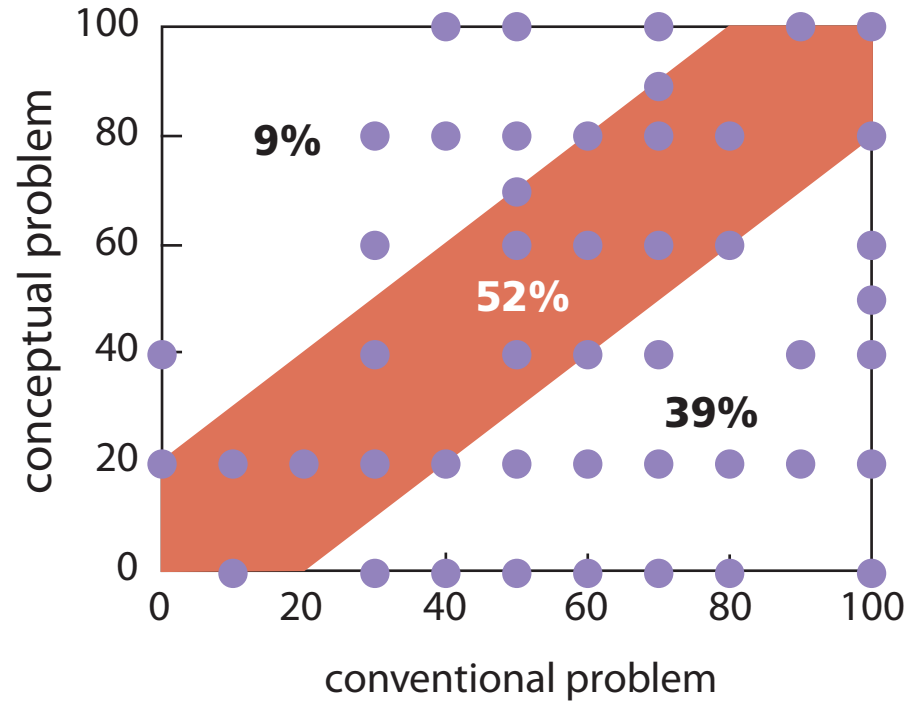
**conceptual**



# Education



# Education



So what should we do?



# Peer Instruction

**Give students more responsibility for gathering information...**

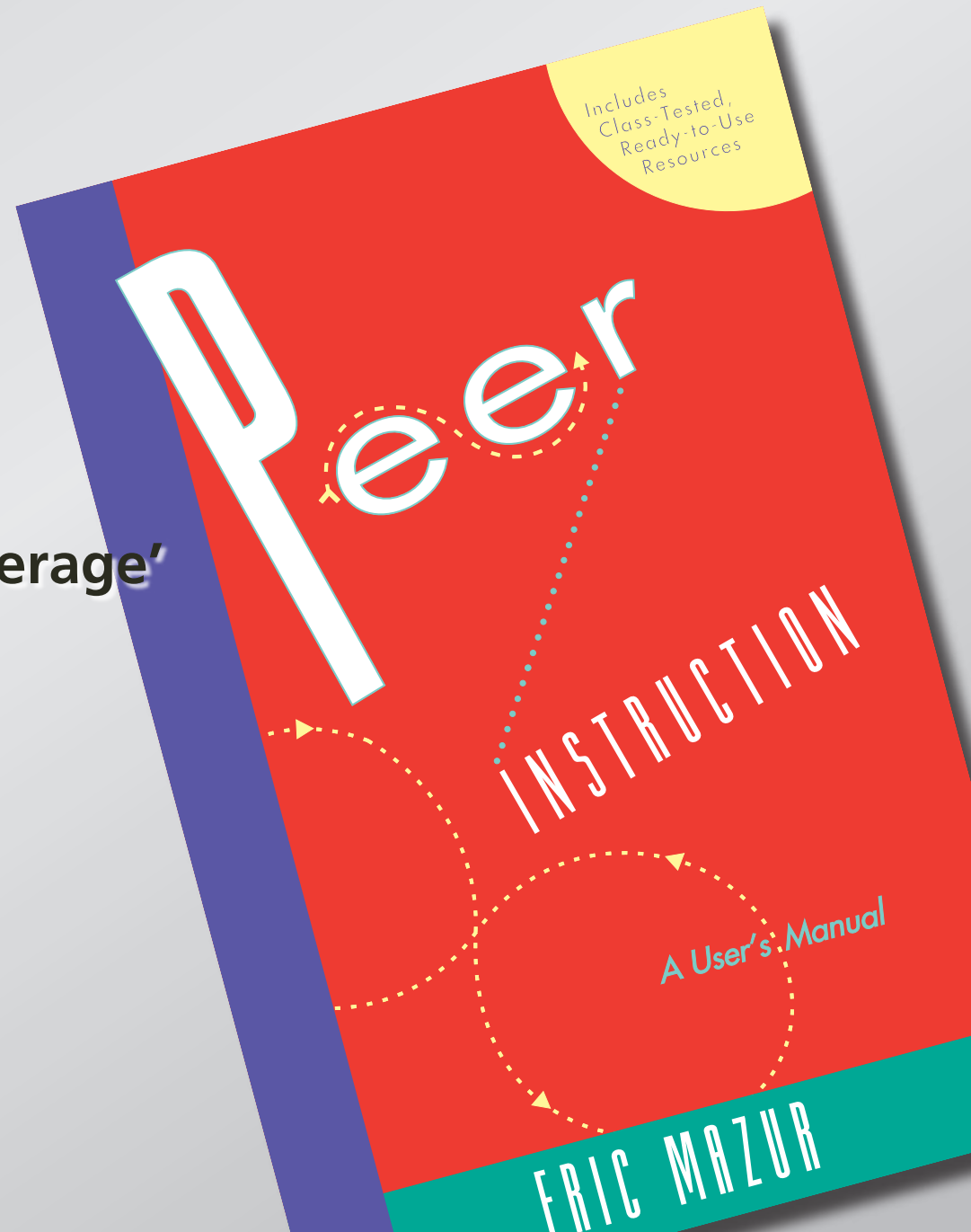
# Peer Instruction

**Give students more responsibility for gathering information...  
so we can better help them assimilate it.**

# Peer Instruction

## Main features:

- pre-class reading
- in-class: depth, not 'coverage'
- ConcepTests



# Peer Instruction

**ConcepTest:**

- 1. Question**
- 2. Thinking**
- 3. Individual answer**
- 4. Peer discussion**
- 5. Revised/Group answer**
- 6. Explanation**

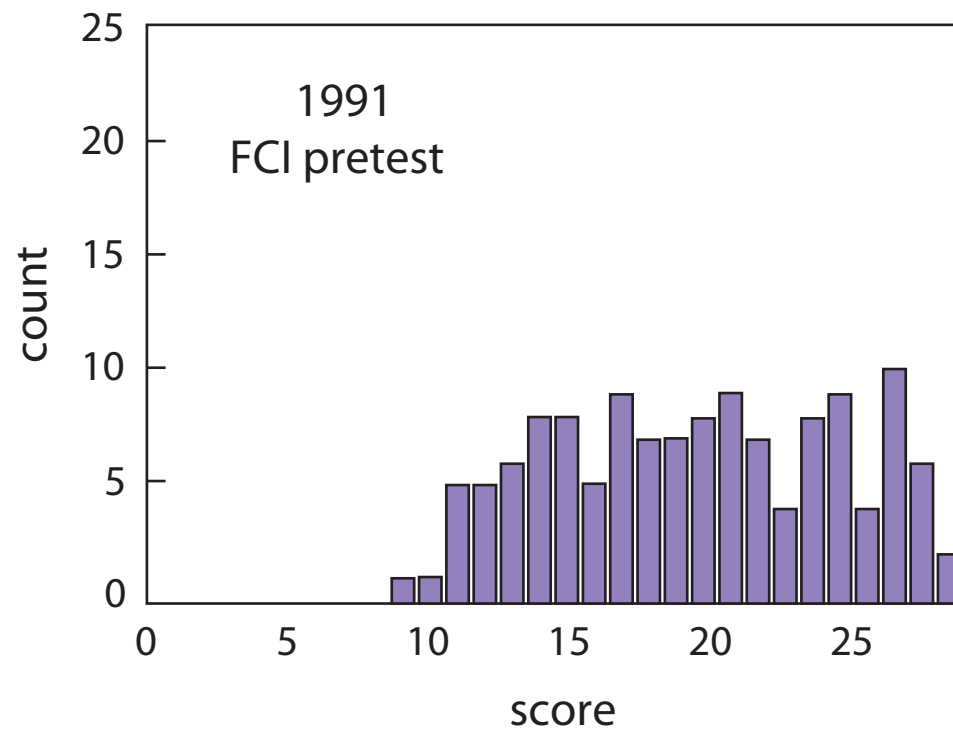


# Results

is it any good?

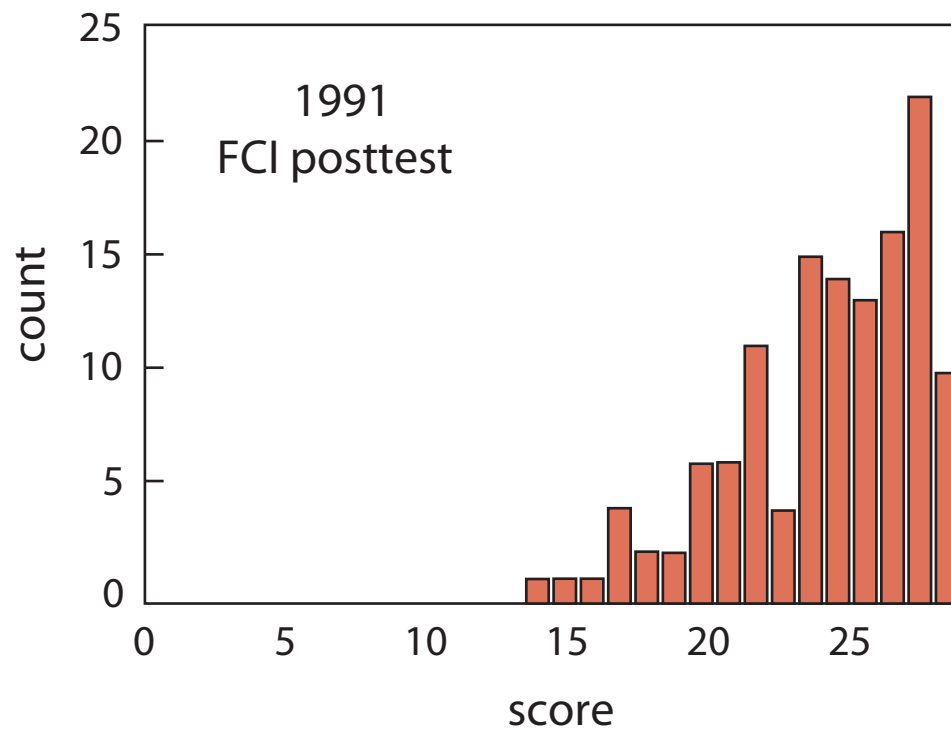
# Results

first year of implementing PI



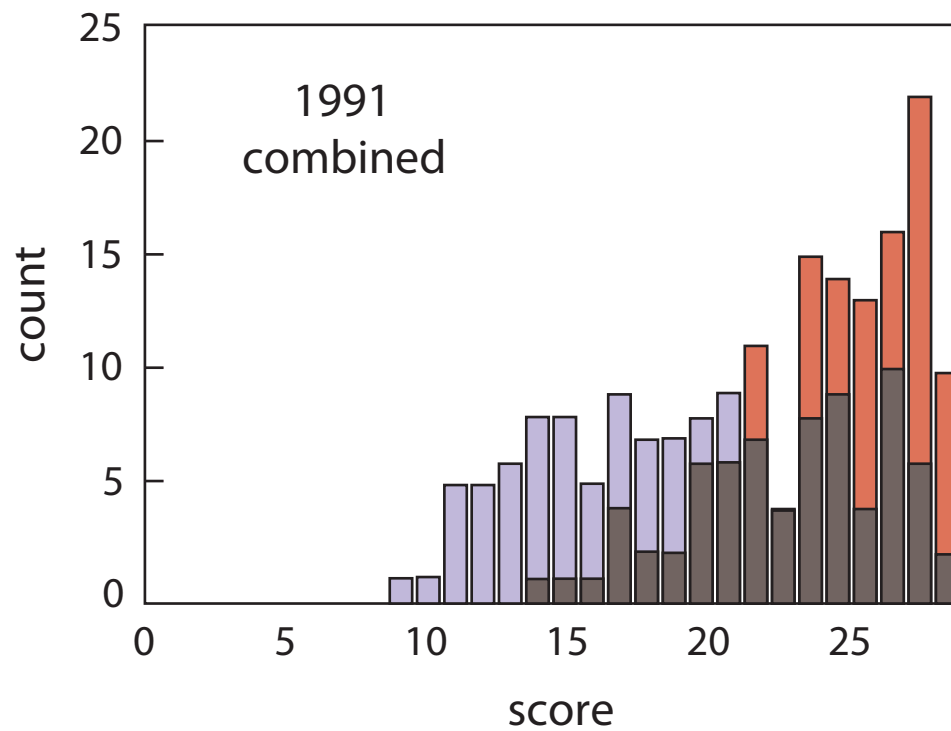
# Results

## first year of implementing PI

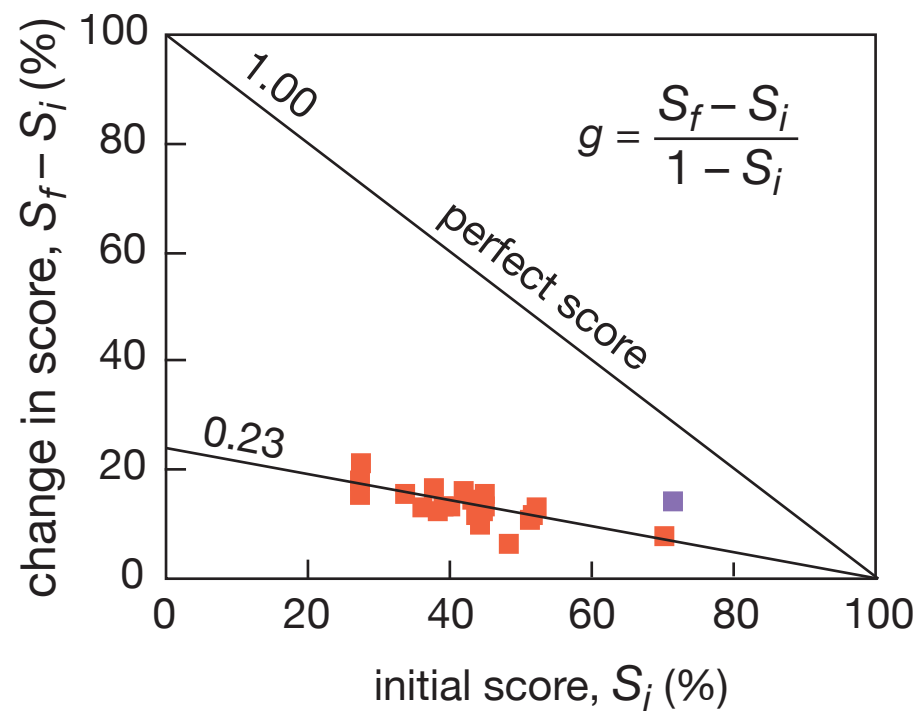


# Results

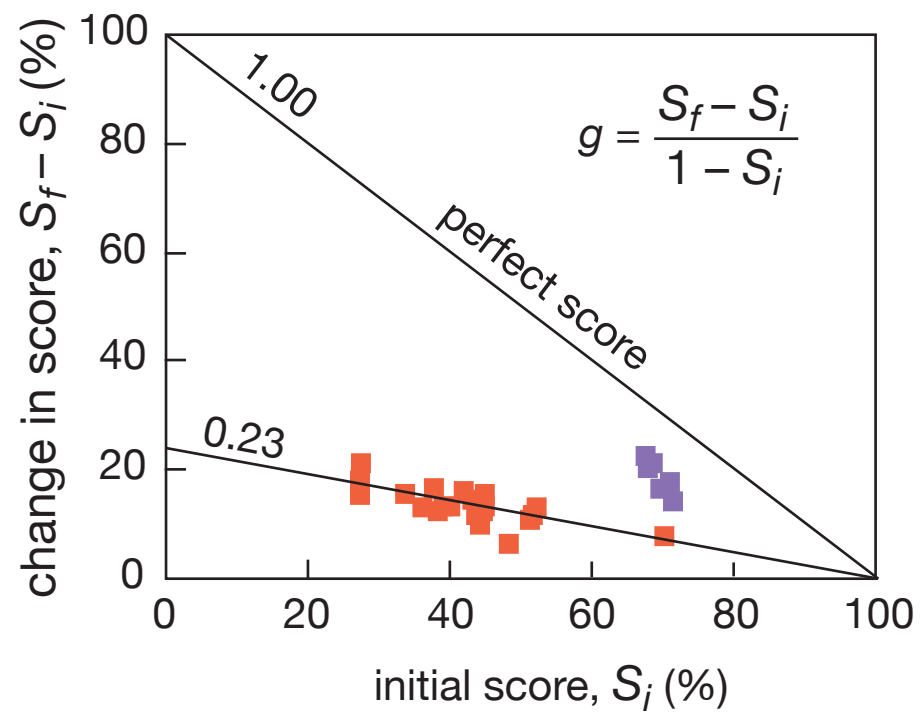
first year of implementing PI



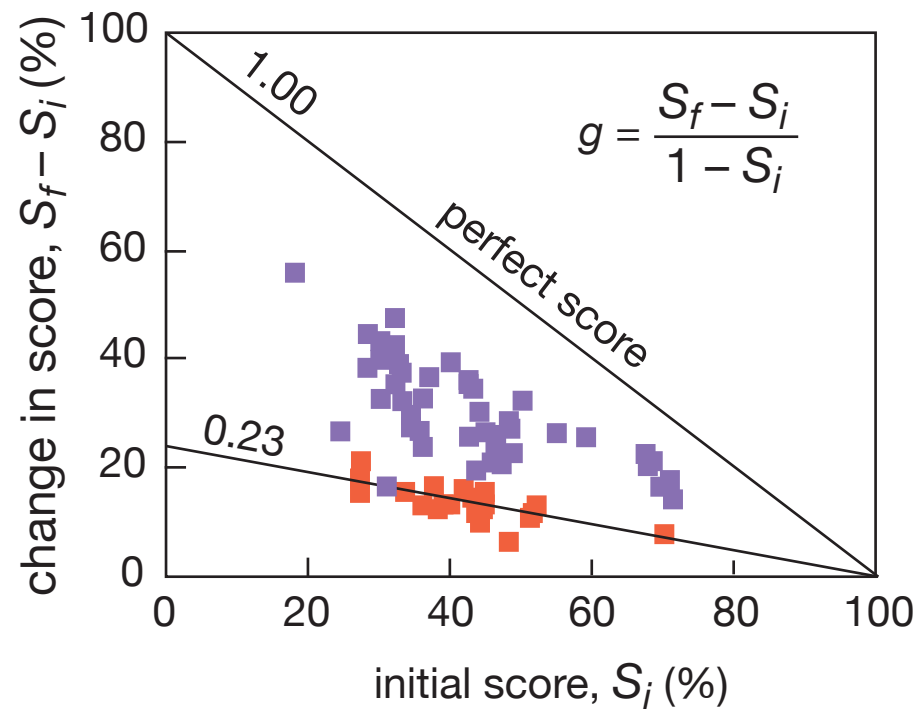
# Results



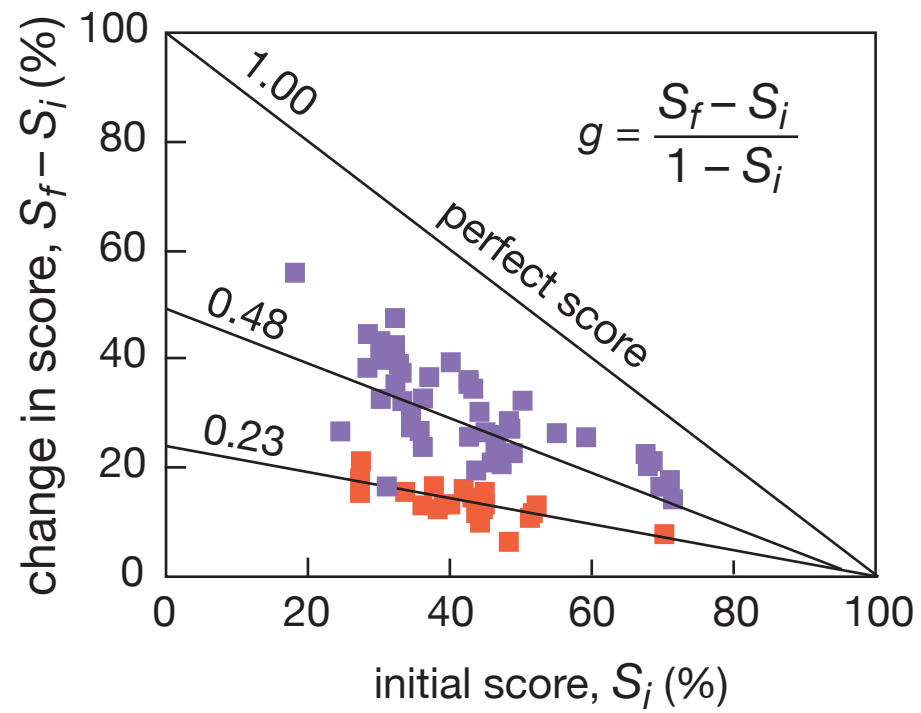
# Results



# Results



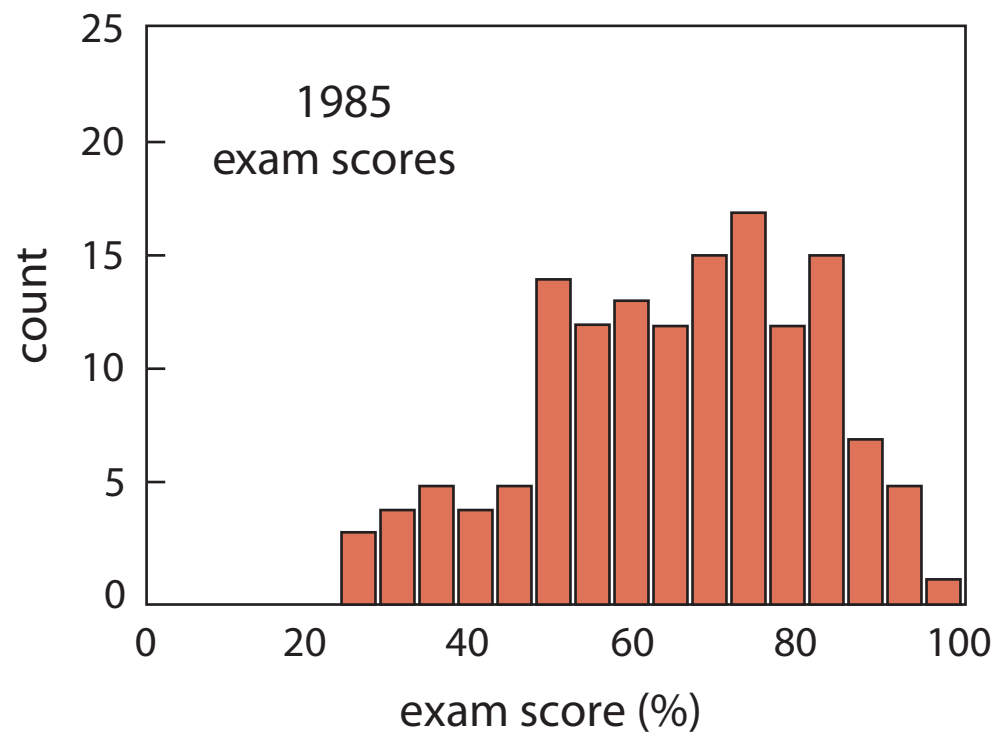
# Results



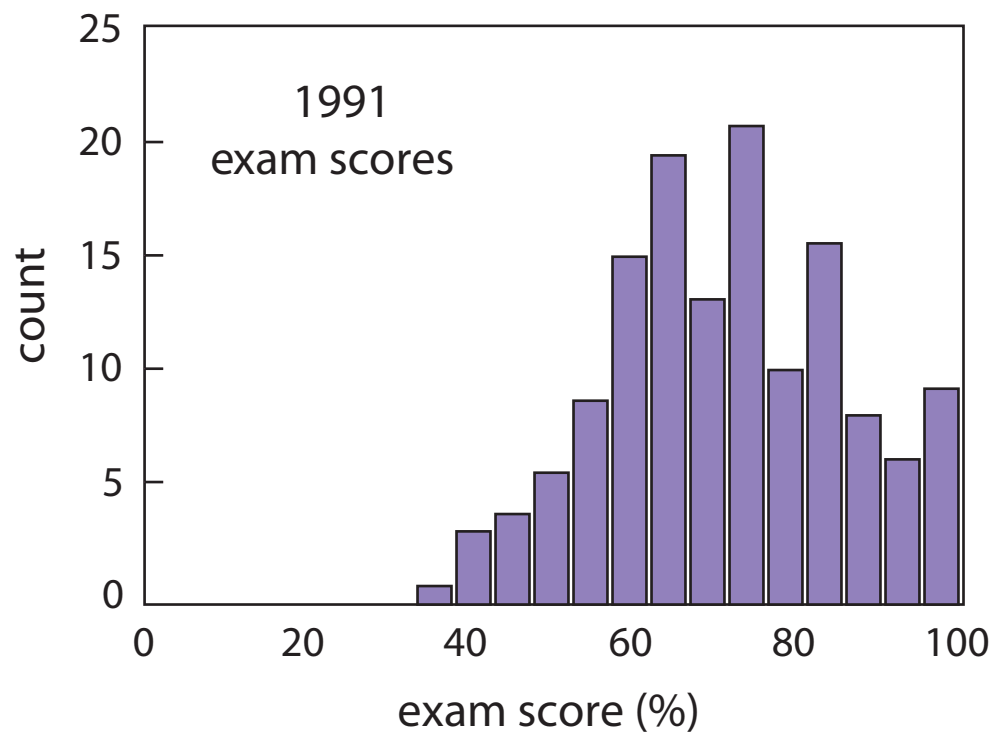
# Results

**what about problem solving?**

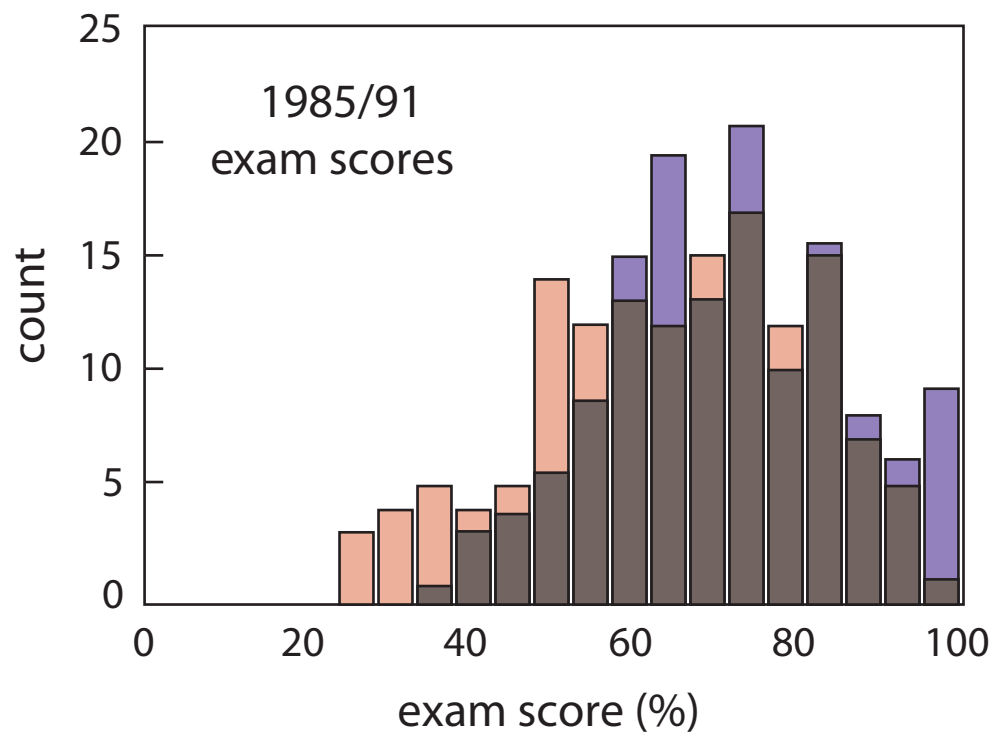
# Results



# Results



# Results



# Summary

**So better understanding leads to better  
problem solving!**

# Summary

**So better understanding leads to better problem solving!**

**(but “good” problem solving doesn’t always indicate understanding!)**



**Funding:**

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**Talk 3465 at 11:15 am in Room VCH 2860 (142)**

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