

Incorporating Student Feedback in a Large Psychology Course

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Audience Response Systems (ARS)

- Students and faculty interact via question & answer, polls, etc.
- Results can be immediately displayed for discussion
- Used with stand alone devices, apps (smartphones and tablets), web-based on laptops/computers

Rationale

- Promotes active learning
 - Increased learning and deeper thinking (Greer & Heanery, 2004)
 - Increased interaction with material
 - Ease of incorporating questions into lecture
- Engages/motivates students
 - Stimulates attention using “game” approach (Bergtrom, 2006)
 - Segmenting?

Rationale

- Provides immediate feedback for faculty & students
 - Increases in student knowledge-gains (Black & William, 1998)
- Increases attendance when associated with **course grade** (Burnstein & Lederman, 2001; Greer & Heaney, 2004).
 - 5 % of grade is sufficient motivator (Caldwell, 2007)
 - Importance to maintain intrinsic motivation
- **Anonymous participation**
 - Increased student comfort (Nayak & Erenjeri, 2008)
 - Students provide more honest responses (Stowell & Nelson, 2007)

Syllabus Review

Online quizzes will ALMOST always be available:

- a) whenever I want to take them
- b) for 2 hours after class
- c) after class on Mon. or Wed. and available for a week
- d) on Tues. until Thurs. morning

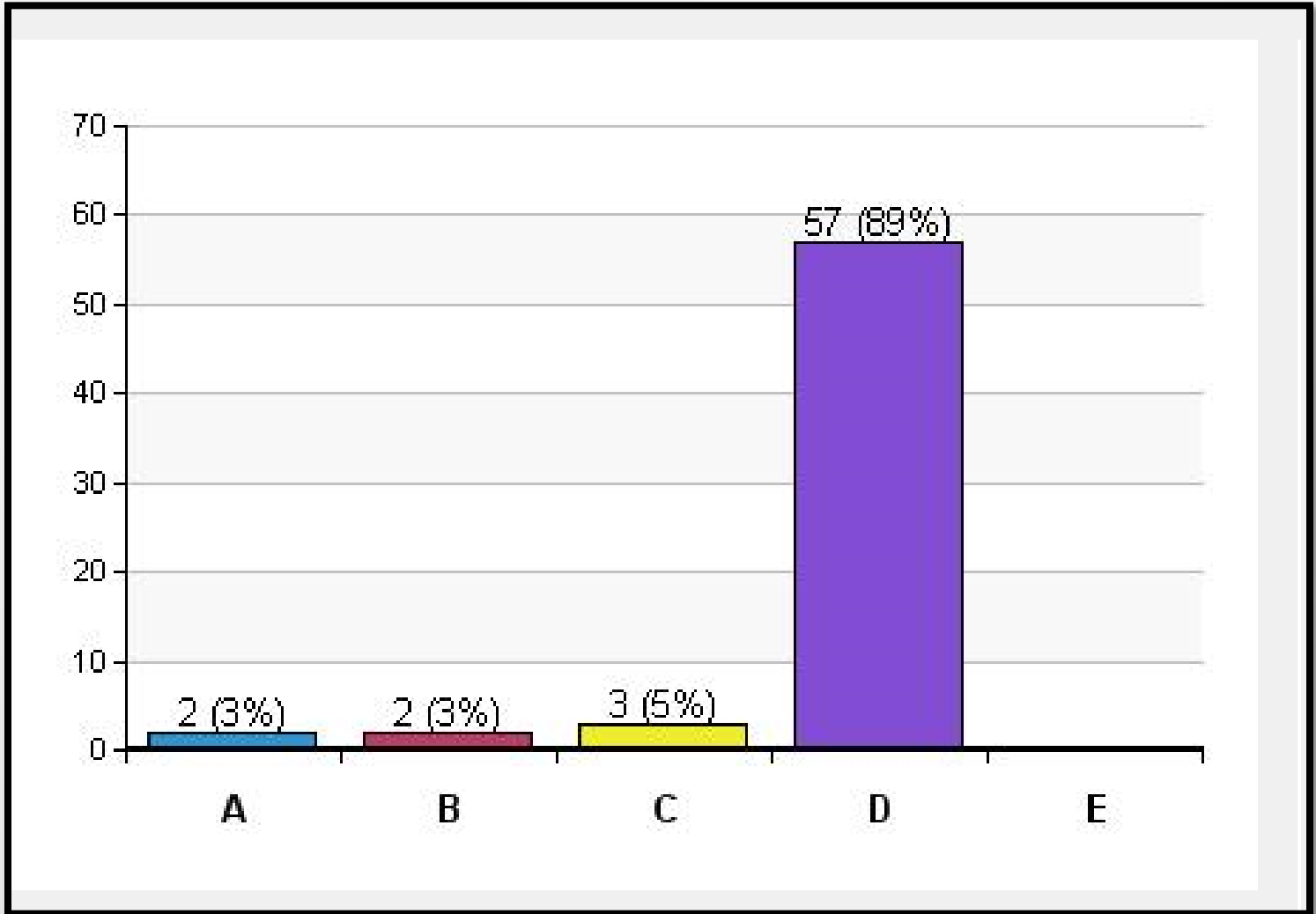


Comprehension Checks

Since everyone in her dorm watched *American Idol* and *The Apprentice*, Tyra decided she better do the same. She didn't particularly like those shows, but she wanted everyone to accept her.

This example best illustrates:

- a) informational social influence
- b) peripheral route persuasion
- c) cognitive dissonance
- d) normative social influence





Comprehension Checks

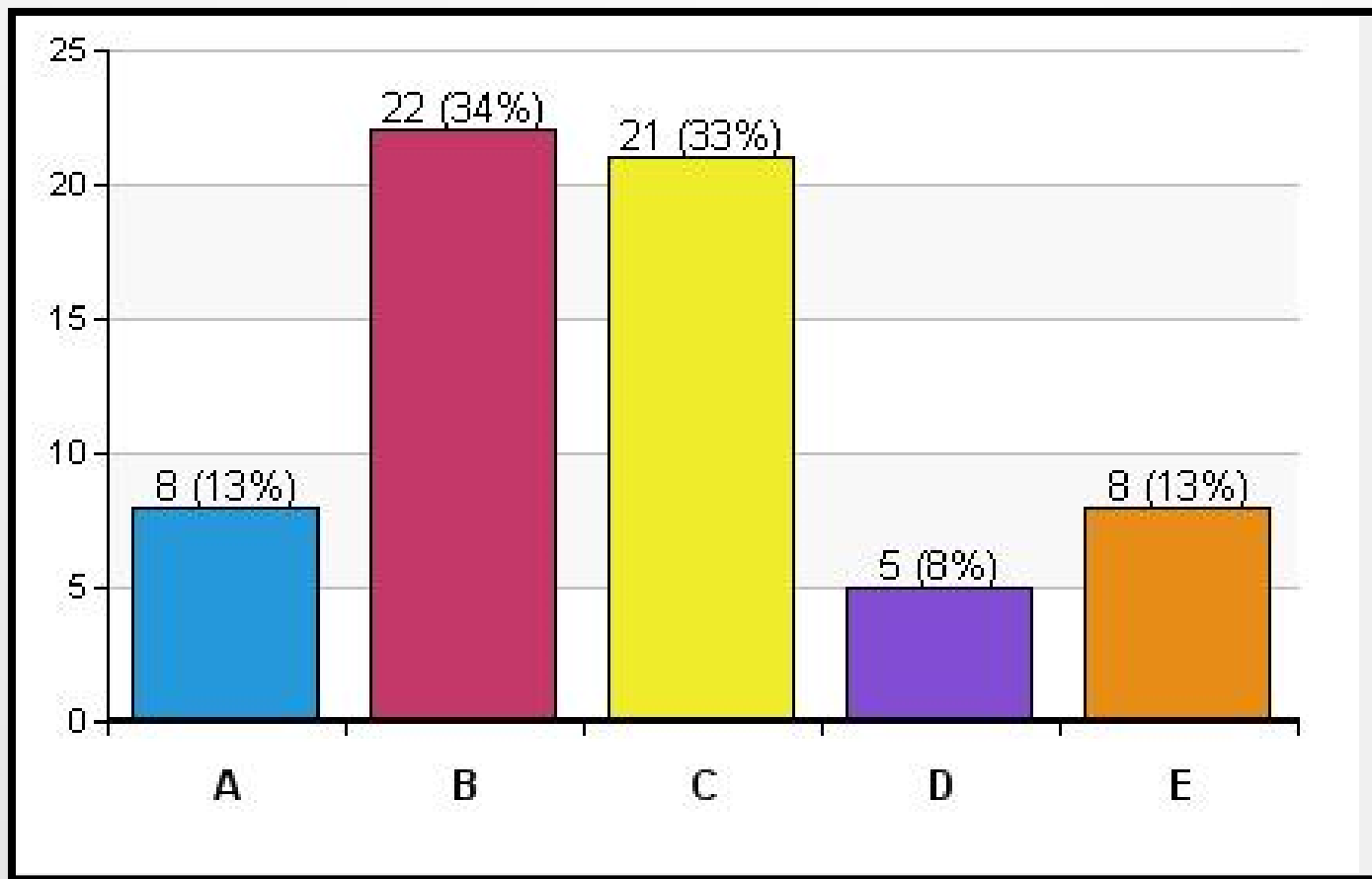
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- d) **normative social influence**

A learning theorist would be most likely say the following to explain panic disorder:

- a) People have a greater likelihood of having panic disorder if someone in their biological family has panic disorder
- b) When an individual has a panic attack, other people express concern and show that they care about them. This makes people “feel good” so panic attacks become reinforced.
- c) Panic attacks arise when disturbing material from someone’s unconscious mind causes the individual intense anxiety
- d) Panic disorder is associated with increased brain activity in the anterior cingulate cortex
- e) Our ancestors who were likely to panic avoided potentially dangerous situations, which made them more likely to survive.





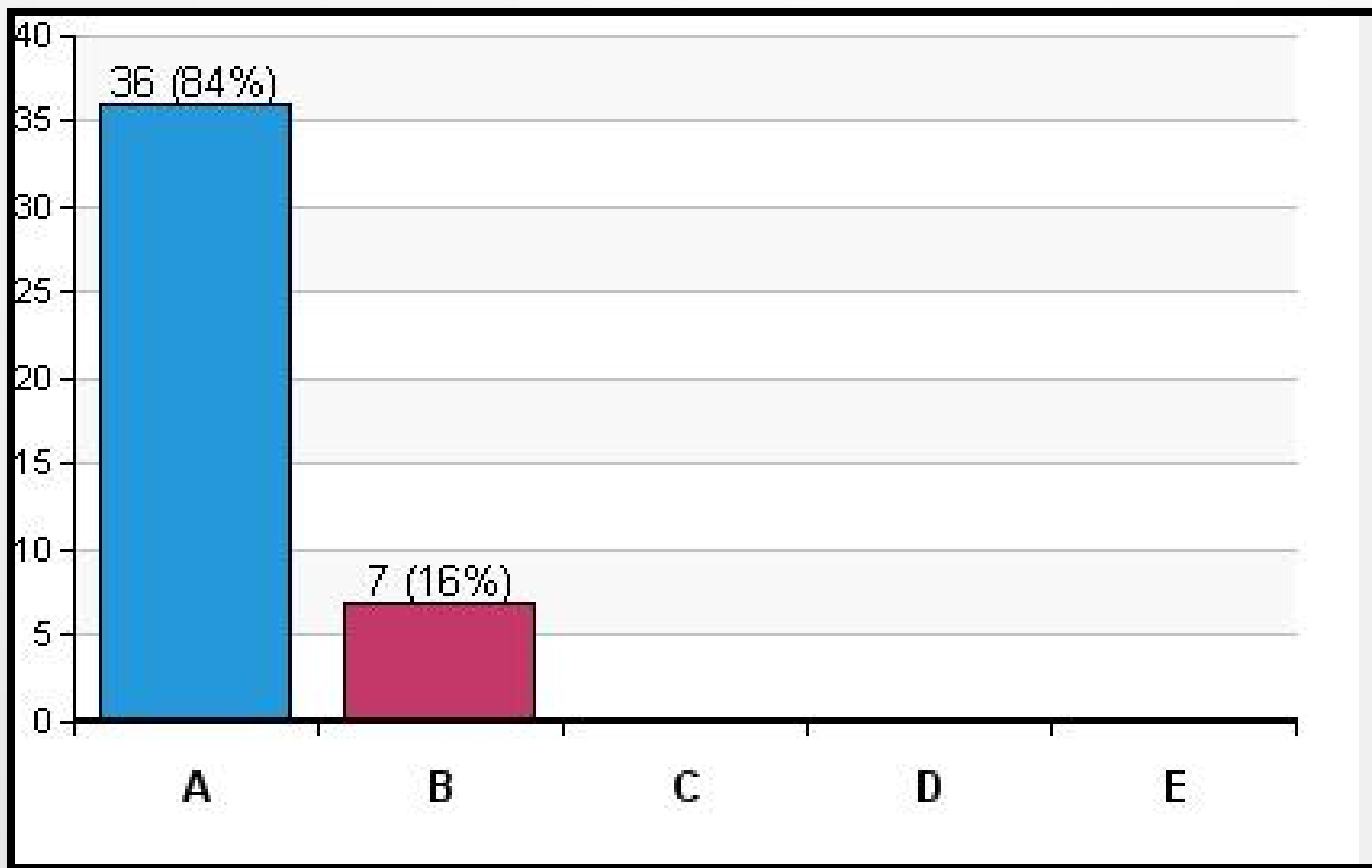
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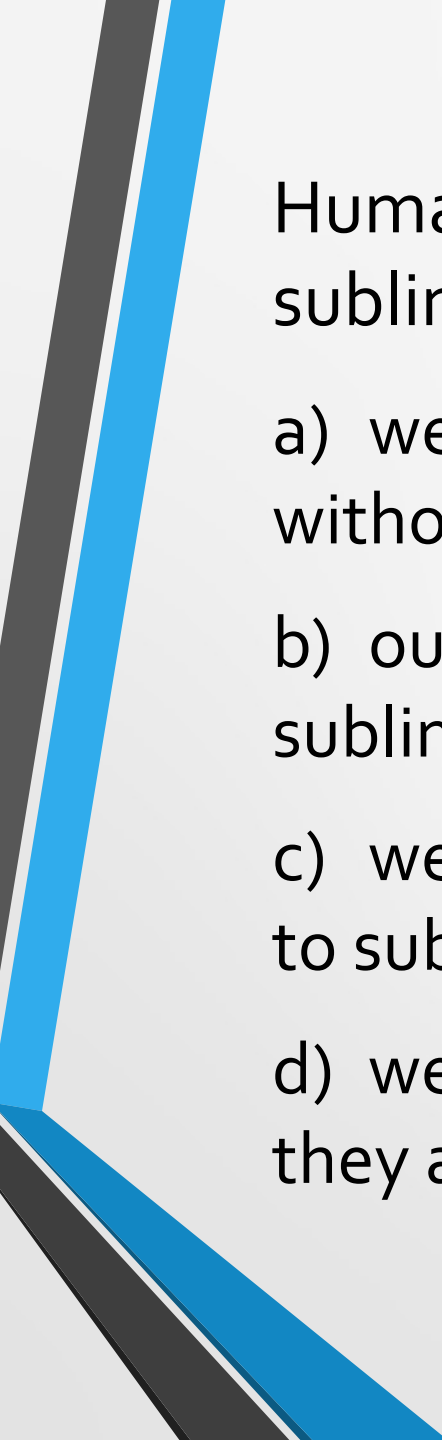
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Introducing New Material

If a movie theater wants customers to buy more concessions, they can quickly flash phrases like “Drink Coca-Cola” or “Hungry? Try some popcorn” on the screen. While moviegoers will not “see” the images, there will be an increase in sales of drinks and popcorn.

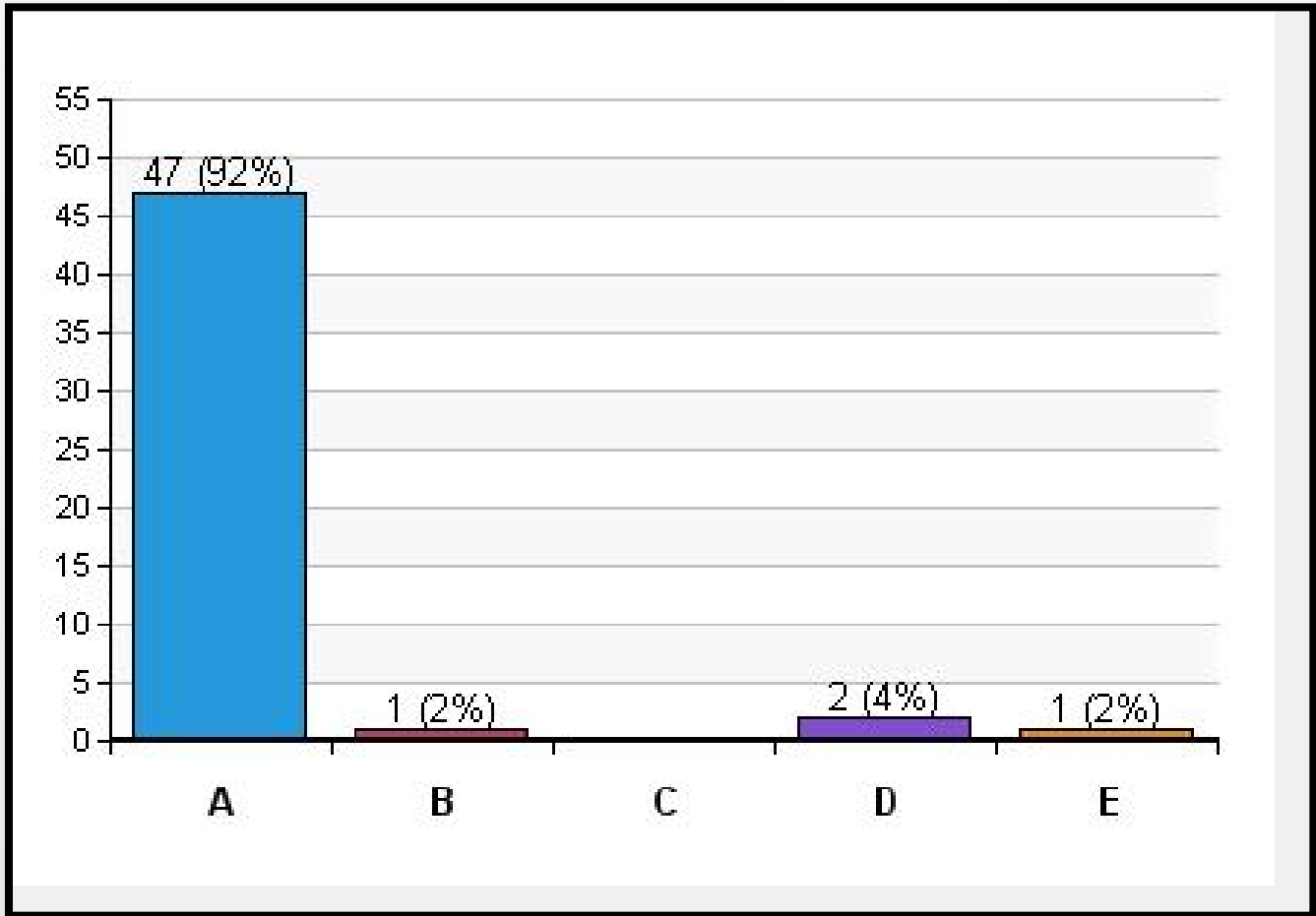
- a) True
- b) False

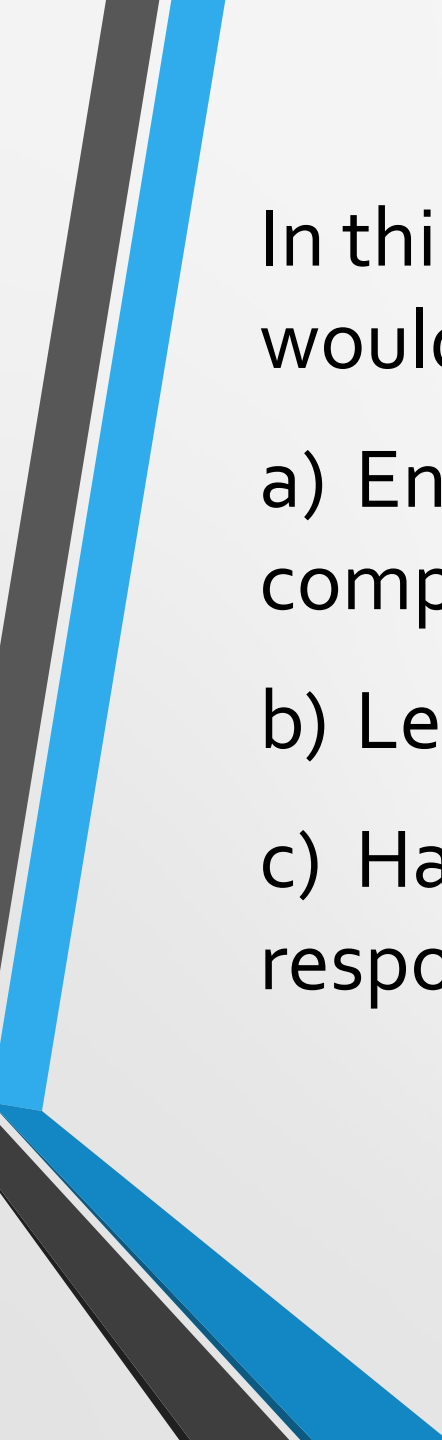




Human responses to information presented subliminally indicates that:

- a) we are capable of processing information without any conscious awareness of doing so.
- b) our unconscious minds are incapable of resisting subliminally presented suggestions.
- c) we are more sensitive to subliminal sounds than to subliminal sights.
- d) we experience a sense of discomfort whenever they are exposed to subliminal stimuli.



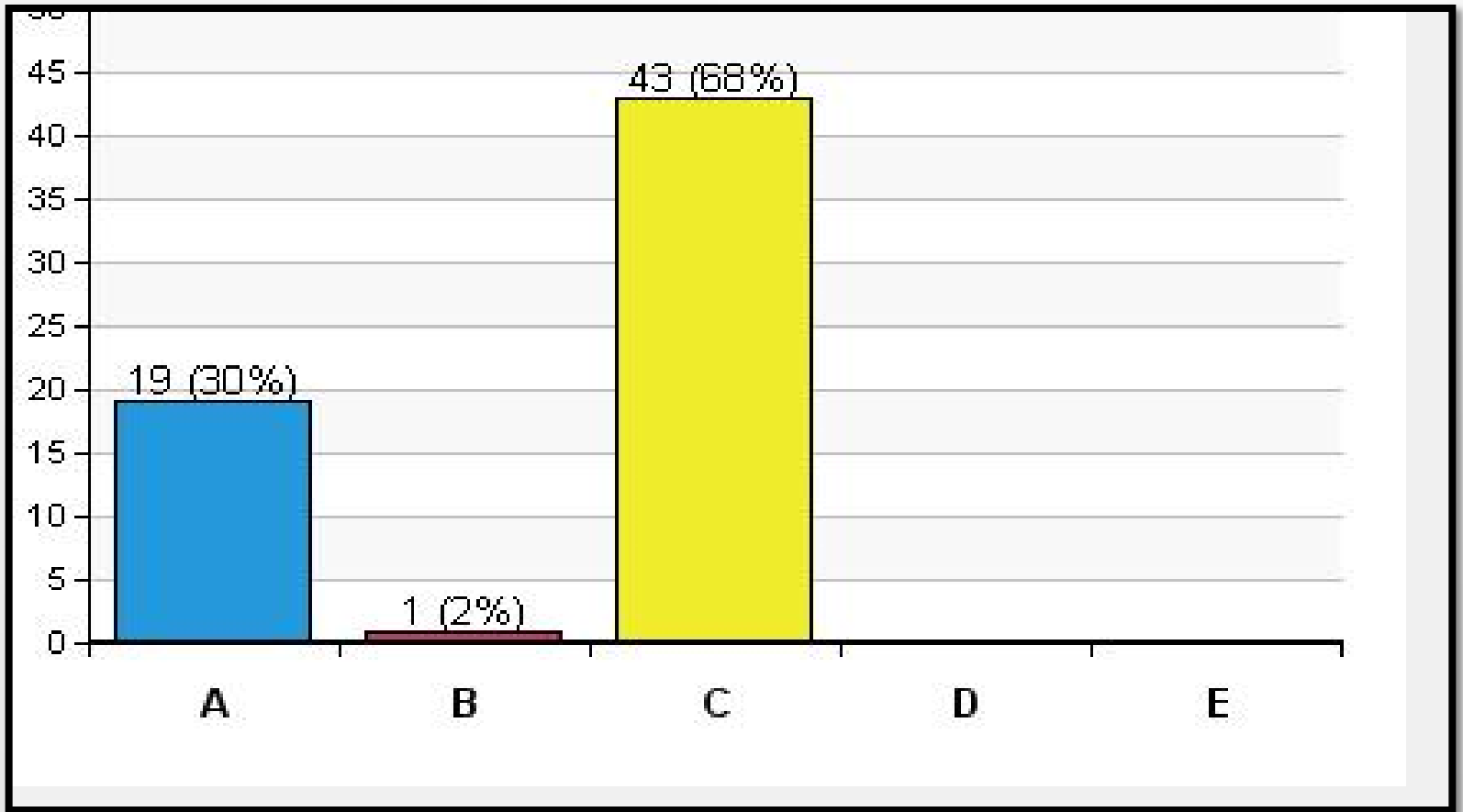


In thinking about the way I was raised, I would say my parents/guardians mostly:

a) Enforced rules and expected compliance/obedience

b) Let me do what I wanted

c) Had high expectations but were also responsive to my needs

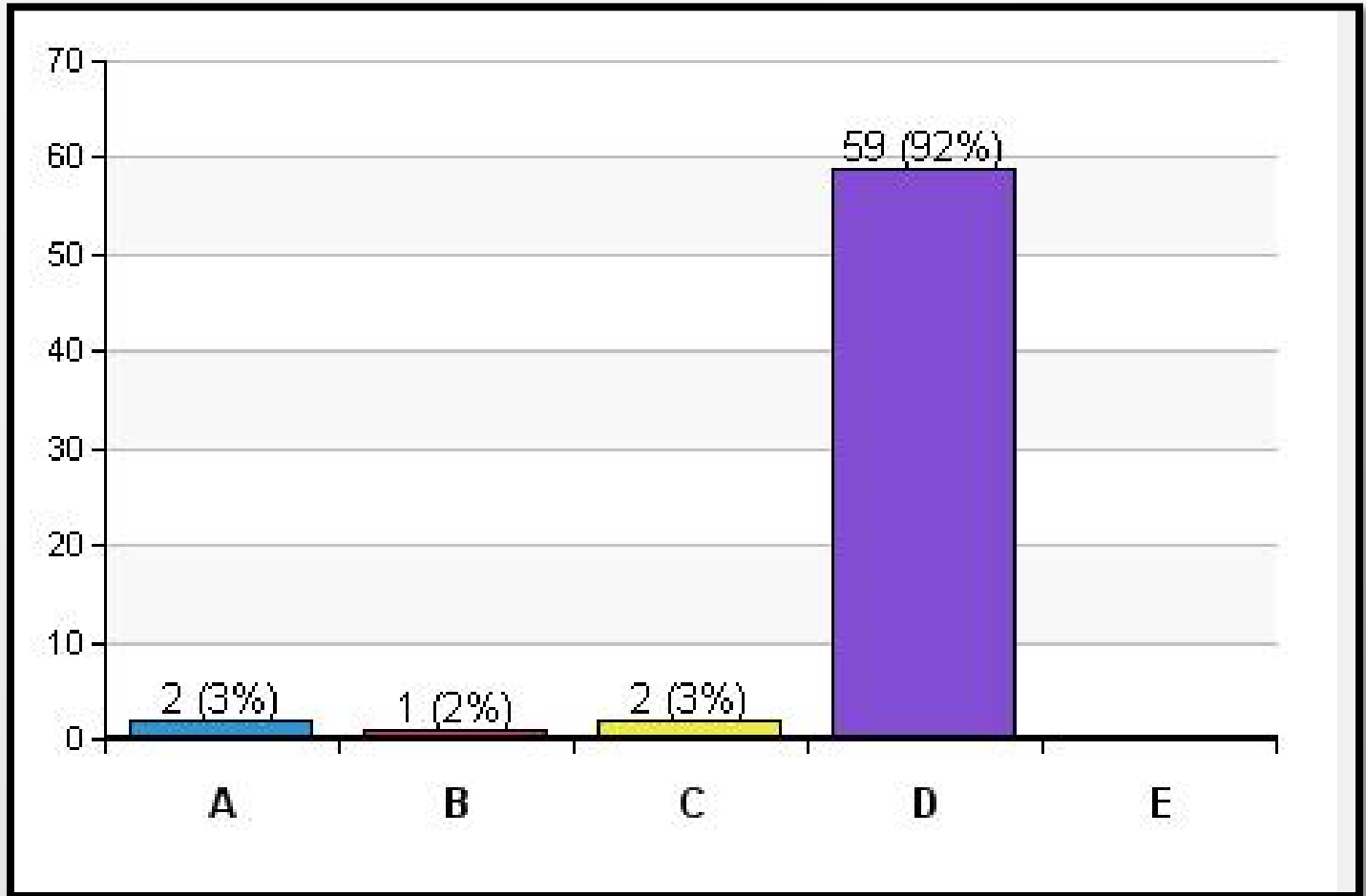


Child-Rearing Practices

Practice	Description
Authoritarian	Parents impose rules and expect obedience.
Permissive	Parents submit to children's demands.
Authoritative	Parents are demanding but responsive to their children.

"I don't care whether you want to wash the dishes, you will do so because I said so!" This statement is most representative of a(n) _____ parenting style.

- a) Neglectful
- b) Authoritative
- c) Permissive
- d) Authoritarian



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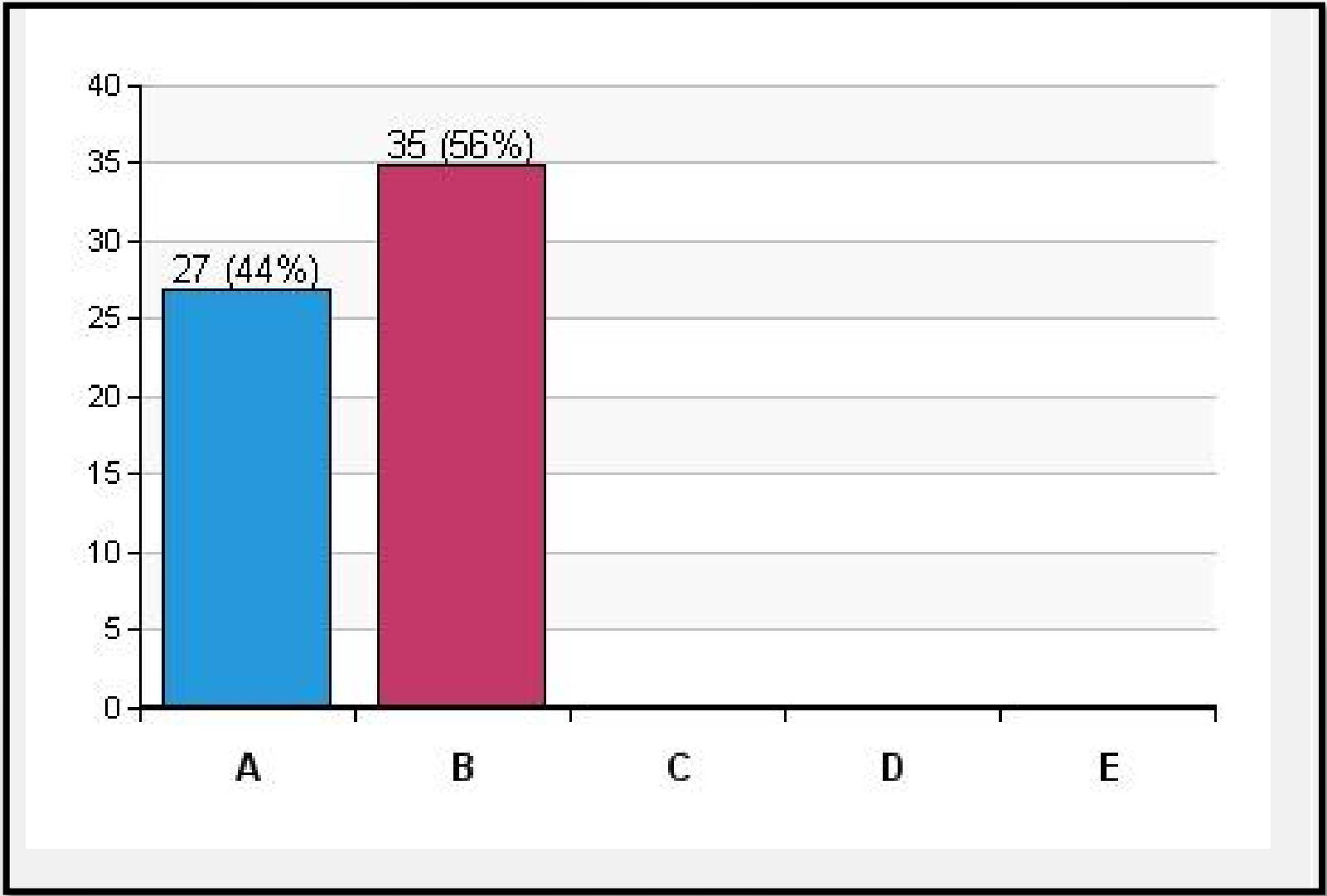
Introducing Discussion Topics

Is it a psychological disorder?

Diane is the only child of two professional parents. She did well in high school and had several close friends. However, her grades suffered when she got to college, and she spent one semester on probation before she graduated. While in college, she met Don, and the two married soon after graduation and had two children of their own.

Three months ago, Don came home from work and announced that he had met another woman and was having an affair and that he had decided to leave Diane. The divorce proceeded quickly, and, while Diane retained custody of the children, she had to move to a smaller apartment. She began looking for work but found that it was difficult to find a job, and eventually took a job she disliked. Diane often finds herself becoming very sad and will sometimes lie in bed crying after the children are asleep. She finds herself eating a lot more than she used to, and sometimes, she has difficulty getting to sleep at night.

- a) Has a Psychological Disorder
- b) Does not have a Psychological Disorder



In-class Demonstrations

The primary task of the government should be to keep citizens safe from terrorism and crime.

The primary task of the government should be to preserve citizens' rights and civil liberties.

Left side of the room

Question 2:

- a) Strongly Agree
- b) Agree
- c) Neutral
- d) Disagree
- e) Strongly Disagree

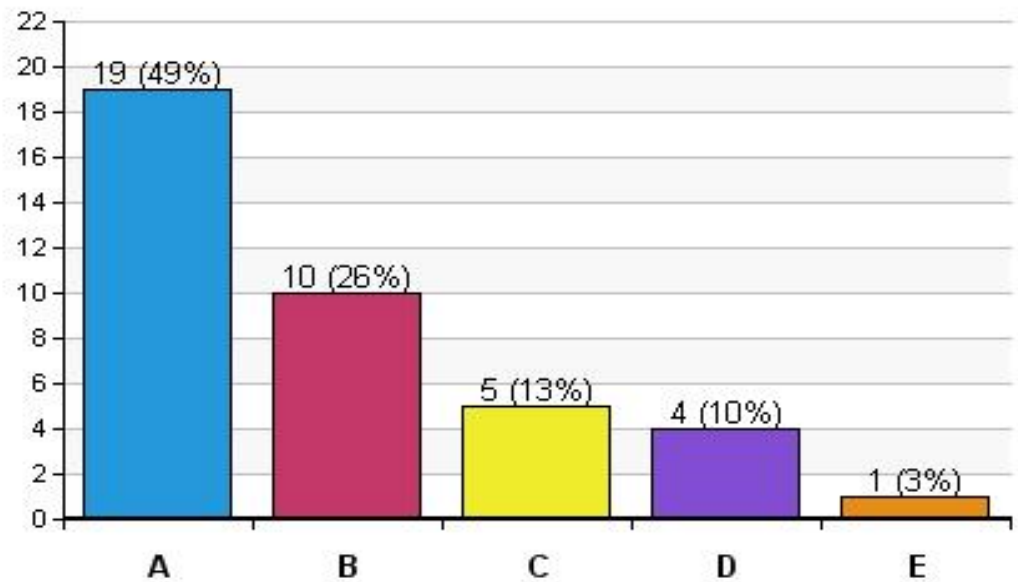


Right Side of the Room

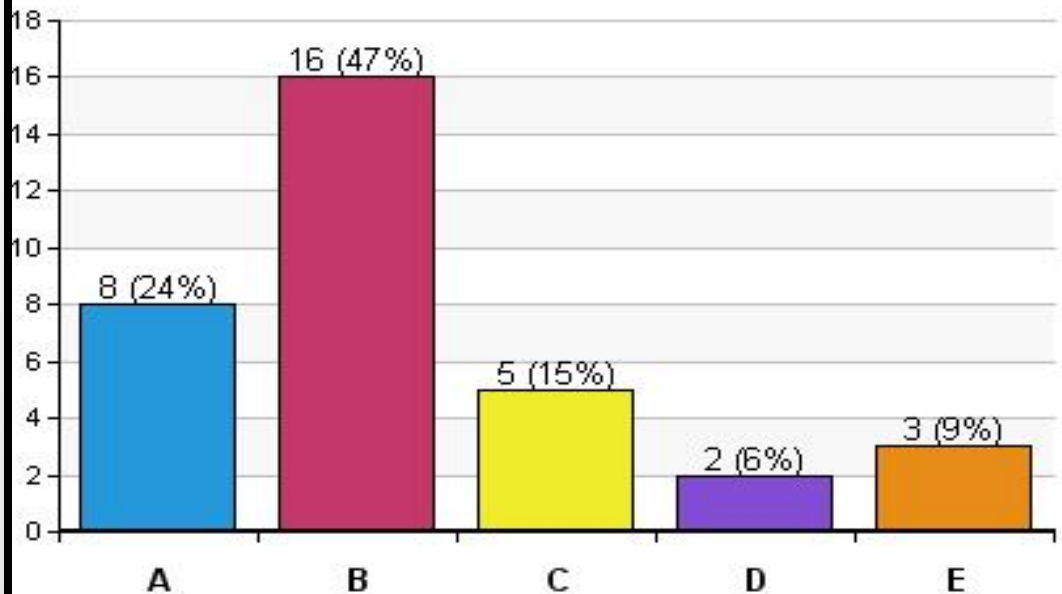
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- e) Strongly Disagree

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Anonymous Polling

How well do you understand _____?

- a) Very well
- b) Pretty well
- c) Sort-of
- d) Not very well
- e) Totally confused

Considerations

- Cost to students/university
- Impact on grading
 - No impact
 - Participation only
 - Correct answers
- Students can still “participate” without really engaging
- Academic Dishonesty

Potential Challenges

- Choose/Learning software/device
- Install/set up system
 - Administrative aspects (troubleshooting)
- Creating effective questions
 - Must emphasize correct answer and takeaway
- Class time

Student Feedback

Students know where their understanding level is compared to the whole class.

They make you use the information you know or find out that you don't know it.

You get to see what everybody else in class is thinking, but you do not get singled out. Nice if you are shy about giving wrong answers!

Thank you!

Session Feedback Links:

tinyurl.com/ELD15-10

