

# How to Encourage Learners to Choose Effective Learning Strategies

Stav Atir

Wisconsin School of Business  
University of Wisconsin – Madison



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**TO TEACH IS  
TO LEARN  
TWICE OVER**



**Explaining is a useful learning strategy  
... that learners don't use**

**Instead: reviewing, rereading**



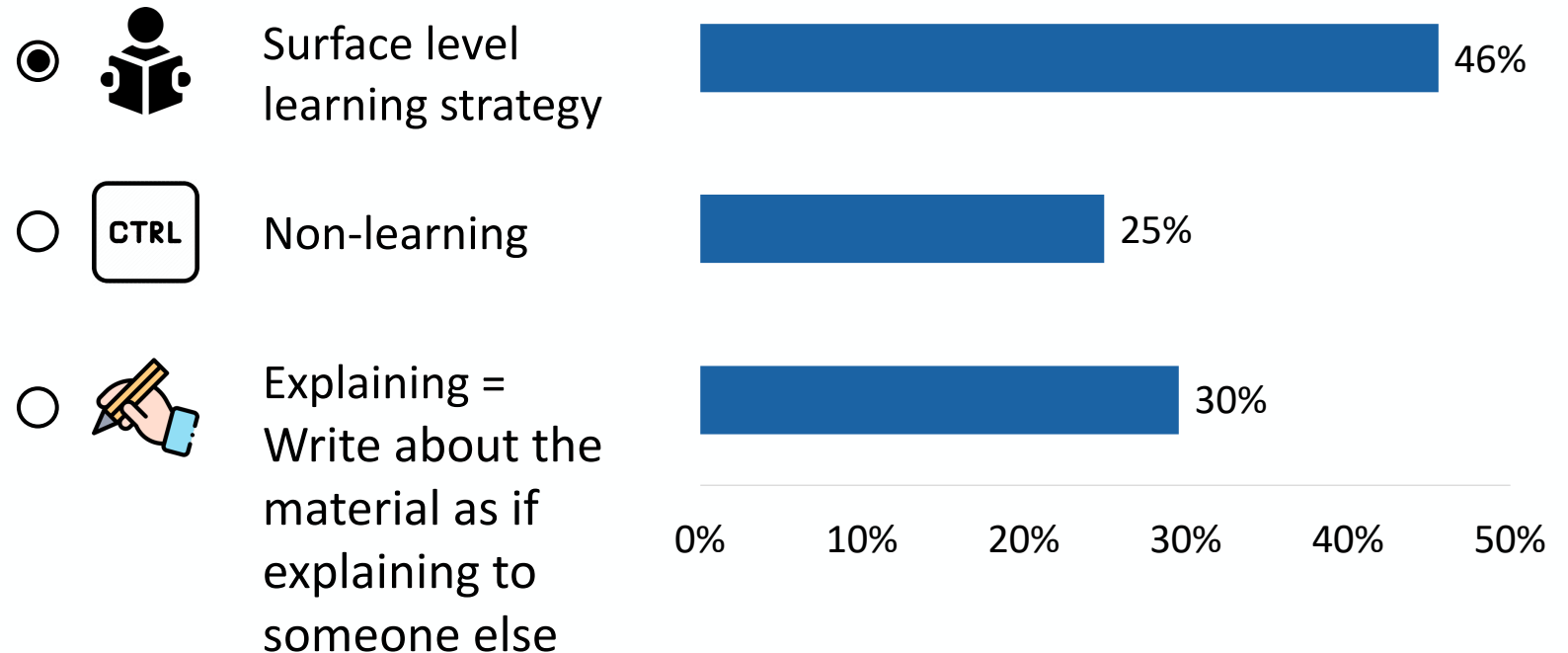
# Explaining is a useful learning strategy ... that learners don't use



Learn:



Choose:





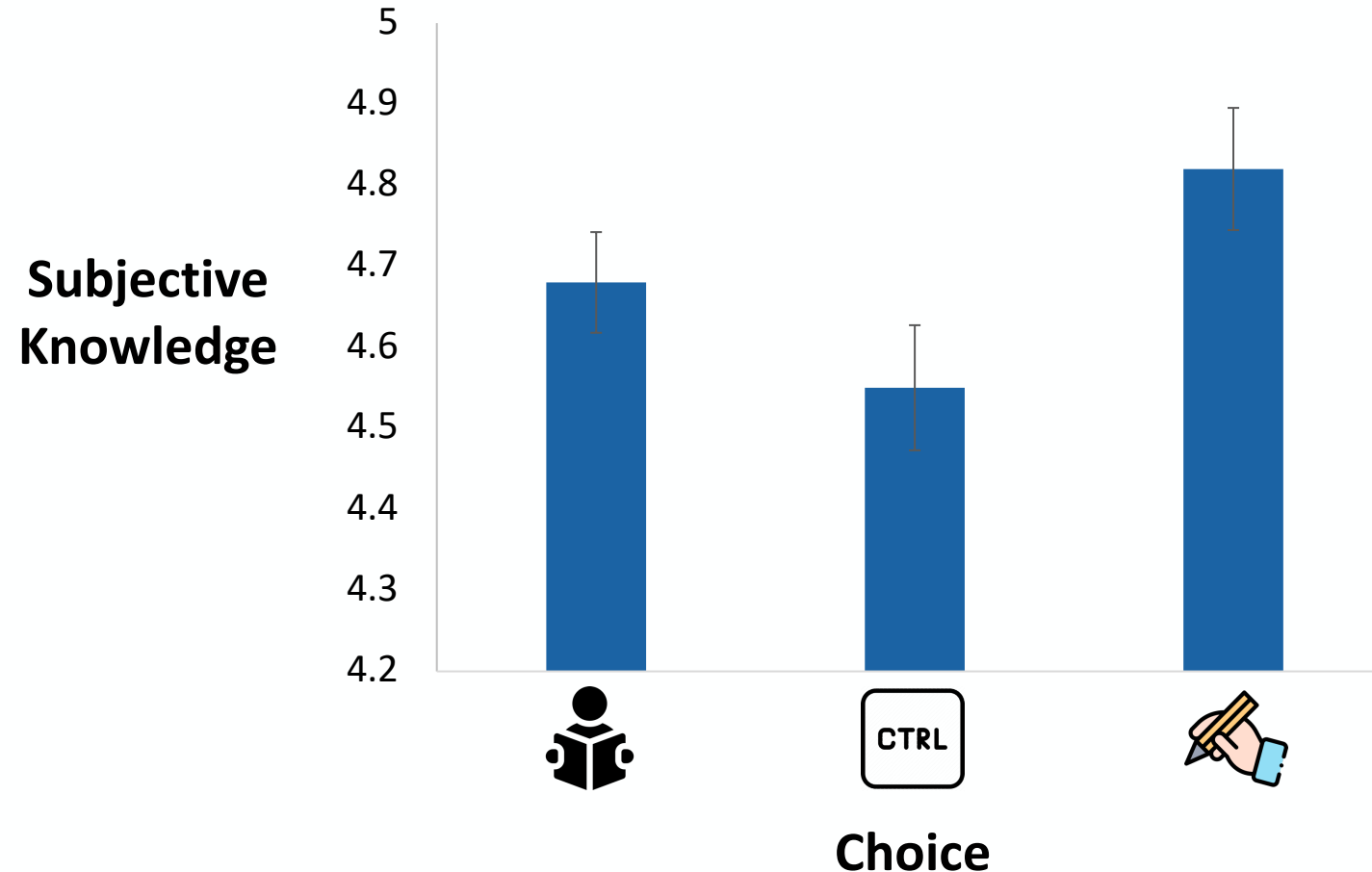
**Explaining is a useful learning strategy  
... that learners don't use**

**Instead: reviewing, rereading**

**Current solution: informational**



# Subjective Knowledge is Key



Learners who are willing to explain *feel more knowledgeable*.

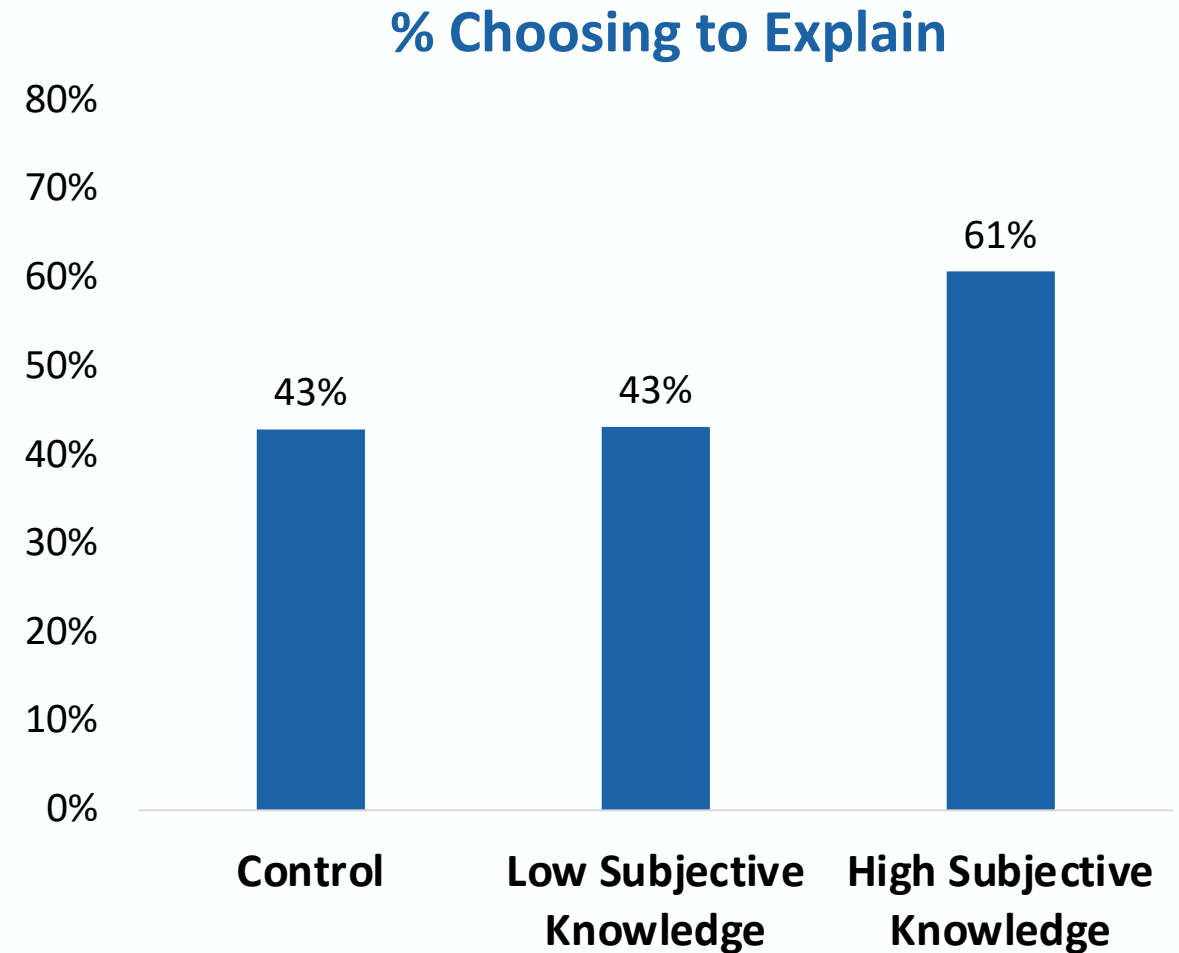




# Let's make students feel knowledgeable!

*Around what object do GPS satellites orbit?*

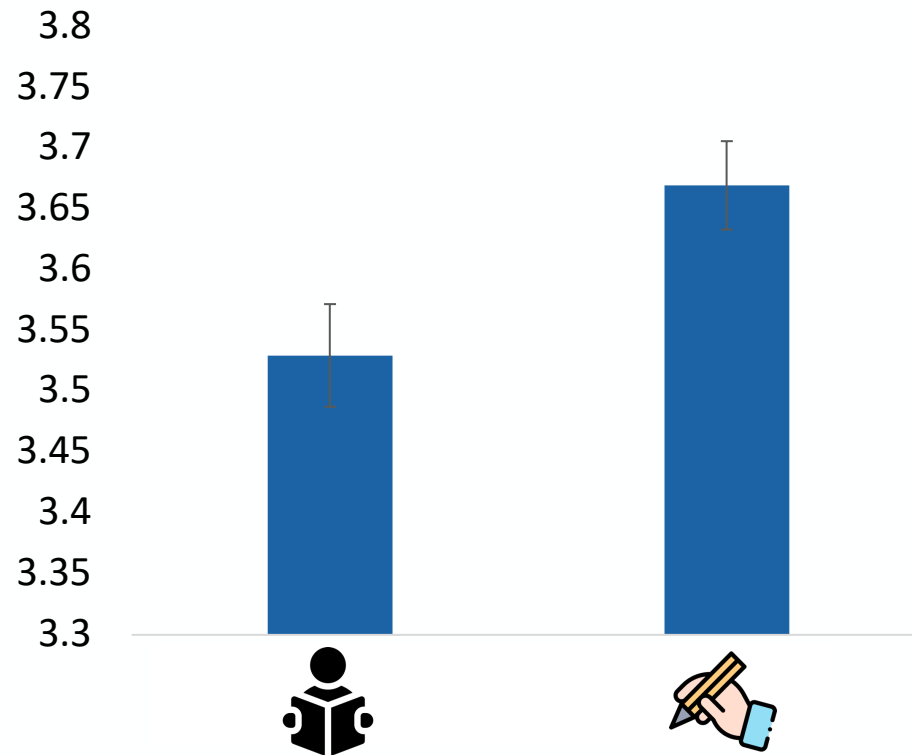
- (a) The earth*
- (b) The moon*
- (c) The United States*
- (d) The sun*



# Explaining in the classroom

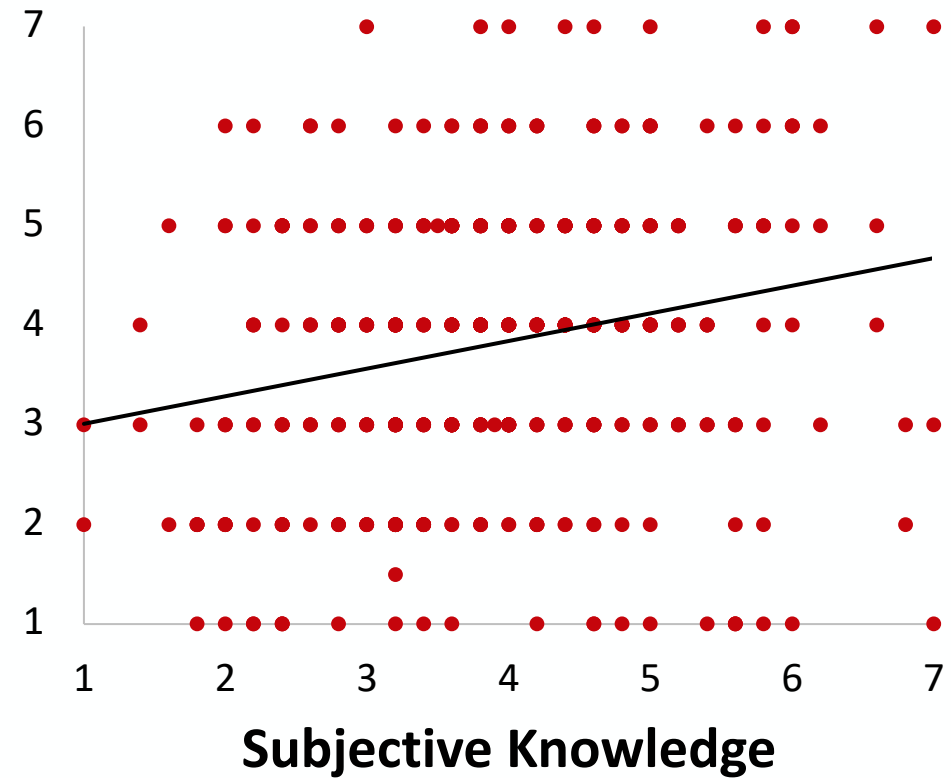


## Score on Glycolysis Questions



$t(455.26) = 2.45, p = .013$ ; pre-registered

## Interest in Explaining



$b = .28, t(465) = 4.94, p < .001$ ; pre-registered







# Putting it all together

- 1. Explaining is a useful learning strategy...  
... that learners don't use**
- 2. Current answer: information**
- 3. A different answer: subjective knowledge**
- 4. Implication: those who need effective learning strategies the most are least likely to use them.**



# Thank you for your attention



My contact info:

**Stav Atir**

**University of Wisconsin**

**stav.atir@wisc.edu**

Collaborator:

**Jane Risen**

**University of Chicago**

**Booth School of Business**

