

# Using student produced notes to foster independent learning

## Rationale

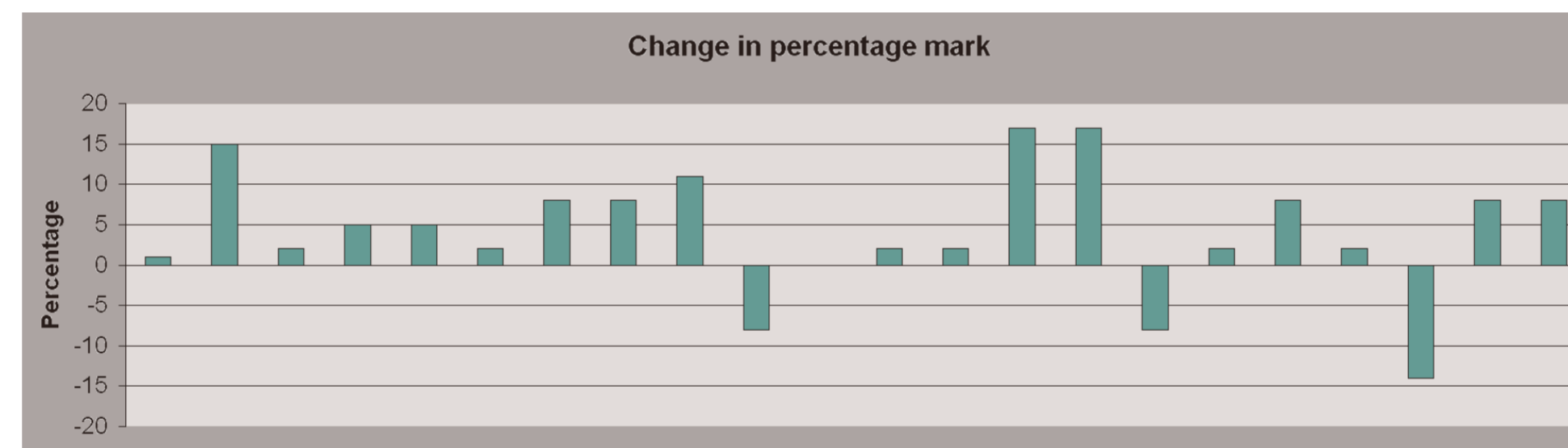
- Students have developed a “grind school” mentality making them increasingly dependent on teacher prepared notes
- Students being “spoon fed” by teachers
- Education theories tell us that people retain up to 70% more by doing
- Students requested more notes
- Develop independent learning

## Methods

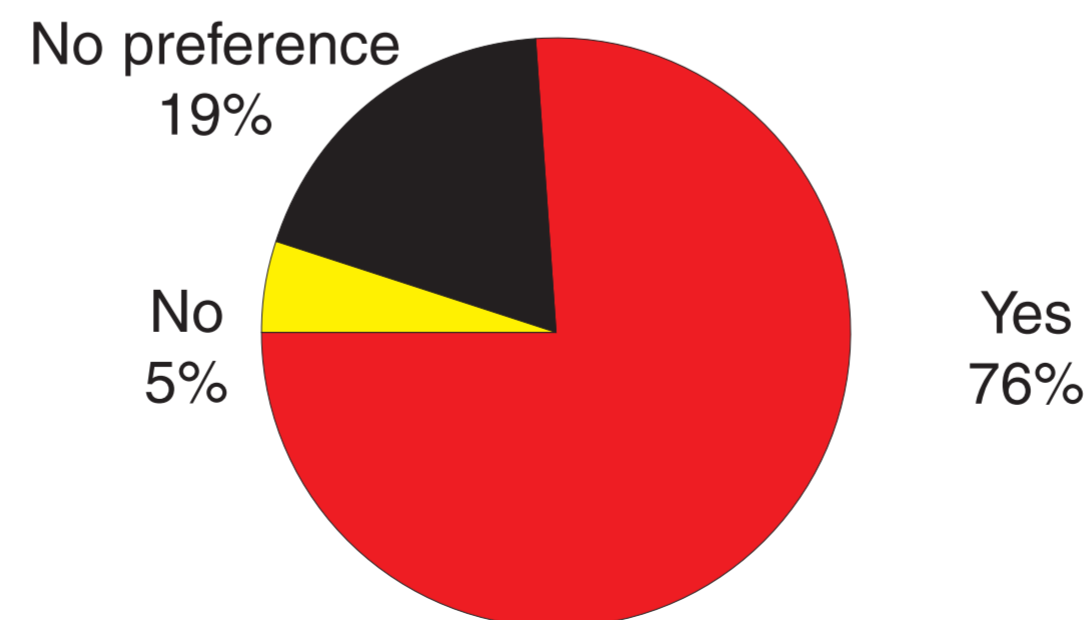
- Students produced their own notes on various topics over a set period
- Guidance on good note making and copies of the syllabus were provided
- Notes were corrected by the teacher
- Students repeated the same exam as previously sat prior to research and results were assessed

## Results

- 82% of students improved their grades
- One student remained at the same grade
- 3 students lowered their grades but had reasons when questioned
- The average grade increase was 4%
- Adjusted average is 7% when decreases and no change are removed



## Would you like more notes?



*“The book gives a lot of info that we don’t need to know and leaves out a lot of info that we do need to know so notes would help”*

## Conclusions

- Students grades improved
- Students felt more confident
- Students became more independent and were better able to take control of their own learning
- Students were more focused
- Improved grades showed students that their efforts had produced actual concrete results

## Student comments

- *“I’m finding this year much more productive; making notes is really helping me with my revision”*
- *“It is useful to get the syllabus requirements so that we know important info to take from our books when note taking”*
- *“Correcting the study notes is very helpful”*