

How do I use “prior test” knowledge to improve responses in tests

Background

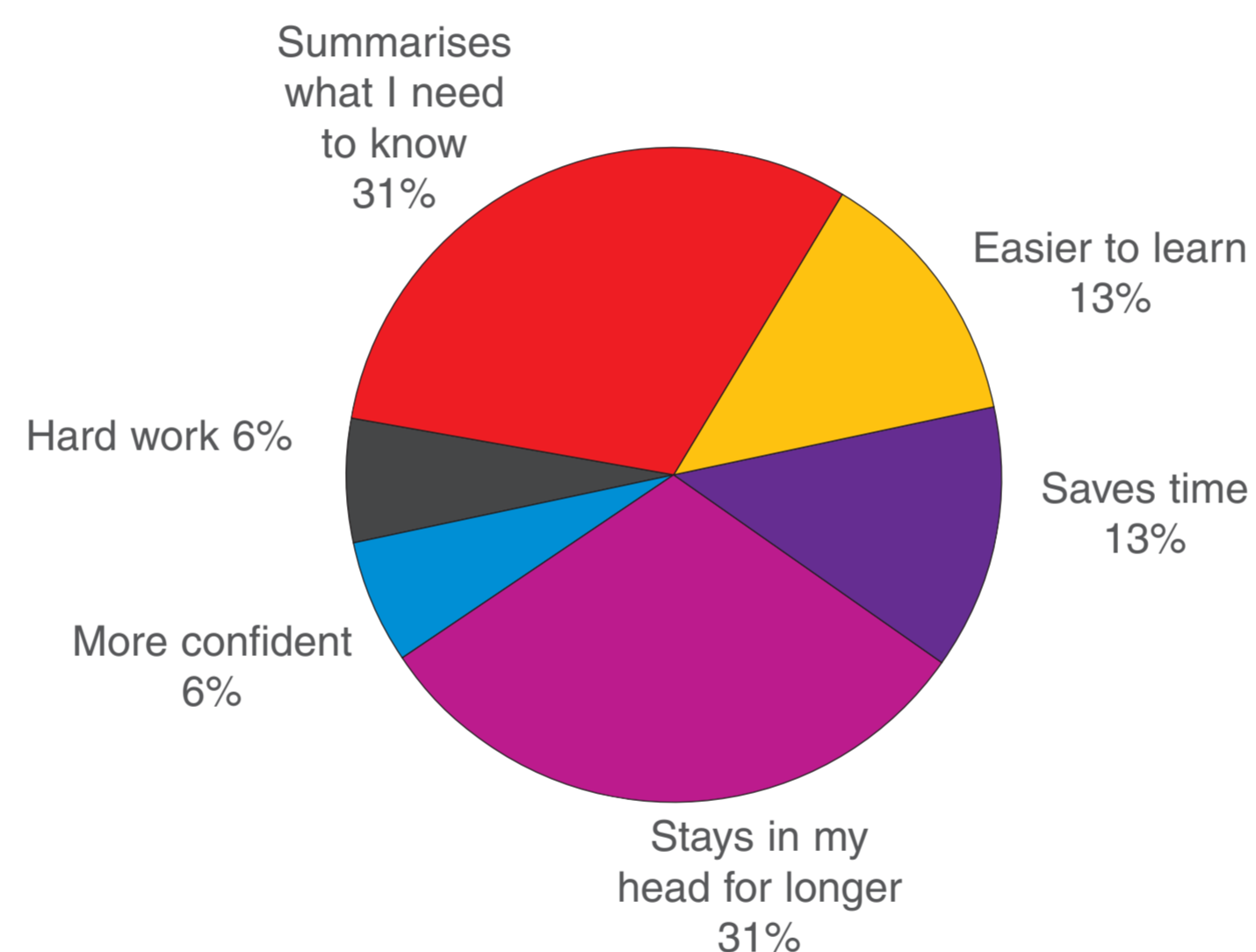
- I wanted to improve and encourage the long-term learning of my students, particularly my low achieving students.
- To improve self-esteem

Methods

- Students were given a copy of the test a week prior to the actual class test.
- Students had to research the answers.
- A week later completed the test

Results

What the students thought...



Student comments:

H/L student:

*“It’s ok. But you won’t know what will be on the Leaving Cert”
“Helps me to learn better if I know what is coming up”*

O/L student:

*“I like this form of assessment. It helps stay in my head for longer”
“Gives you confidence that stays with you for future tests”*

Conclusions

- Grades would say that the students benefited from this form of assessment.
- Students were more enthusiastic about doing well when given the test beforehand.
- Low achieving students liked this form of assessment as they found it easier to pick out the key points when given the question.