

Inquiry ?

# Sustainable IBL

## inquiry-based science learning

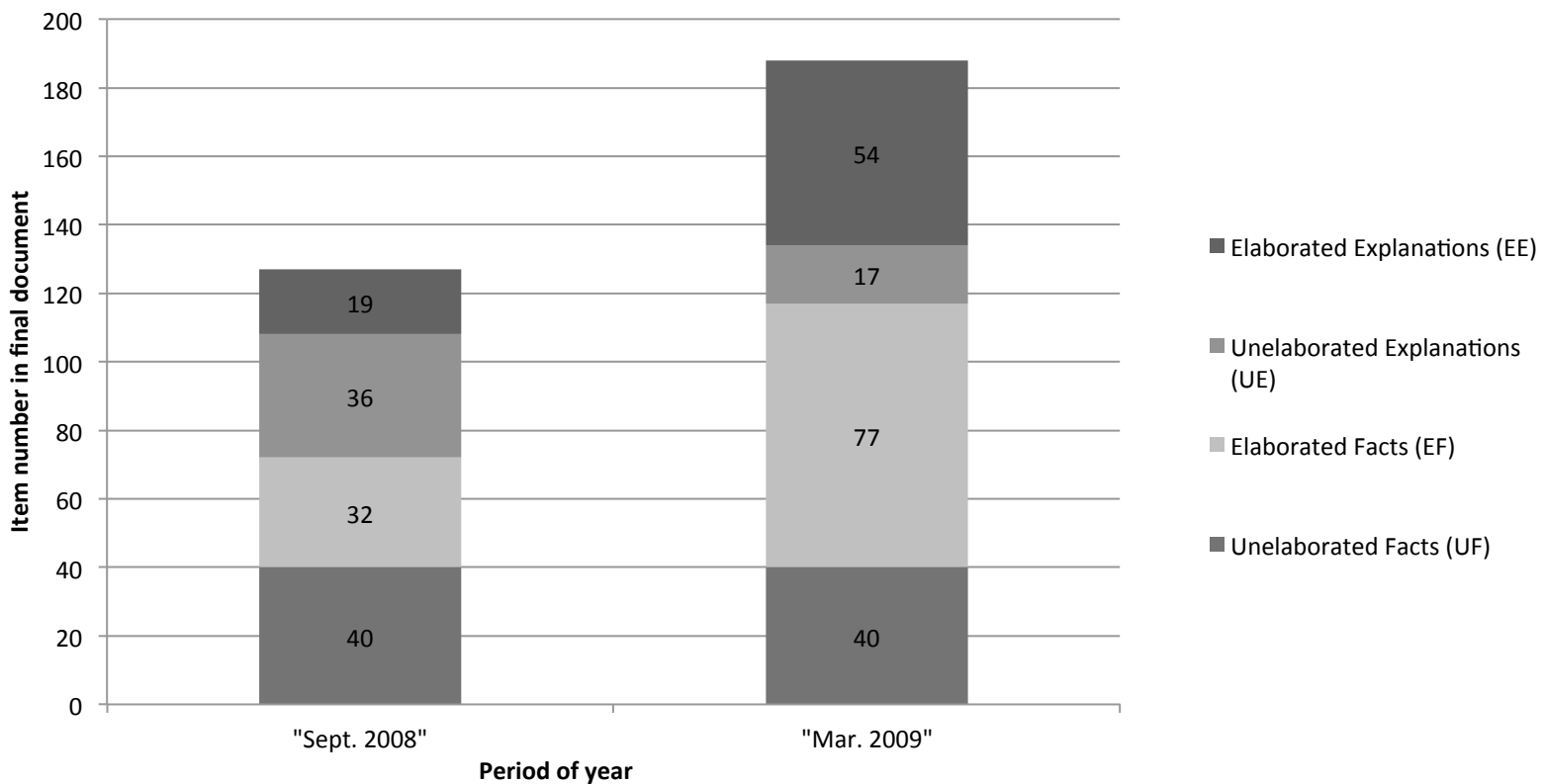
Optimizing the  
student learning/  
teacher fatigue  
ratio.

Dr. François Lombard



# Rationale

Epistemic complexity begin end year for one group (2008-2009)





# Scientific knowledge ?

GÉNÉTIQUE

## D'un individu à l'autre, les gènes diffèrent de 12%

Nous serions plus différents qu'on ne le croyait jusqu'à présent: 3 000 de nos gènes, soit près de 12% d'entre eux, ont subi des modifications au cours de l'évolution, et nous différencient aujourd'hui les uns des autres au sein de l'espèce humaine. En cause: des duplications, délétions et insertions de segments d'ADN, qui peuvent influencer l'activité des gènes. Une équipe de chercheurs a inspecté et dénombré, via une nouvelle technologie de scanner, ces

variations dans le génome de 270 volontaires provenant d'Europe, d'Afrique et d'Asie. Verdict: 1 447 variations, dont certaines sont déjà connues pour être liées aux maladies d'Alzheimer et de Parkinson, tandis que d'autres influenceraient la sensibilité au virus HIV-1 ou seraient impliquées dans certaines formes de daltonisme. Une découverte qui expliquerait les différences de sensibilité à l'environnement, aux médicaments et aux maladies. **V.B.**

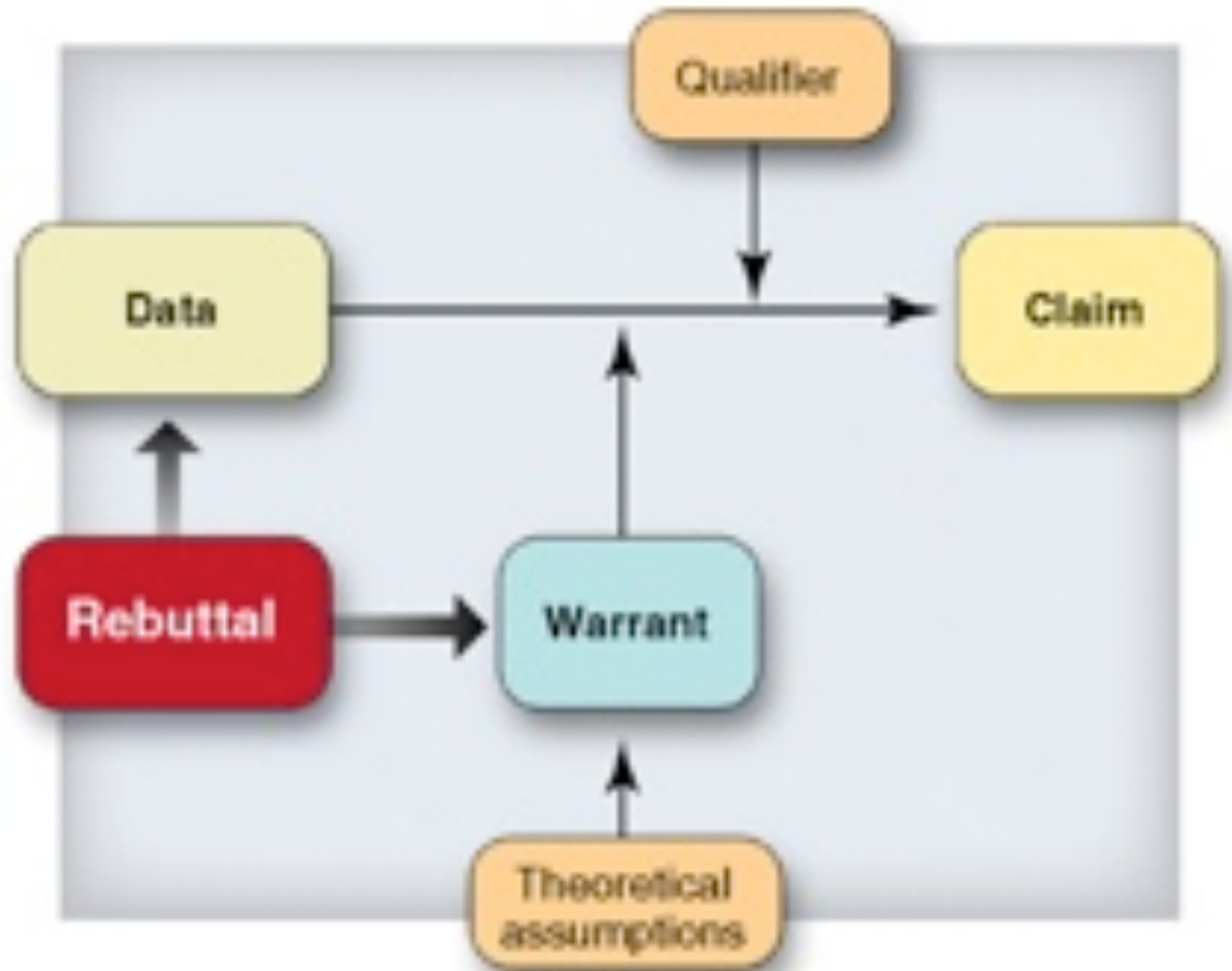
> 3 000 de nos gènes nous différencient au sein de notre espèce.





# Scientific *understanding*

- Justified (Toulmin 1958)
  - Based on exper
  - Aware of metho
  - Debated with co
    - Subjected to
- “Thickness” of sc
- Understanding is
  - To *understand* s
  - ≠ to know abou
- Autonomous *jus*







# Justification in science and in school

- **Experiment** – publication - discussion (social confrontation)
- Science – Nature -> proxy for experiment
- Textbook : proxy for proxy for experiment...
- Teacher handout : proxy for proxy for proxy for experiment ...

**Didactical transposition** (Chevallard, 1991) Loss of methods, uncertainty, limits, discussion, -> definitive visually striking testable conclusion

-> Confront students to **authentic** resources



# IBL : focus on *learning*

« In other lectures, you wait a few moments and the teacher gives the answer, so you write it down and don't do the effort of thinking, and finally you must redo all the work of understanding at home. »

Student in questionnaire end of year 2006

Inquiry ...a sharing of responsibility towards knowledge between the teacher and the students leaving important parts of responsibility to the students

Bueno-Ravel, L. et al. (2010) *Mind the Gap*.

# Teach

- Don't teach,
  - because science is r
  - because it doesn't v
- Manage interaction  
resources



JE NE VEUX PAS  
APPRENDRE LÉONARD  
DE VINCI, JE VEUX  
DEVENIR LÉONARD  
DE VINCI.





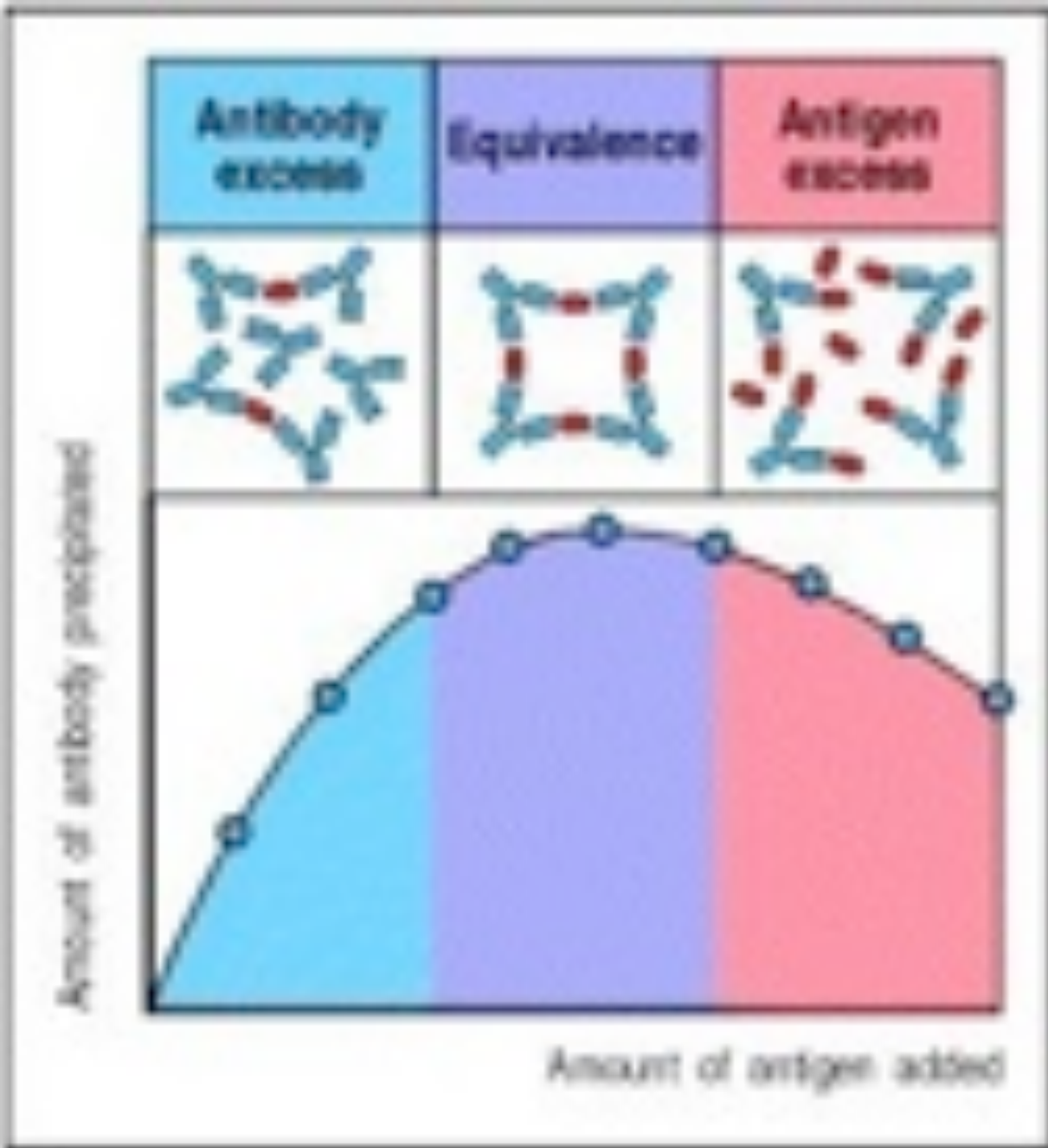
# Most critical design elements

- 1° Authority separation
  - Scientific authority from experiment or authentic resources
    - Wean students from T authority in justification
  - Firm but encouraging pedagogical authority : T
  - Guide by negotiating questions



# Which $Q^\circ$ is

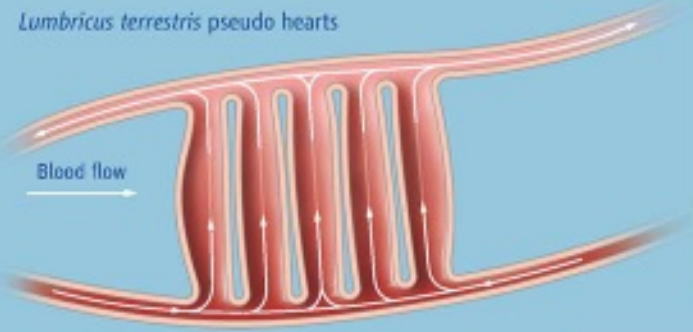
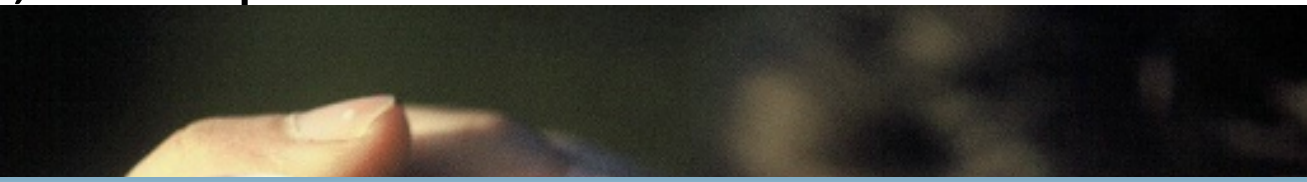
- Discuss with n
- 1) What is the group ?
- 2) Why is mixing giving udp and
- Vote 1 or 2



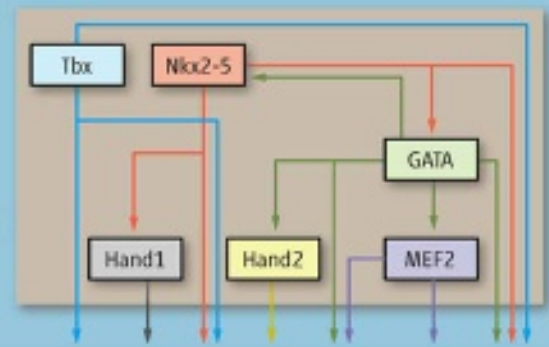


# Good scientific question?

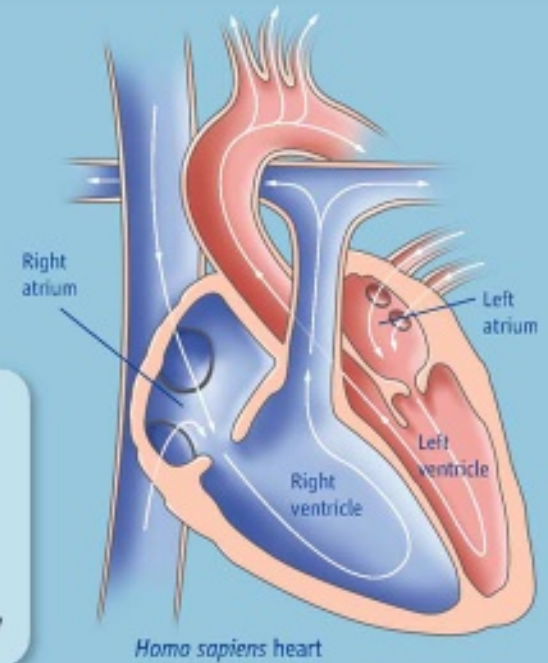
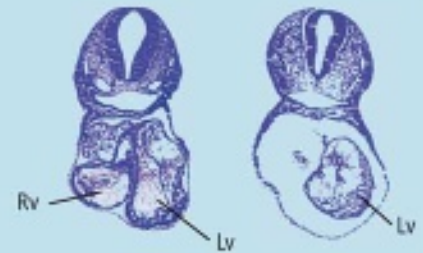
- Biology main question
  - Ontological, Descriptive -> 1950
  - Underlying

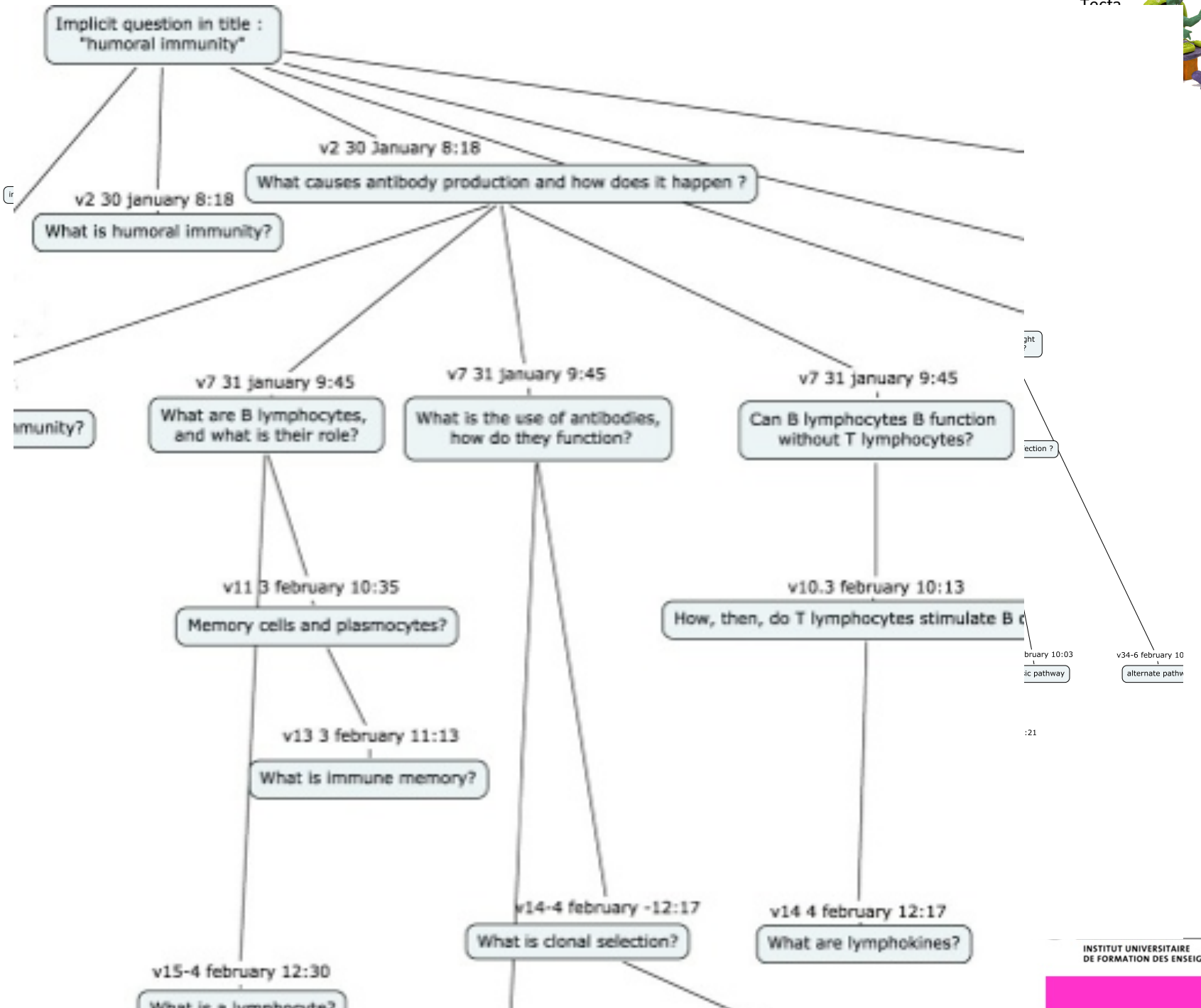


ALL HEARTS share a common function—to pump fluid carrying oxygen and nutrients through the body. A core group of transcription factors that connect signaling pathways with genes for heart muscle growth, patterning, and contractility have been conserved for roughly 500 million years. The flow chart shows a simplified version for vertebrates. Complexity has arisen during evolution through such mechanisms as gene duplication and incorporation of additional networks of interacting genes.



MEF2 is the most ancient factor regulating heart formation. In mice, the right ventricle of the heart does not develop if MEF2C is inactivated, as shown in these histologic sections of a wild-type (left) and mutant (right) embryo. Right ventricle (Rv), left ventricle (Lv).





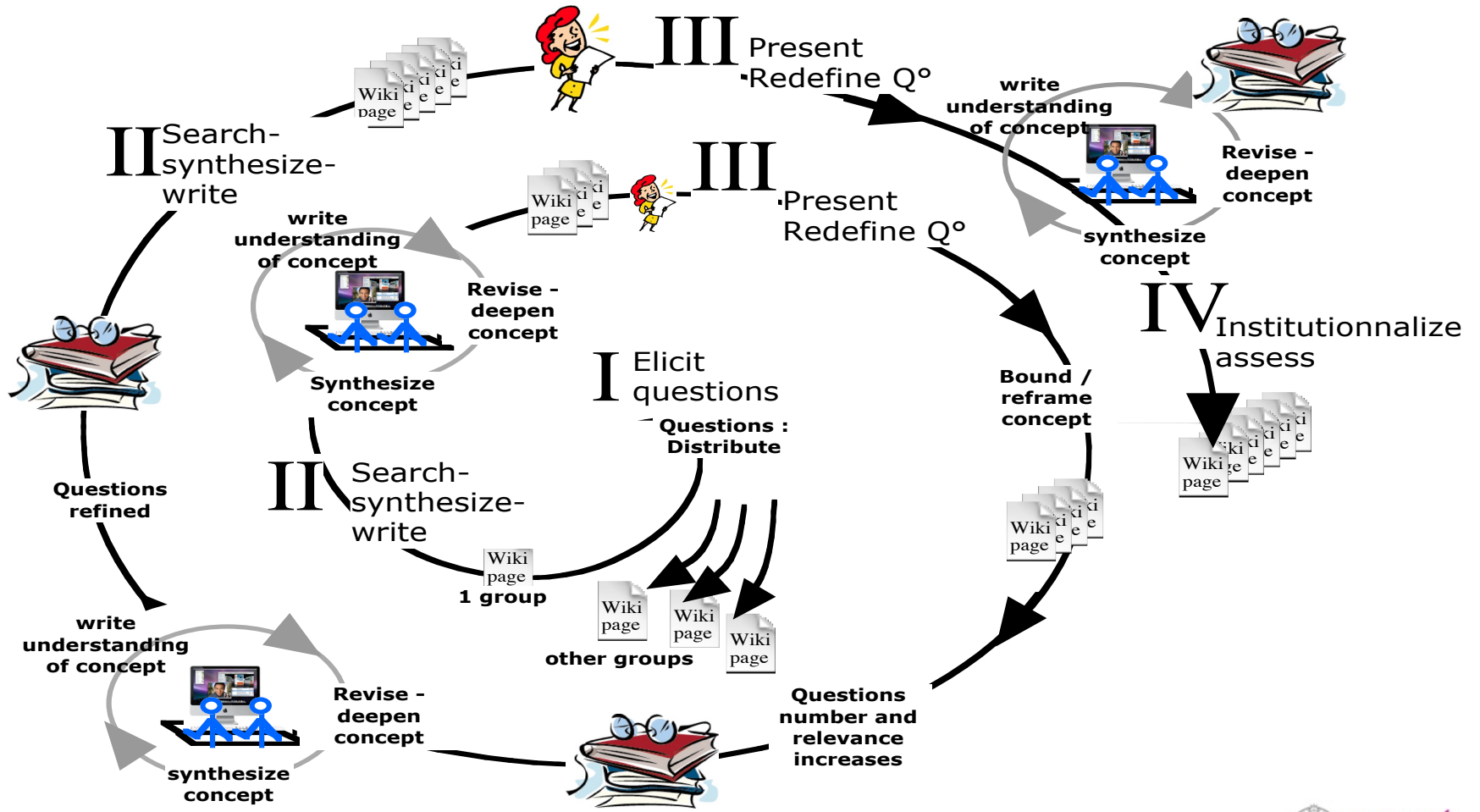


# Most critical design elements

- 2° Student *responsibility* (towards peers) of developing a share of knowledge
- Learners « own » Q° (want to / understand)
- Chapter divided into groups
- Co-writing of critical document for peers to prepare exams
- Peer presentations – early
- Commitment to knowledge improvement



# The design we analyzed







# Question-centered and $Q^\circ$ -driven

- RD8: Questions negotiated in reference to the objectives drive investigation
  - Supervise  $Q^\circ \sim$  as conceptual attractors
  - Question refinement : vague  $Q^\circ \rightarrow$  good  $Q^\circ$
- RD10: Responses should address the concept defined by the question: conceptual coherence of questions and corresponding answers
  - Allows guidance
  - Prevents “Google - drowning “



# Critical variable for guiding

- Good scientific answer ?
- Epistemic complexity (K. Hakkarainen, 2003, Zhang, J., Scardamalia, 2007)
  - Facts simple elaborated explanations simple elaborated
- Quality of answer
  - Content independent
  - Relevant (Morange 2003)

Lombard, F. E., & Schneider, D. K. (2013). **Good student questions in inquiry learning**. *Journal of Biological Education*, 47(3), 166-174. doi: 10.1080/00219266.2013.821749

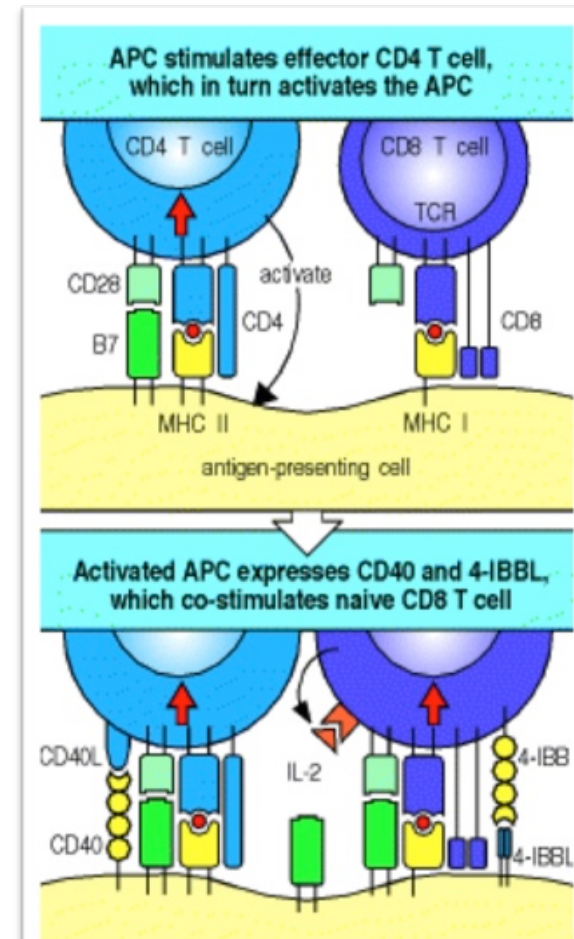


# Simple facts... to ... Elaborated **explanations**

- Reasons, relationships, or mechanisms elaborated.

## How are the antigen-specific type of lymphocytes activated by cytokines, i.e. what is double activation?

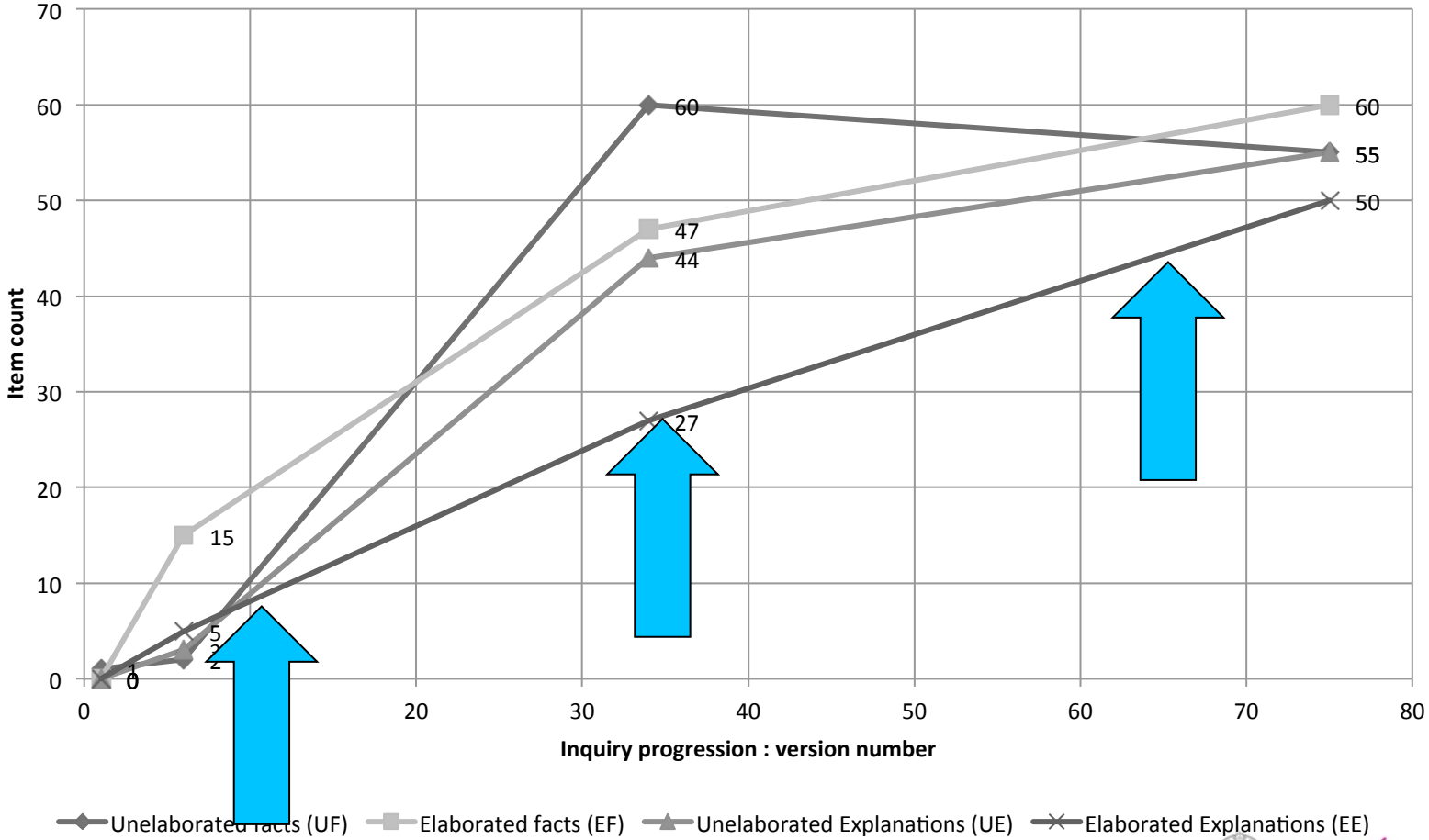
Double activation. Certain T8 responses require T4 : T8 recognizing antigens on weakly co-stimulatory cells can only be activated in presence of T4 linked to the same APC. This happens mainly by way of a T4 recognizing an antigen on an activated APC inducing high levels of co-stimulatory activity on the APC, which in turn activates T8 to produce it's own IL-2. *(Translated from french by author) »*





# Teacher intervention -> phase change

Epistemic complexity over investigation time for one group's text (end 2006)





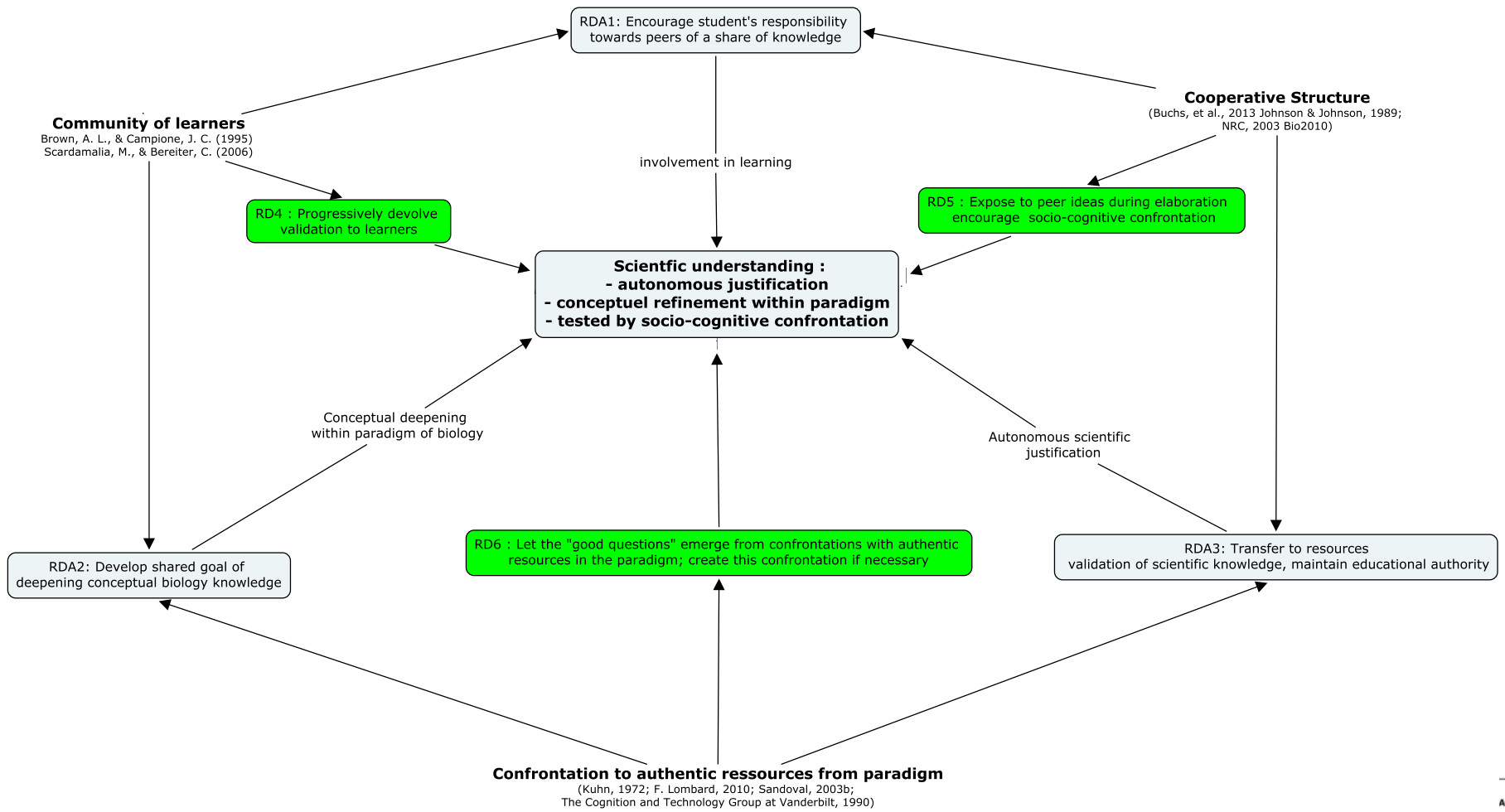
# Question negotiation

- Questions mainly arise from resources and activities
- Questions are revised during presentations
- Questions are supervised by T
- Q° framed by Objectives, guided by paradigm - resources





# Teacher centered view





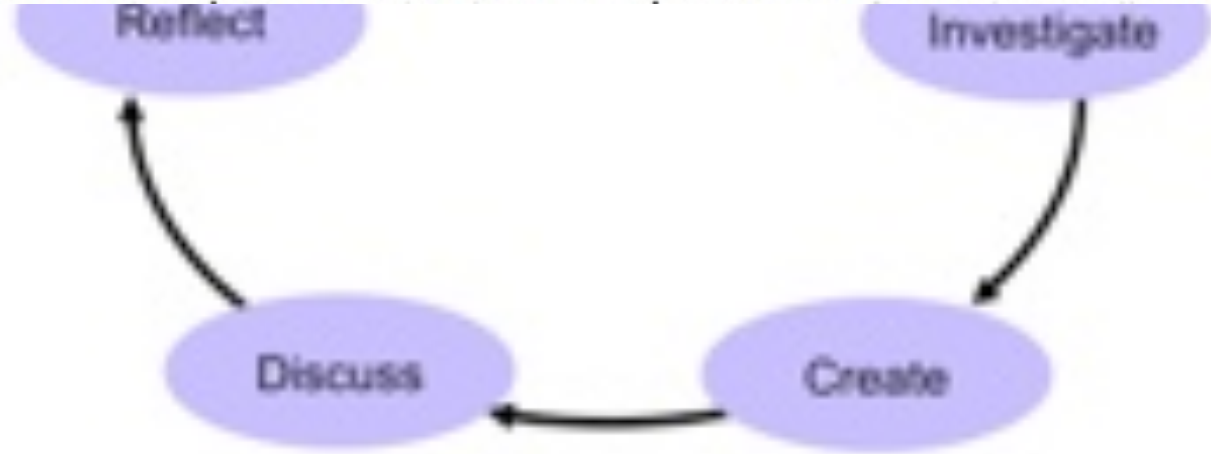
# Student- Teacher share common goal of conceptual knowledge deepening

- Assessment, feedback focused on improvement :
  - RD23: Teacher feedback encourages cognitive conflicts by

## Comment un gène peut-il être régulé ?

La régulation des gènes ce passe sur l'ADN. *plus haut vous dites que cela peut se passer ailleurs... précisez que vous étudiez ce cas bien documenté* En effet, il y a tout d'abord une lutte entre activateurs et répresseur pour savoir *je ne pense pas que ces molécules savent quoi que ce soit... on préfère un langage objectif en science.* si le gène sera inhibé ou activé. Certains répresseurs empêche l'activation de l'ADN polymérise et d'autres empêche la liaisons des activateurs à l'ADN ce qui inhibe le processus de la transcription. Si le régulateur de protéine ne vient pas se lier avec l'ADN *ici il manque un bout de phrase ... polymérise* alors la protéine ne se fera pas au final. Dans

- constru
- Cooperat
- Studen
- RD5: E) encour





# Focus on student knowledge *improvement*

- Tolerate imperfection, but progressively develop quality of explanation
- Assess for progress not moral values
  - Allow revision



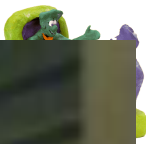
# What guidance ?

- Firm, encouraging pedagogical authority allows student autonomy
  - RD27: Educational authority is largely embedded in the structure of the design thus confirming the freedom of students within that framework and frees the teacher for conceptual control and relationship management

**Vous êtes-vous sentis autonomes mais suffisamment encadré-e (à la fin) ?**

**Je me suis senti désorienté-e =1 -> L'autonomie me convenait bien =4**

**Average 4 years = 3.41 out of 4 sd.= 0.69 N = 22**  
field and the emergence of epistemic complexity



# WE LOVE BIOLOGIE!







# Acknowledgements :

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- With the support of Département de l'Instruction Publique Genève, DGPO
  - TECFA , IUFE University of Geneva
  - Collège Calvin



Thankyou for  
For your  
attention

<http://doiop.com/flopublications>

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# Sample

- 19 year old final higher secondary school students  $N \sim 98$
- Wiki records  $10^6$  words
  - Questionnaires
    - End of year
    - 1 year later at university
- 2002-2014
- Full year inquiry
- 12-16 students / 4 groups
- Normal time, curriculum, exams





# Truth in science ?

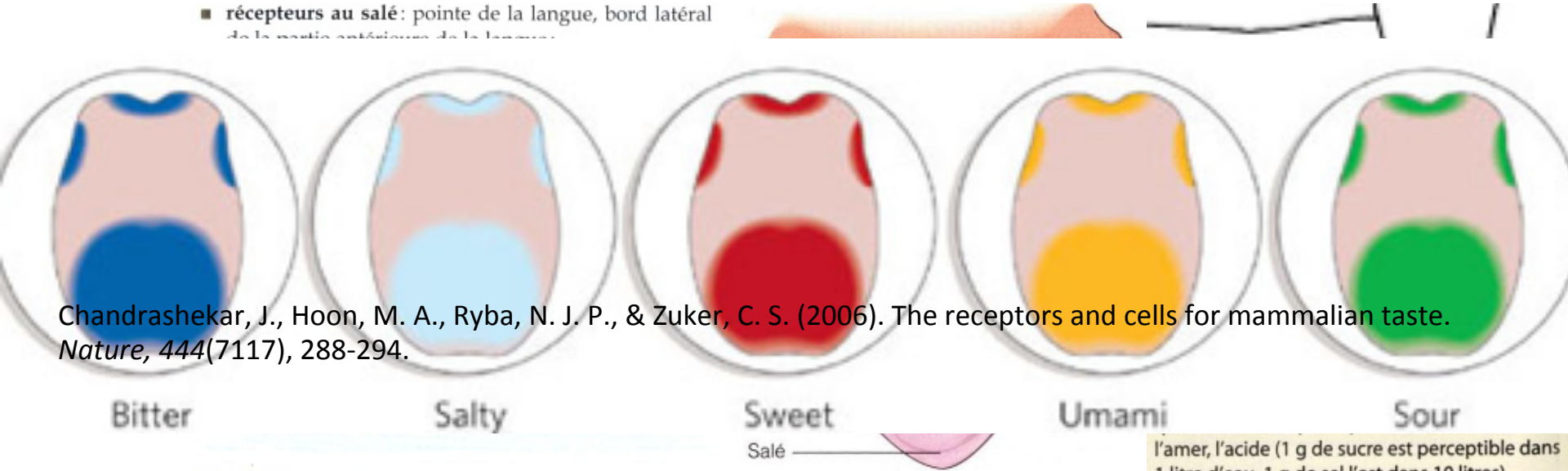
- Science is models
  - Hypothetical
  - Modifiable
  - Appropriate for certain problems
  - Limited scope (Martinand, 1996)
- Models are accepted for their capacity to explain data  $\neq$  truth



# Didactical transposition

## Confront students to authentic resources

■ récepteurs au salé: pointe de la langue, bord latéral de la partie antérieure de la langue



Chandrashekar, J., Hoon, M. A., Ryba, N. J. P., & Zuker, C. S. (2006). The receptors and cells for mammalian taste. *Nature*, 444(7117), 288-294.

Figure 12.6 Répartition des récepteurs sur la langue pour les quatre qualités du goût.

l'amer, l'acide (1 g de sucre est perceptible dans 1 litre d'eau, 1 g de sel l'est dans 10 litres).

(a)