Modernizing Assessment to Humanize Education

Thank You

Who am I?

Tyler Rablin ***(@Mr_Rablin)***

Former HS ELA Teacher

Innovative Learning Coach

Hacking Student Motivation

EdTech & Assessment Consultant

Who Am I Really?

Husband & Dog Dad

Hiker & Camper

Wildlife Photographer

Educator

In every interaction, we have the choice to approach it as transactional or human-centered.

Transactional Education

Teacher Plans Content

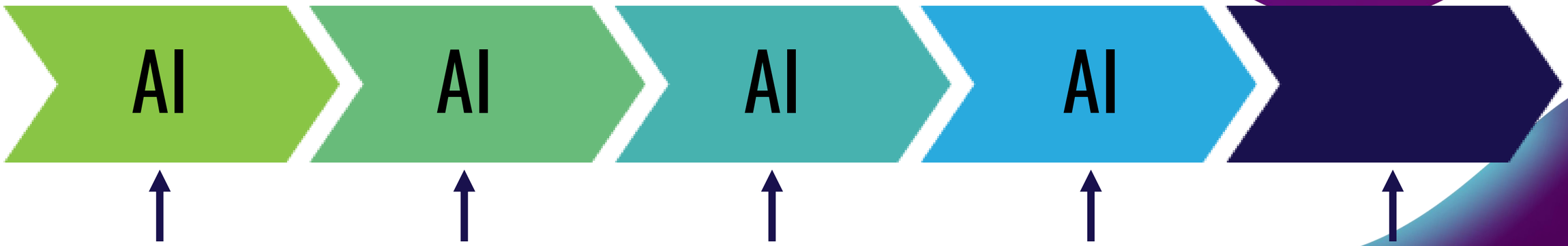
Teacher Teaches Lesson

Student Does Assignment

Teacher Gives Feedback

Everyone Moves On

Transactional Education



Teacher Plans Content

Teacher Teaches Lesson

Student Does Assignment

Teacher Gives Feedback

Everyone Moves On

My Fear With AI

It isn’t that kids will use it.

It’s that kids will be able to use it to do whatever they want...

...but they won’t know what matters to them, what’s worth working for, or what their own worth is.

A transactional system communicates that conforming to the norm is more important than individual and learner variability.

What does a humanized approach look like?

Story Time

AERO-US
Adventures: A Collection of Short Stories
When Everything You Think You Know is a Lie
The Trilogy
Why Everything You Know About is a Lie
The Dream

J

You're friends on Facebook

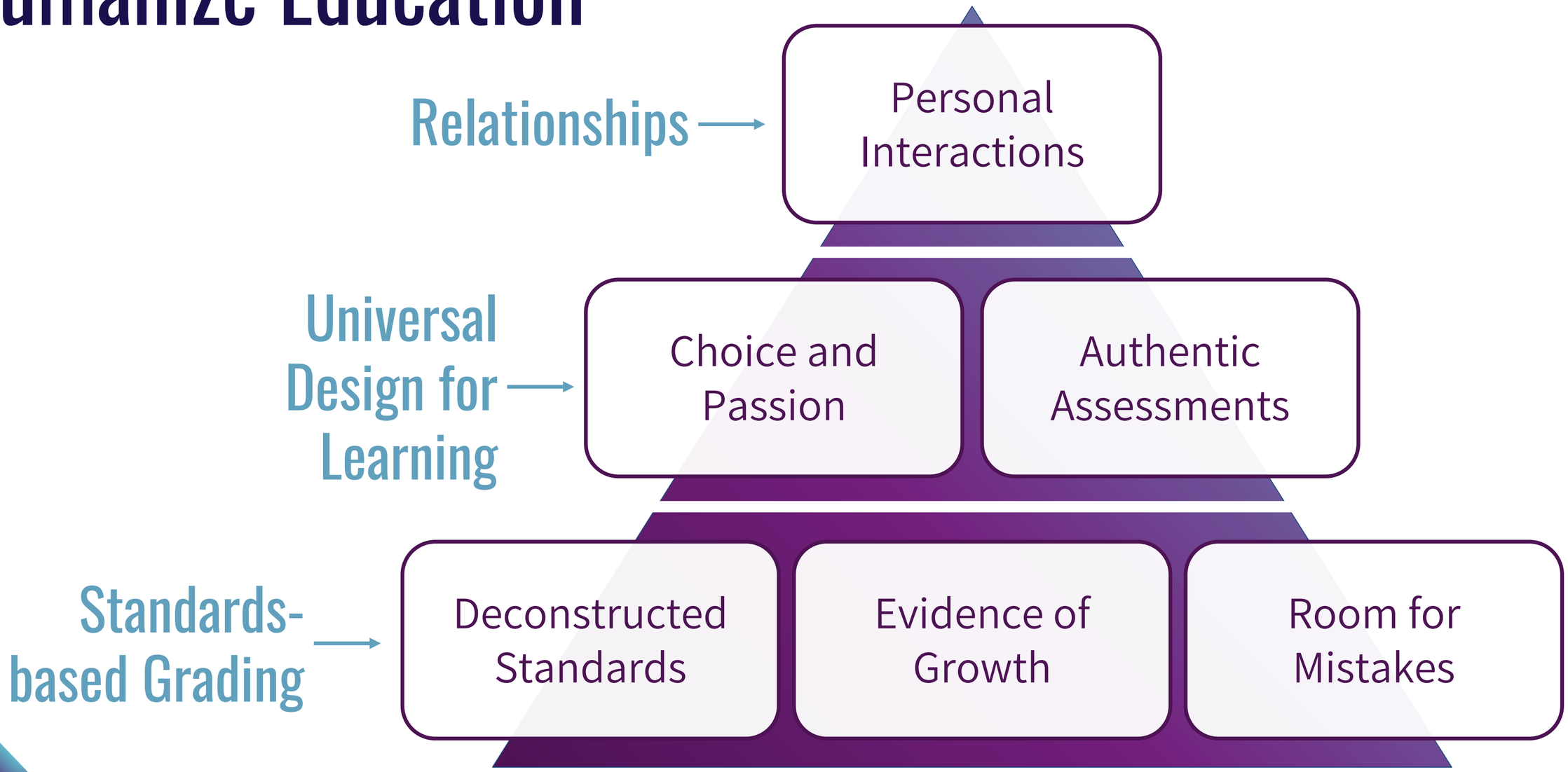
9/13/17, 1:37 PM

Hi Mr. Rablin. I am writing a book, er another one, and I was wondering if you still have the overview template you gave us for 11th grade english. I havent ever found one as great and helpful.

We humanize education when we allow students to show up as their complete self.

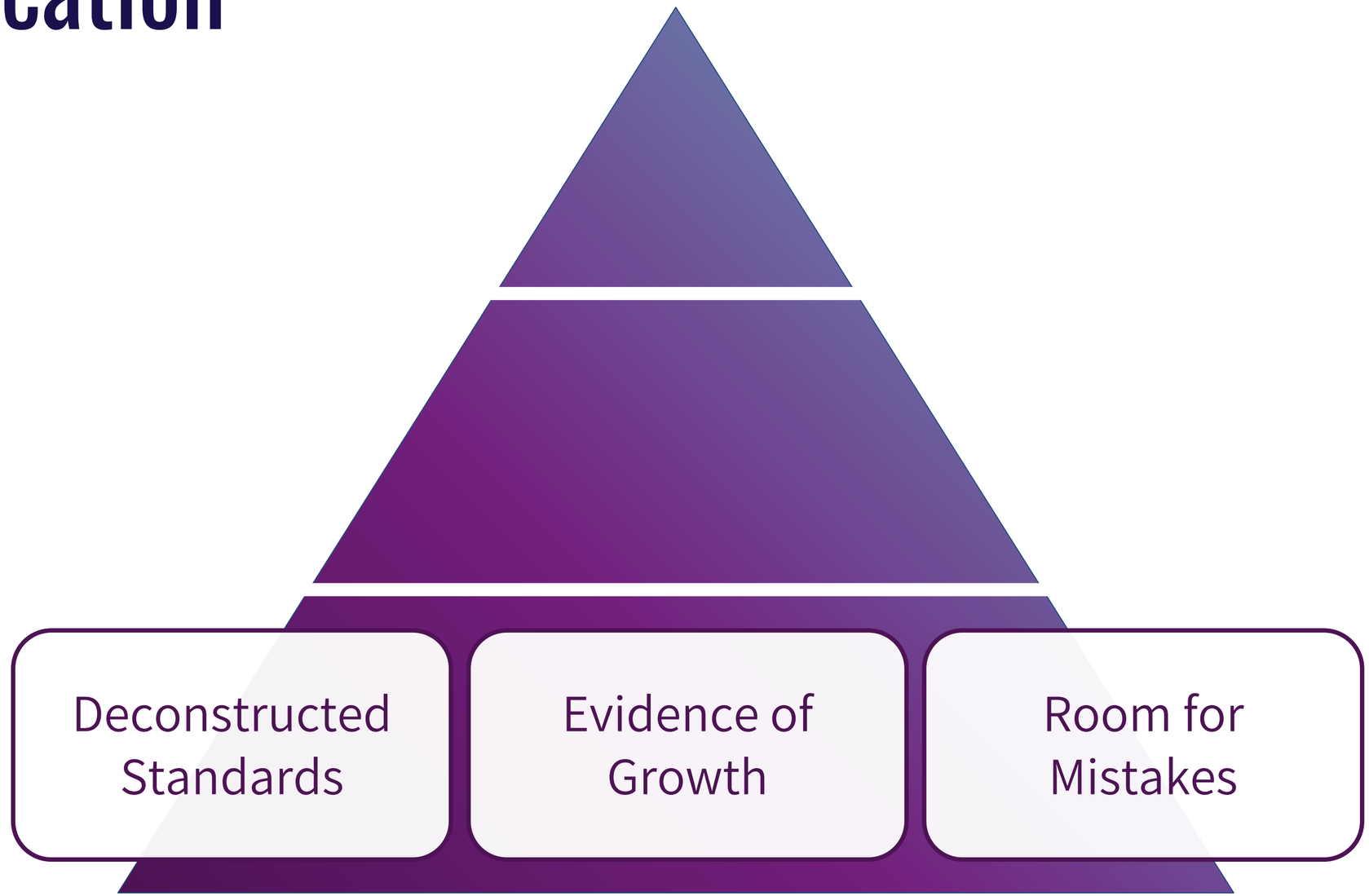
This was just dumb luck.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education

Standards-based Grading →



SPLASH MOUNTAIN
Disneyland
©Disney

If our assessment practices are still task-focused and not standards-focused, we aren’t ready for the future.

Product vs. Process

Product

Romeo and Juliet Essay

Process

Analyze how a theme develops over the course of a text

Our brains are wired to pursue the most efficient route to the goal.

Our Grade Books Communicate Our Goals

Romeo and Juliet Essay

vs

Analyze How a Theme Develops

Standards-based Grading Isn’t a Finish Line.

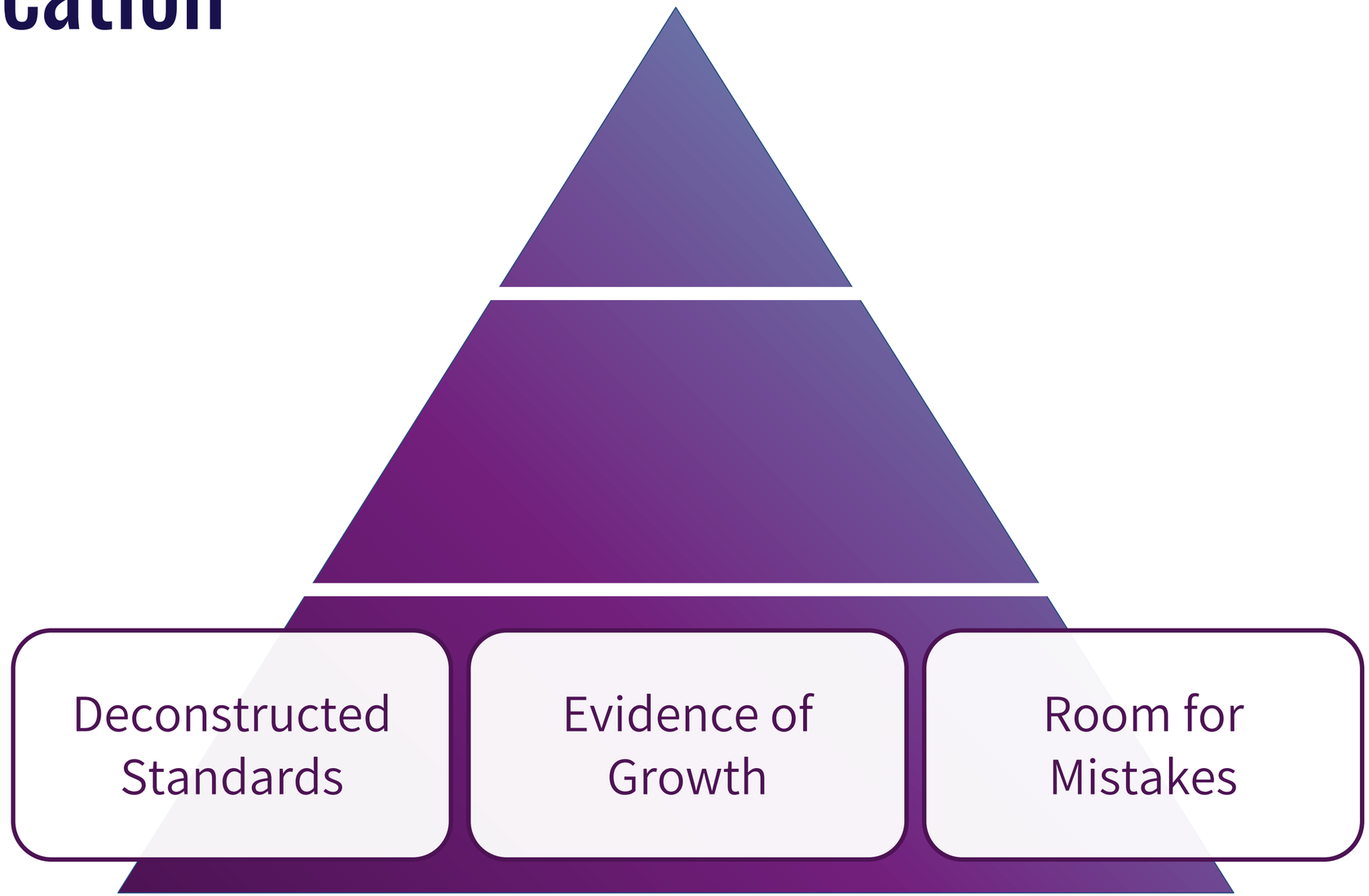
It’s a Starting Line.

Standards-based Grading

- Student voice and choice
- Emphasis on growth
- Learning conferences
- Metacognition and reflection

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education

Standards-based Grading →



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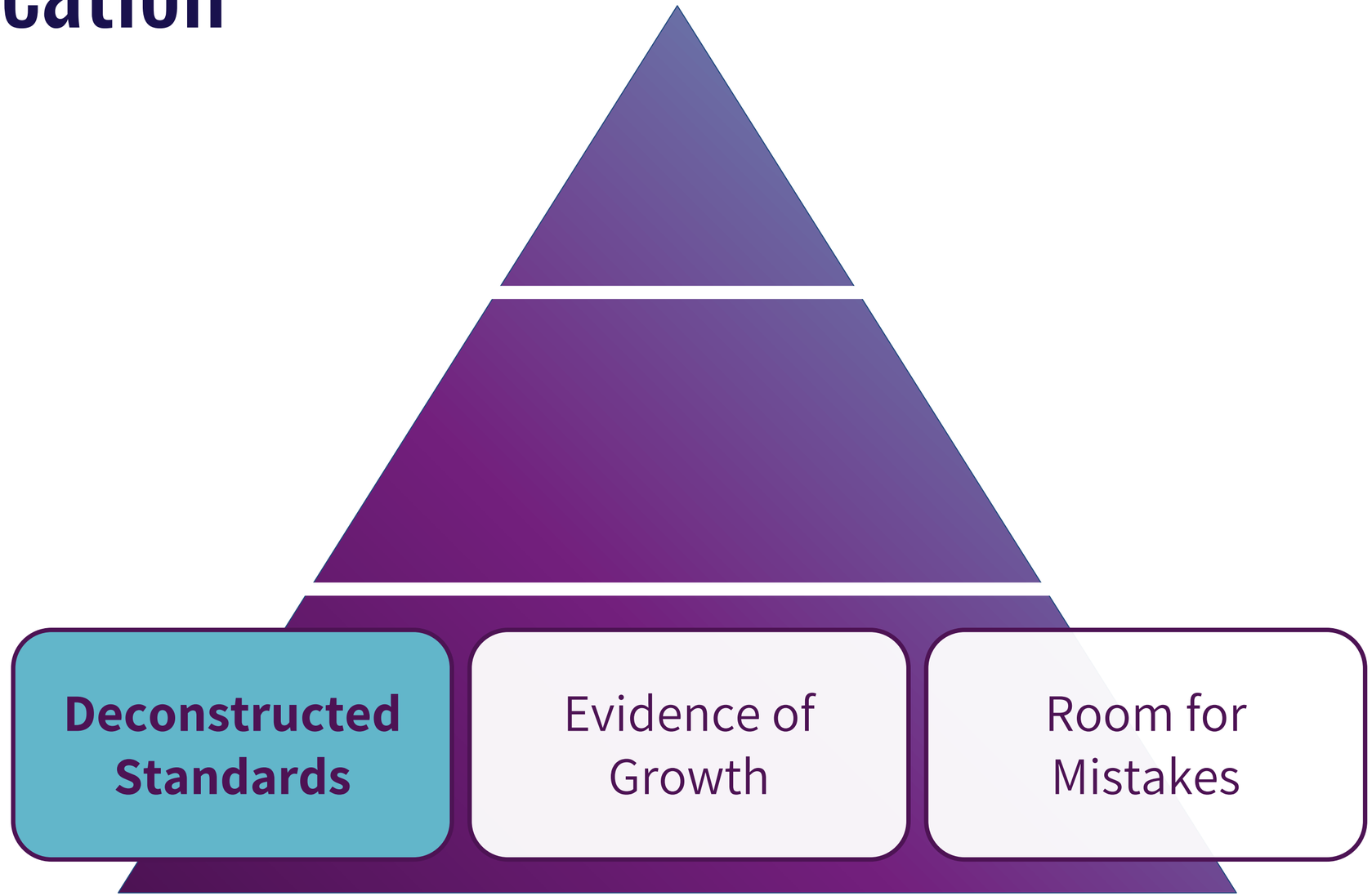

The Standard

CCSS.ELA.RL.9-10.3

Do they know what analysis is and how to engage in it?

Do they understand static versus dynamic characters? Round versus flat?

Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Do they know plot structure and development?

Do they know how to identify themes in a text?

Do they understand methods of characterization?

The Standard

Learning Progressions

Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
I can define protagonist, antagonist, conflict, and plot structure.	I can identify protagonists, antagonists, and conflict in a literary text.	I can explain various methods of characterization in a literary text.	I can explain how a character connects to a major theme in a literary text.	I can explain how a character develops a theme, including analyzing how they interact with other characters and symbols to develop a complex message.

In a humanized system:

Every student should be able to see their access point to the learning we are asking them to do.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education

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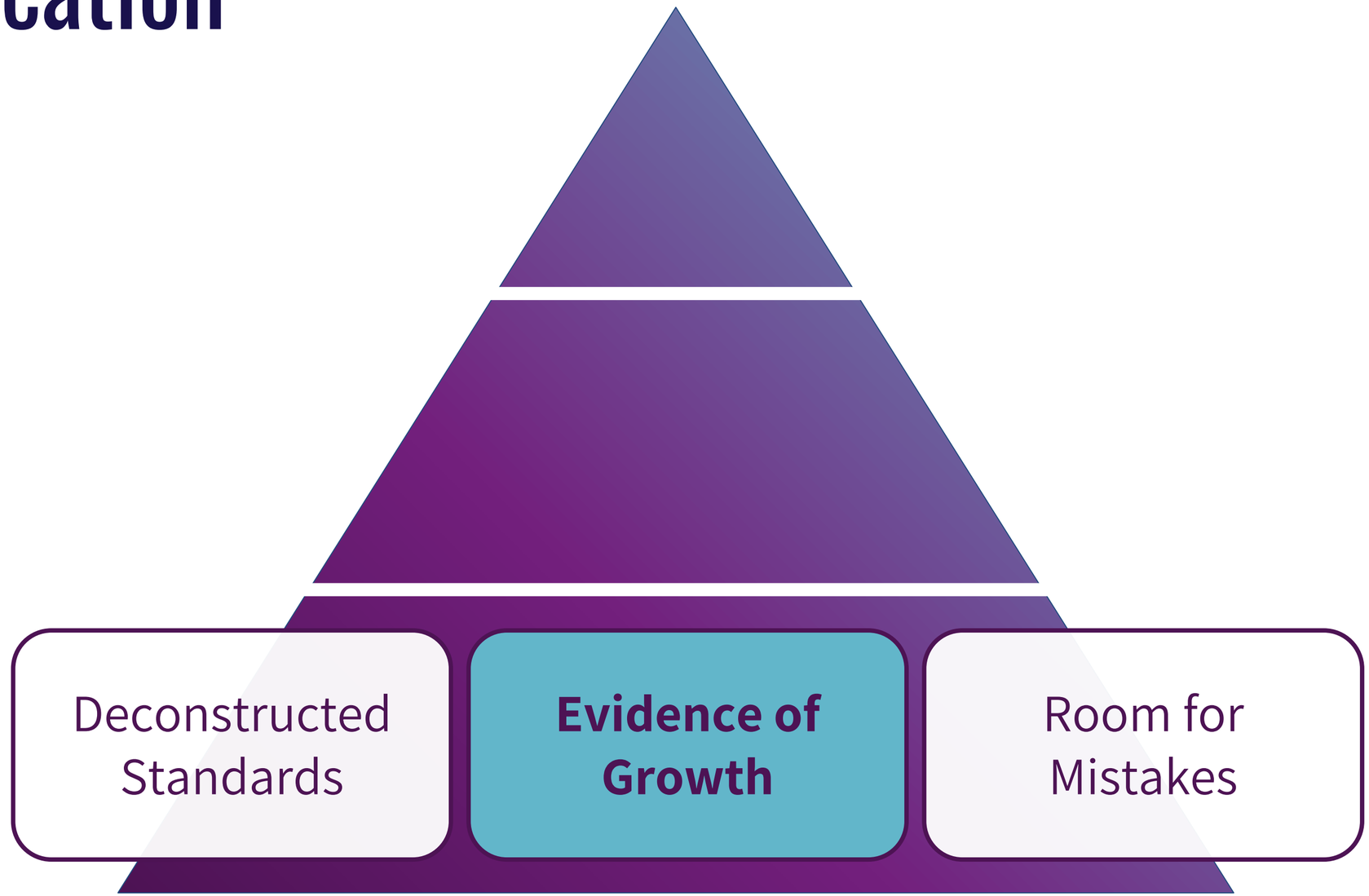


Self-efficacy

0.93

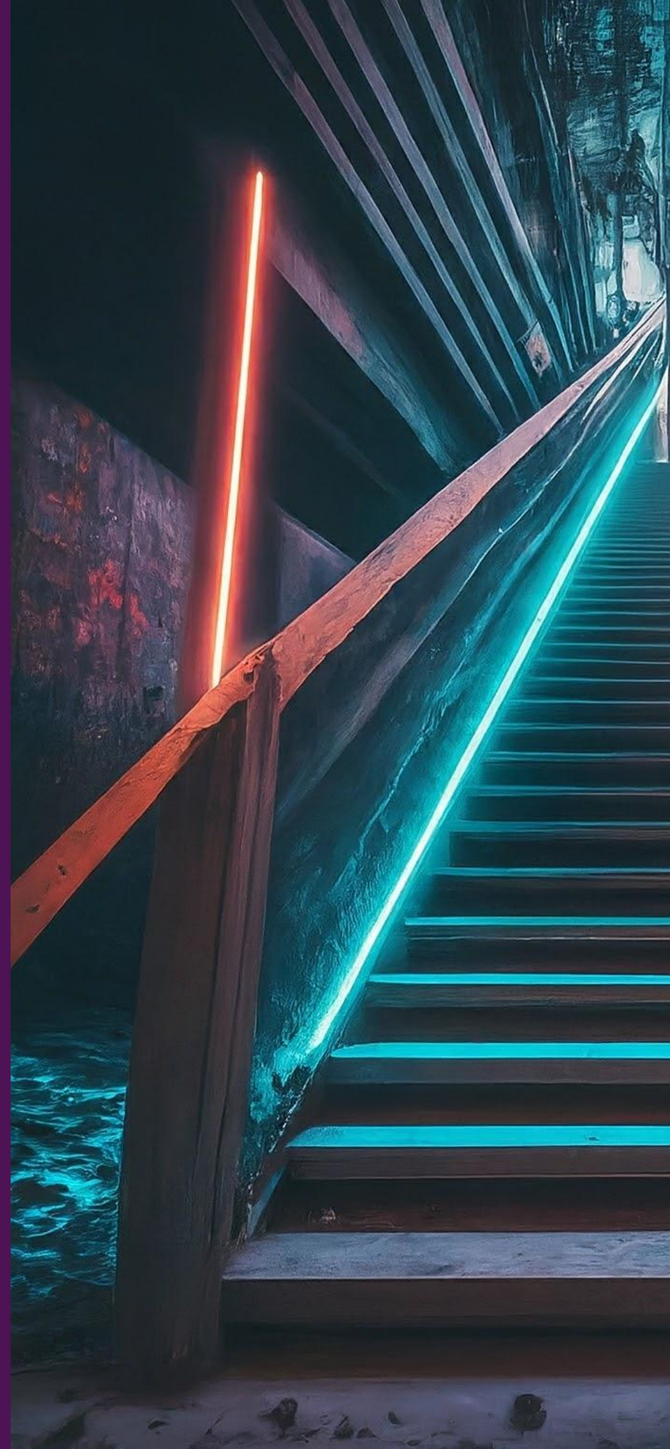
The belief we have in our own abilities, specifically our ability to meet the challenges ahead of us and complete a task successfully

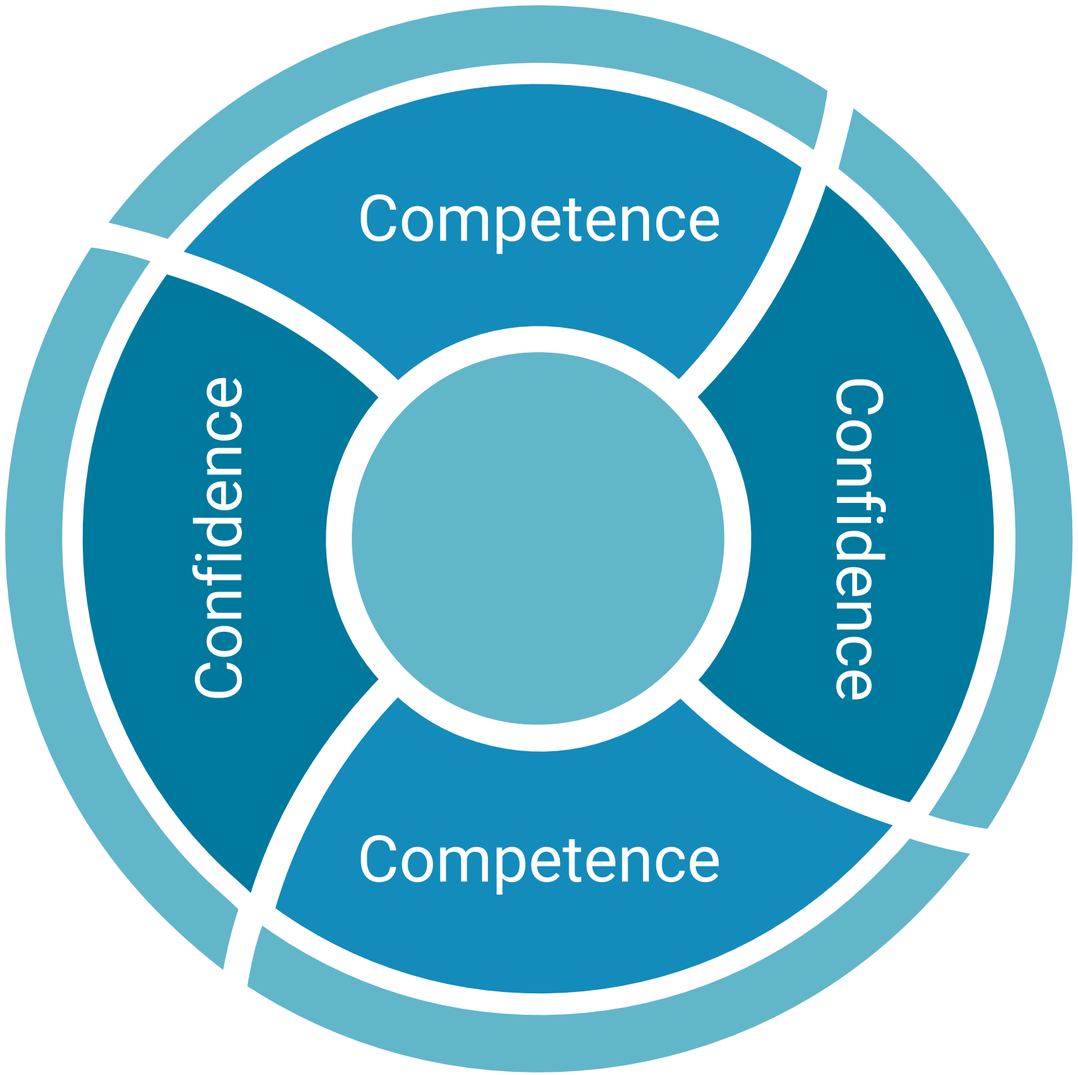
Confidence ≠ Self-efficacy

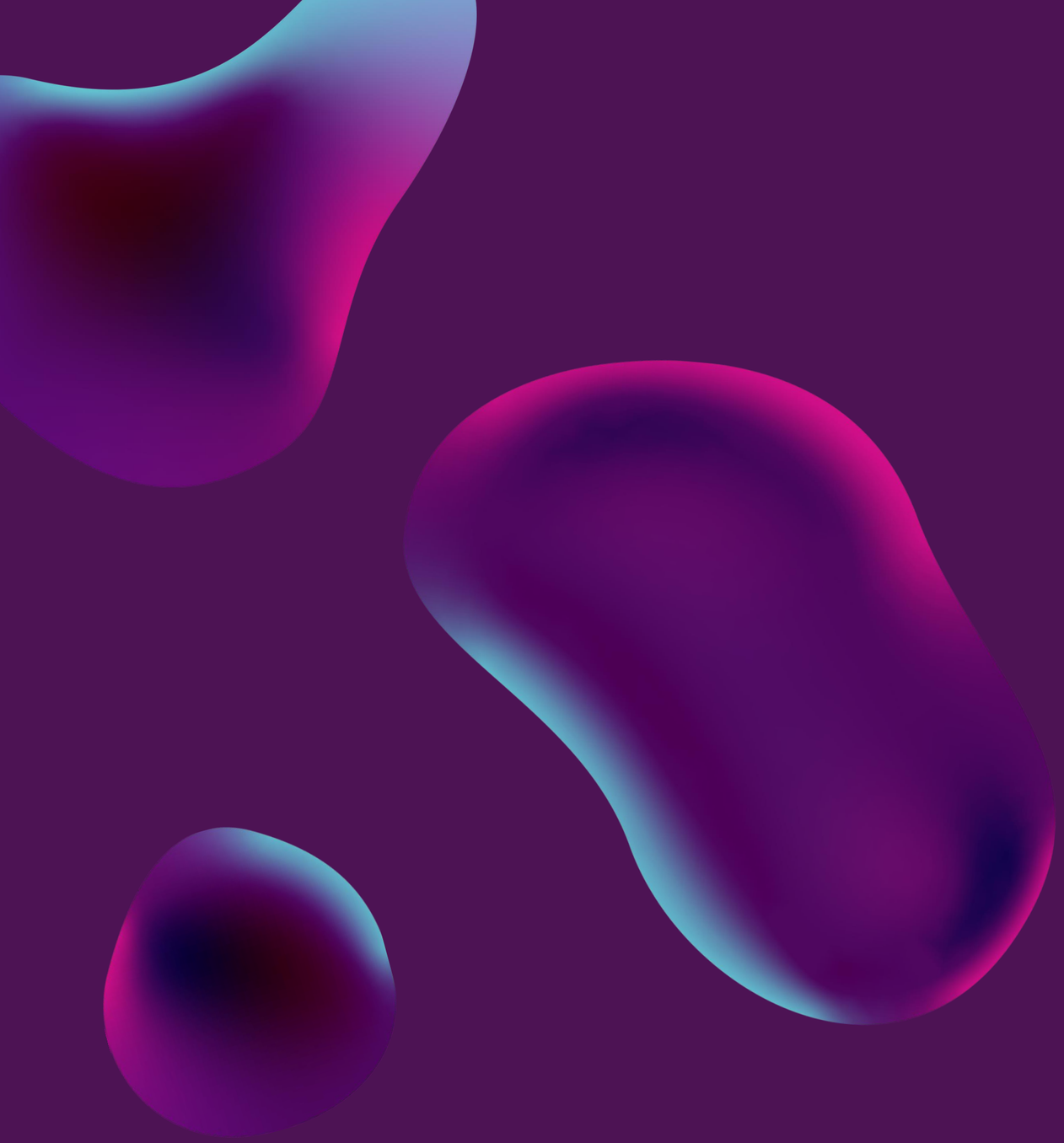
How do we build self-efficacy?

Enactive self-mastery

- Achieved when someone experiences success at a step or portion of a task
- Convinces them they can be successful later



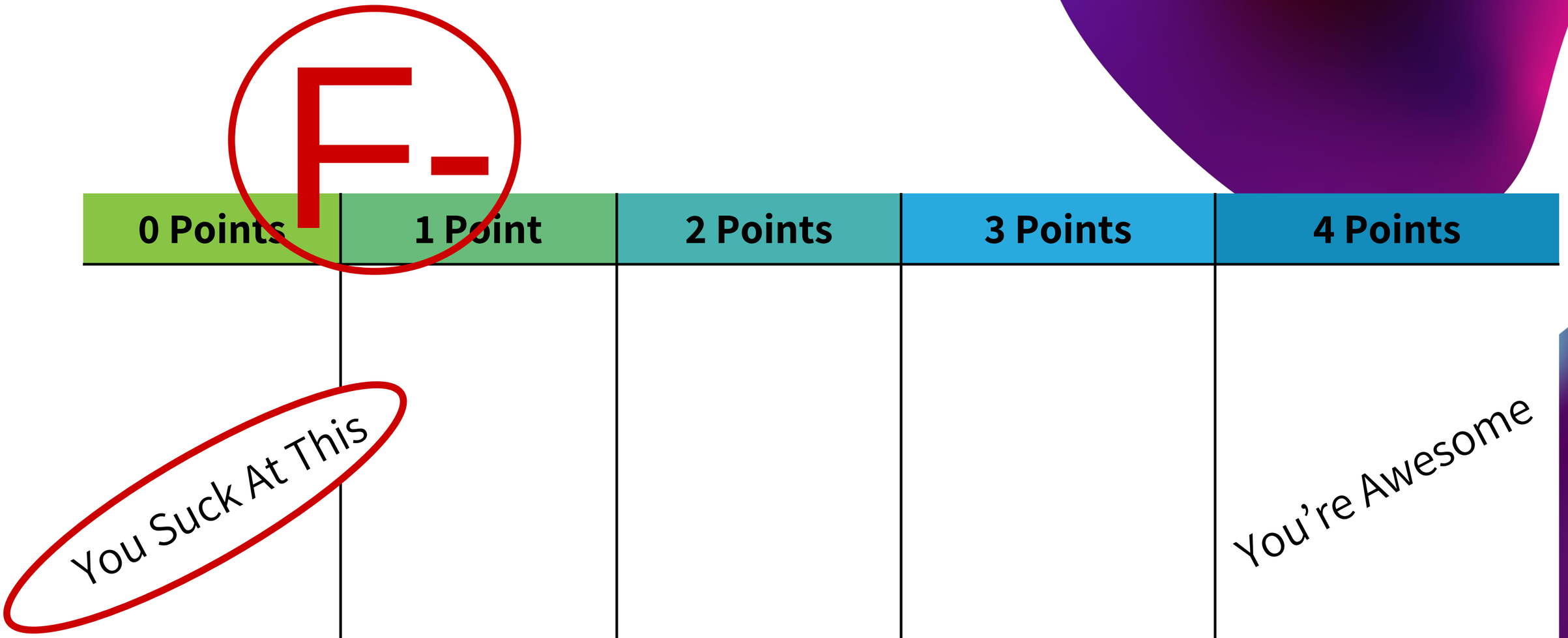

Competence
Confidence
Confidence
Competence



But how?

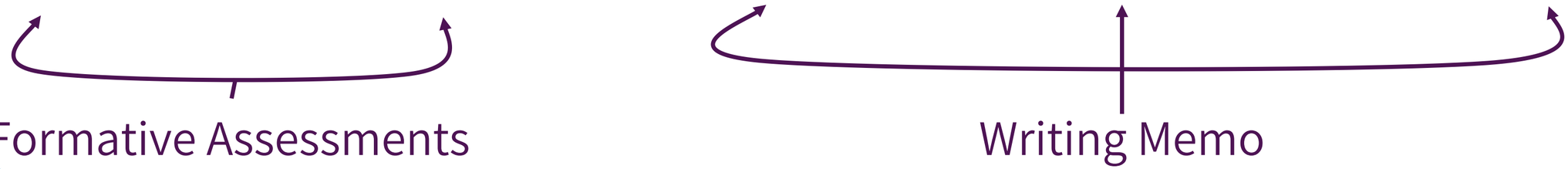
Example

I can write complete and varied sentences.

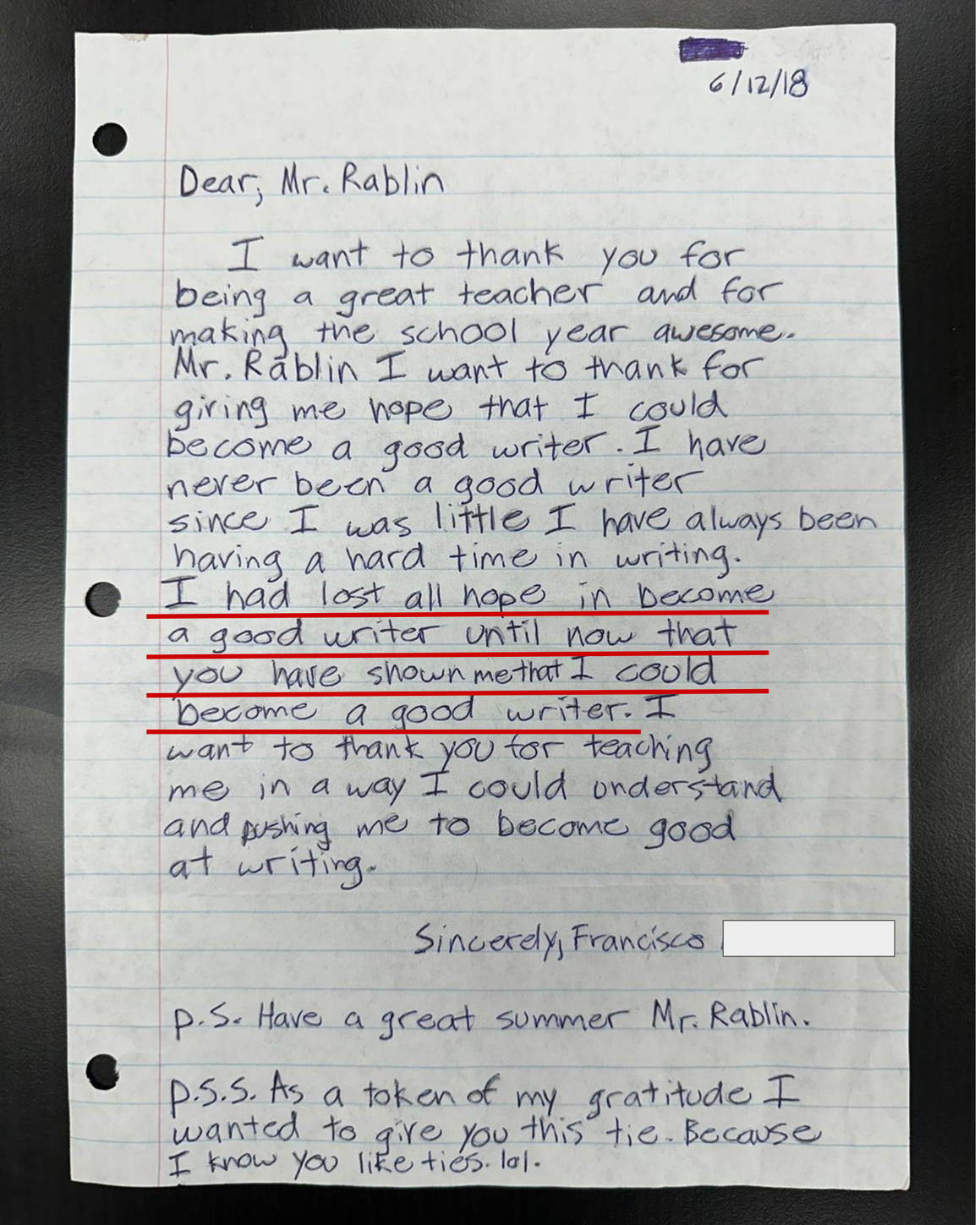

F-
0 Points
1 Point
2 Points
3 Points
4 Points
You Suck At This
You're Awesome

Scaffolded Assessment Process

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
I can define subject, verb, independent clause, and dependent clause.	I can identify subjects, verbs, independent clauses, and dependent clauses in a sentence.	I can write simple sentences with one independent clause.	I can write compound sentences with two independent clauses.	I can write complex sentences made up of independent and dependent clauses.



Sentence Type	Example #1	Example #2
Simple Sentence (One independent clause)		
Compound Sentence (Two independent clauses)		
Complex Sentence (A combination of independent and dependent clauses)		



6/12/18

Dear, Mr. Rablin

I want to thank you for being a great teacher and for making the school year awesome. Mr. Rablin I want to thank for giving me hope that I could become a good writer. I have never been a good writer since I was little I have always been having a hard time in writing. I had lost all hope in become a good writer until now that you have shown me that I could become a good writer. I want to thank you for teaching me in a way I could understand and pushing me to become good at writing.

Sincerely, Francisco

P.S. Have a great summer Mr. Rablin.

P.S.S. As a token of my gratitude I wanted to give you this tie. Because I know you like ties. lol.

Rewriting the Narrative

Francisco and the Tie

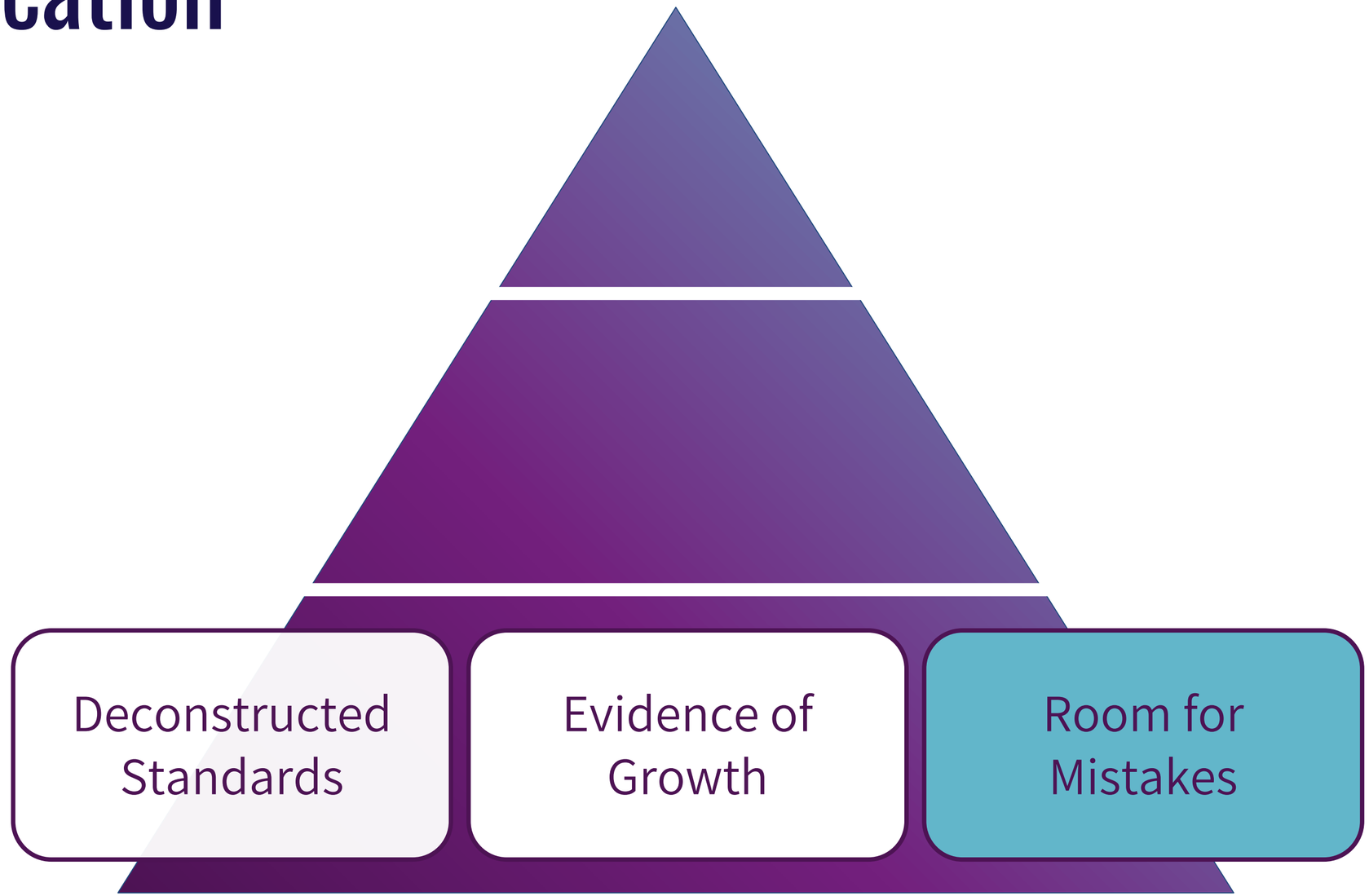
"I had lost all hope in [becoming] a good writer until now that you have shown me that I could become a good writer."

In a humanized system:

Every student should be able to see where they are already successful.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education

Standards-based Grading →



~~Grit~~

~~Resilience~~

If we have **no evidence** that success is even possible, **grit** and **resilience** are illogical.

If we want students to develop grit and resilience, it’s our responsibility to provide them with evidence that success is possible.

Discussion

What grades should the students receive?

	Attempt 1	Attempt 2	Attempt 3	Attempt 4	Attempt 5	Attempt 6	Attempt 7	
Student A	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	88%
Student B	1	1	2	3	4	5	5	60%
Student C	2	3	0	0	4	5	5	54%

My one wish:

stop averaging scores over time.

Alternative?

Recent

Consistent

Convincing

Revision

What grades should the students receive?

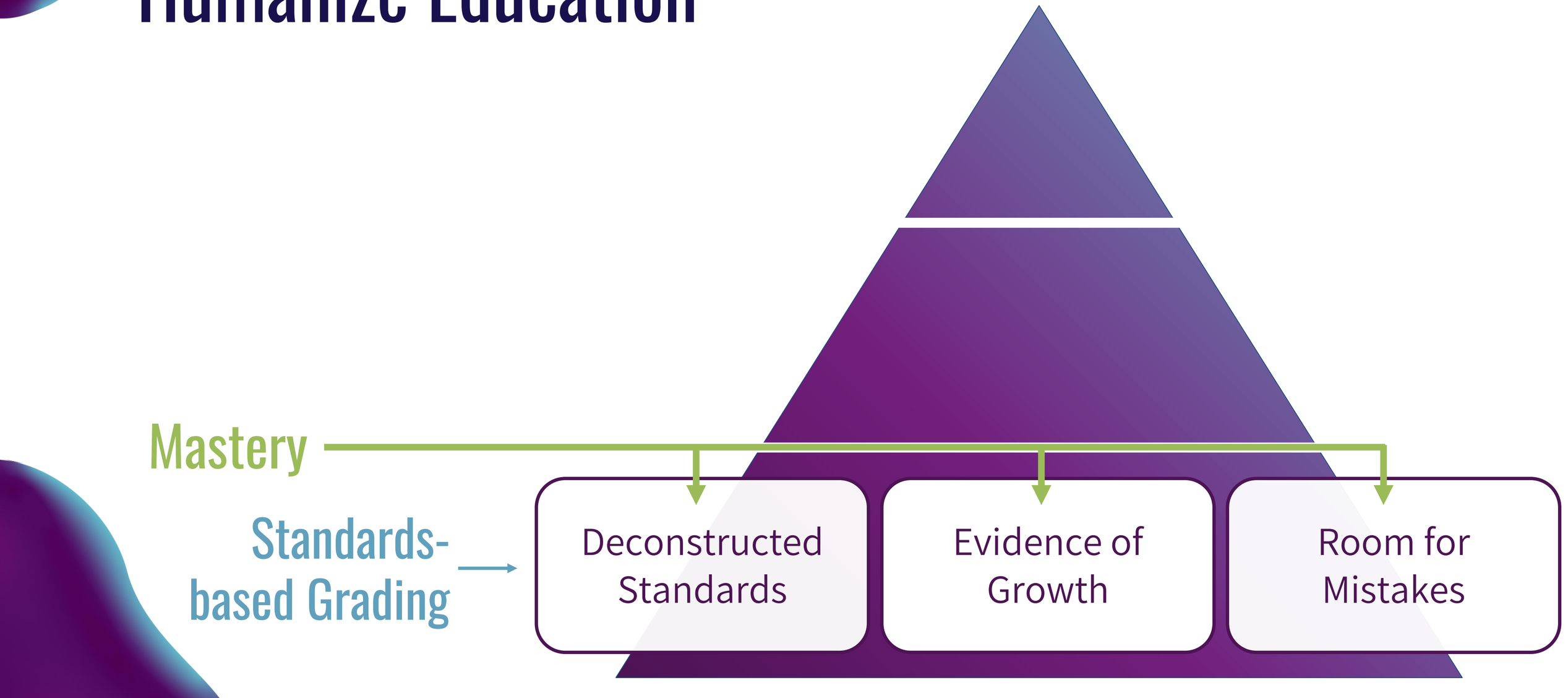
	Attempt 1	Attempt 2	Attempt 3	Attempt 4	Attempt 5	Attempt 6	Attempt 7	
Student A	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5/5
Student B	1	1	2	3	4	5	5	5/5?
Student C	2	3	0	0	4	5	5	5/5?

Daniel, a Badge, and a Shot at Success

In a humanized system:

Every student is afforded
room to make mistakes, grow,
and still be successful.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



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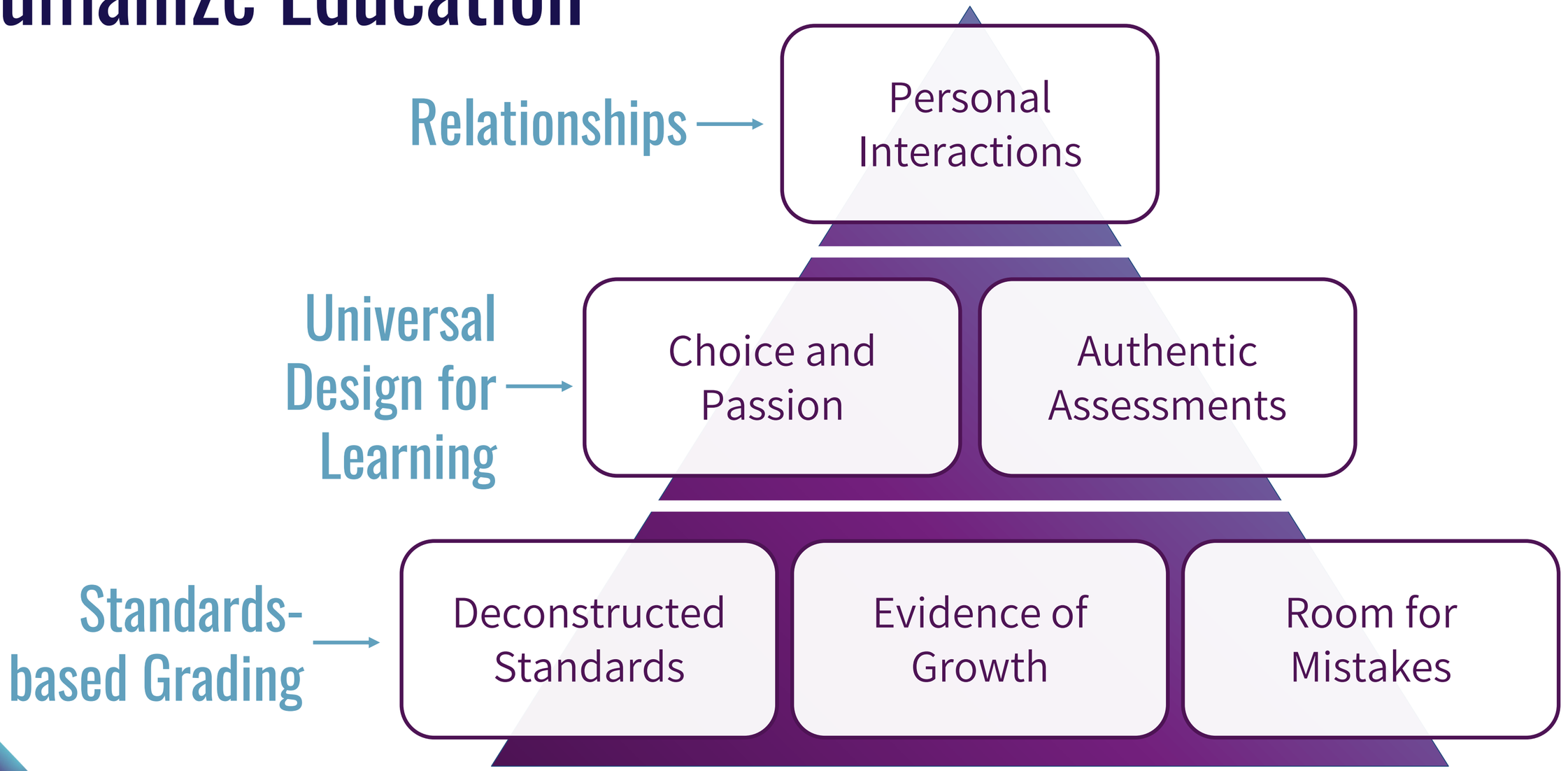

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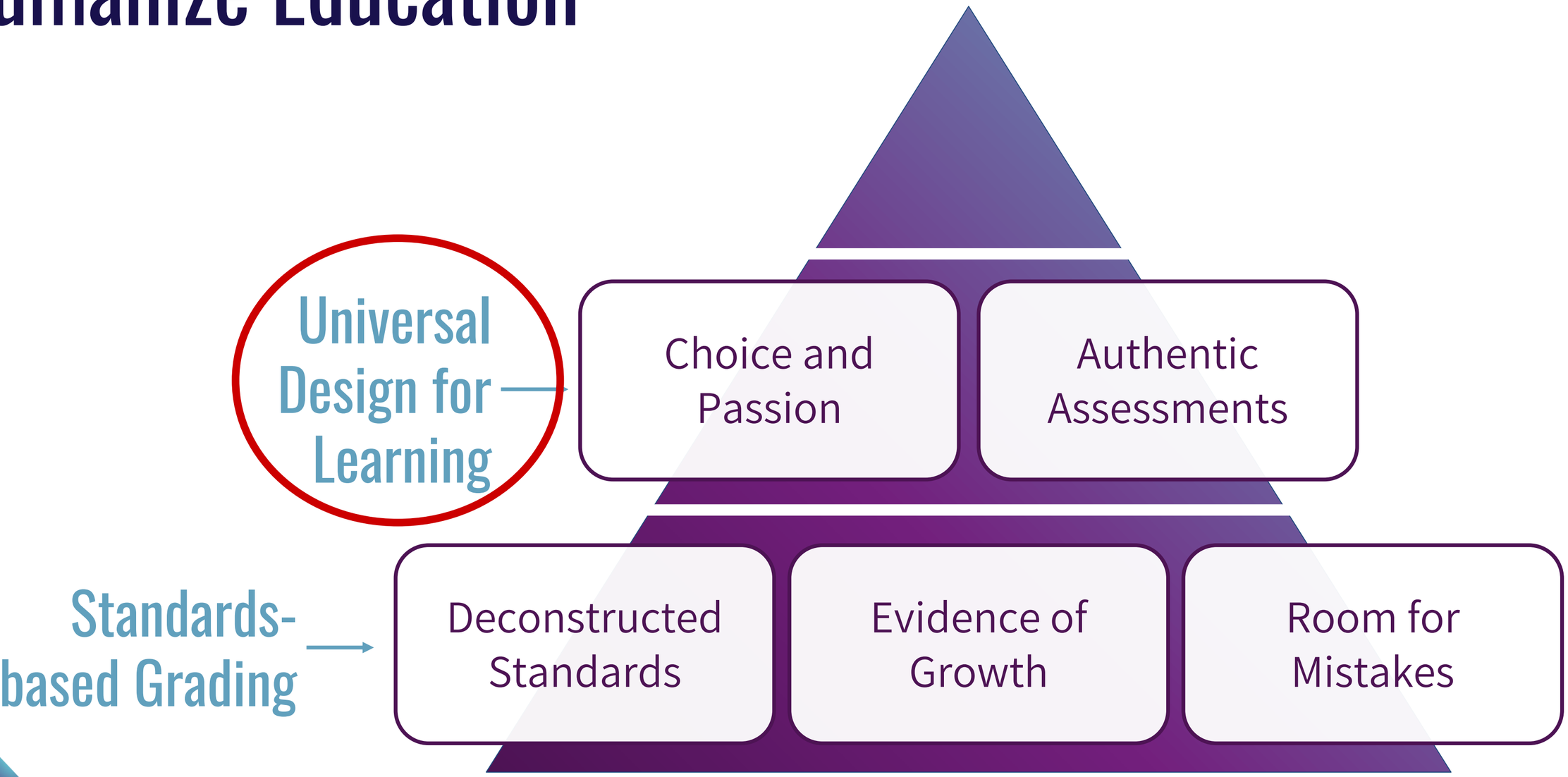


Firm Goals, Flexible Means

Engagement

Optimize challenges and goals

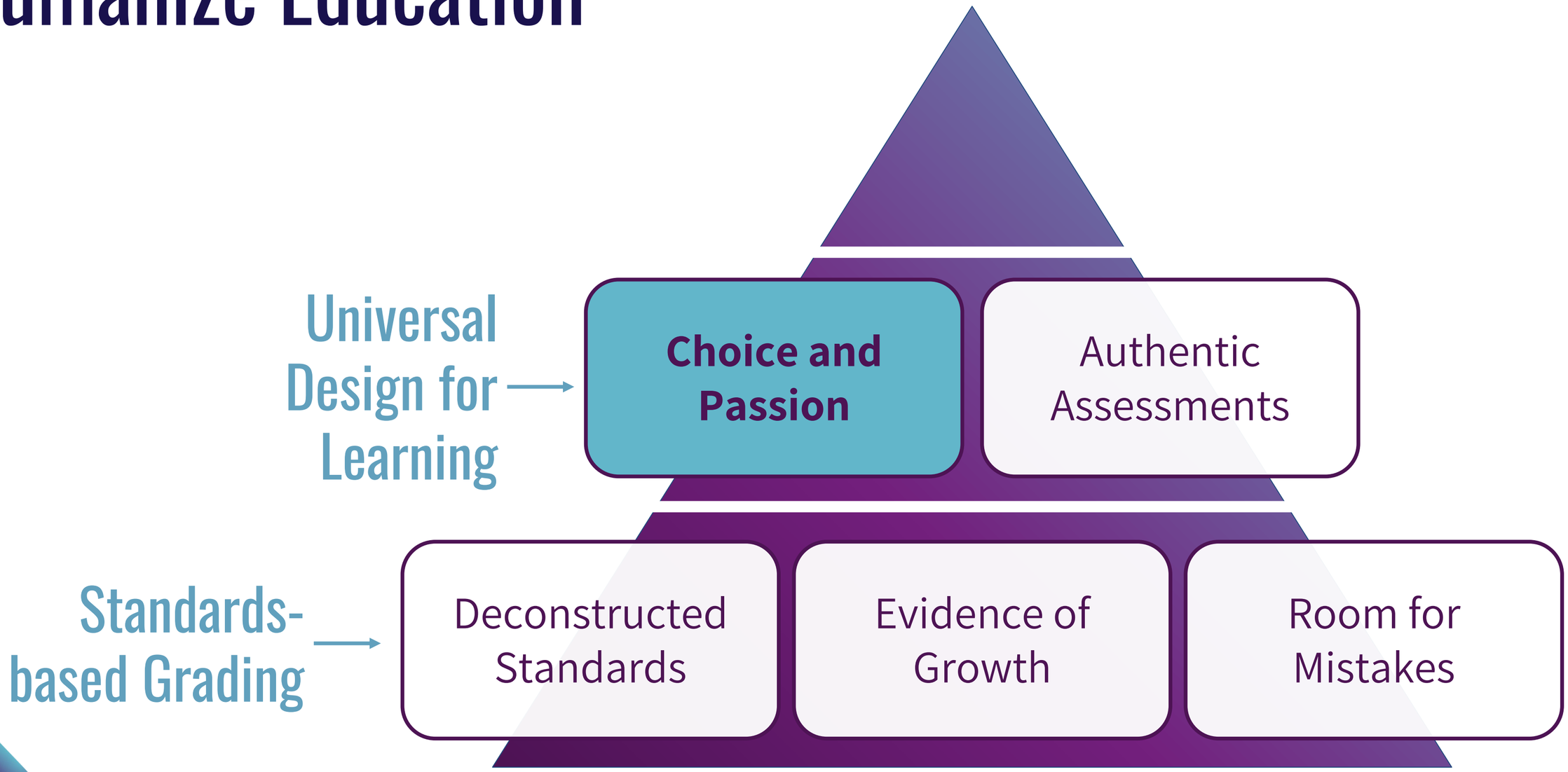
Representation

Optimize access to information

Action/Expression

Optimize demonstrations of knowledge

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



Key Avenues for Choice

Product

Process

No two people learn the same thing at the same pace in the same way.

Learning Progressions

Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

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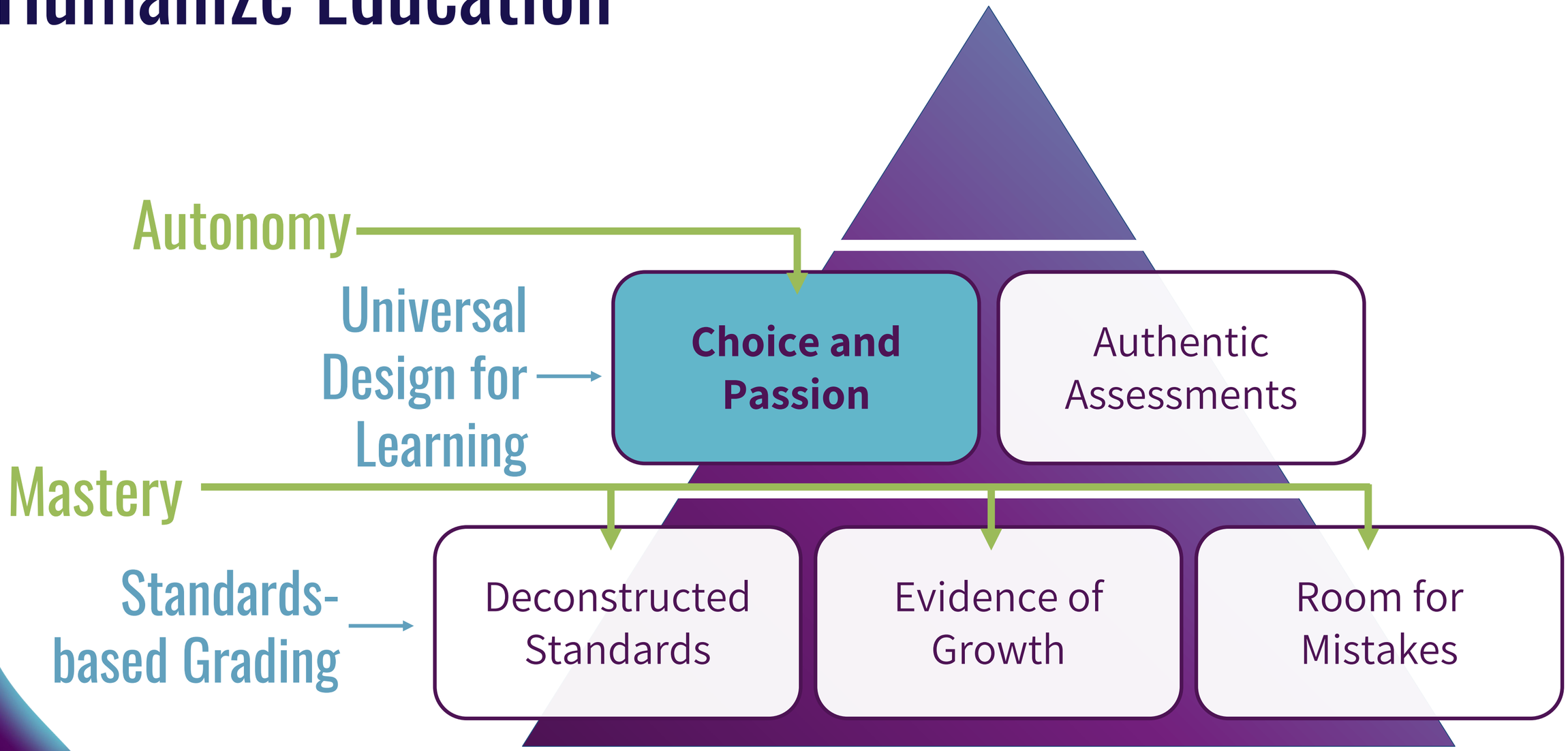
Accepting learner variability as the norm is how we help students rewrite the narratives in their heads.

In a humanized system:

Every student knows that learner variability is the norm and can act on that.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



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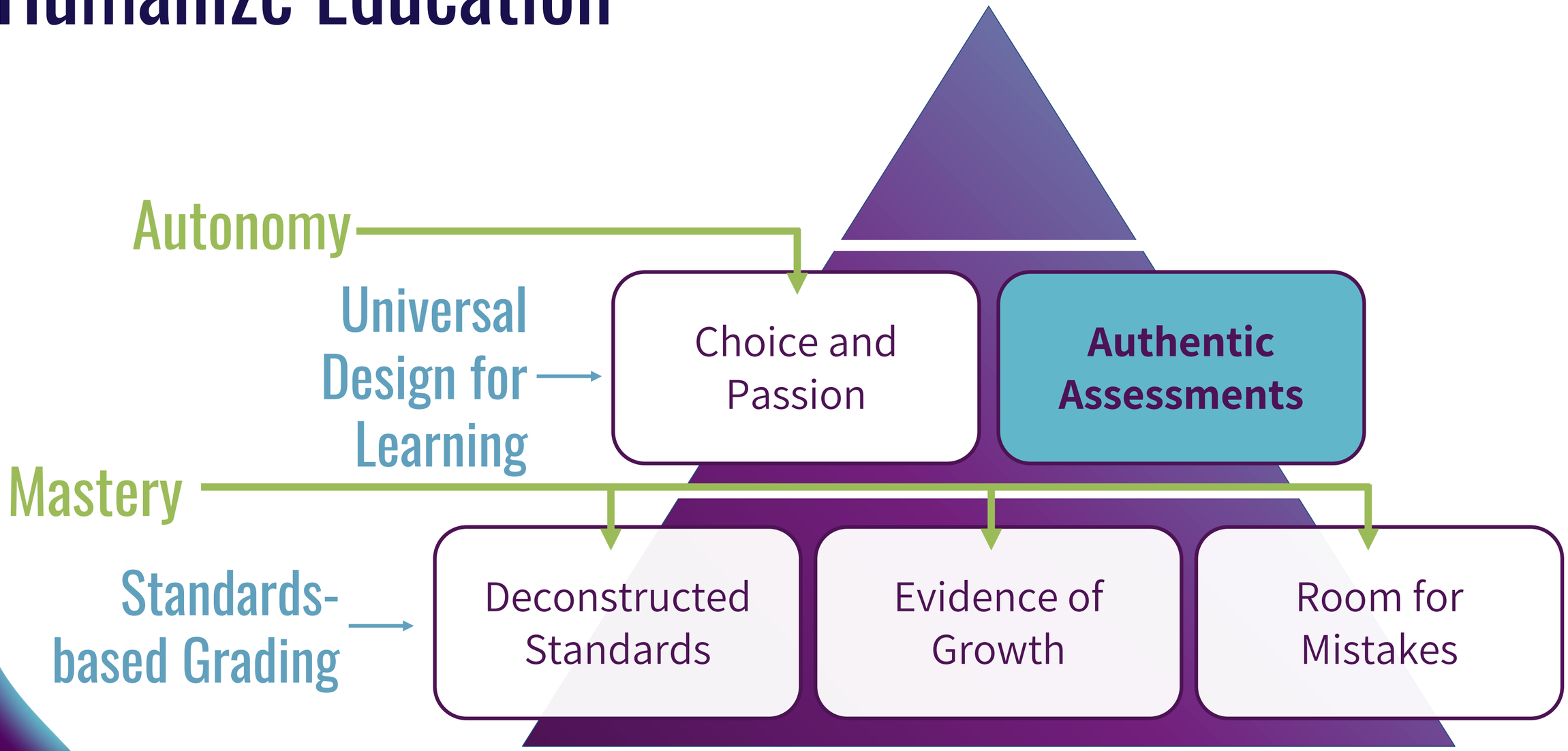


Thomas, an Essay, and an Audience

Would you rather...

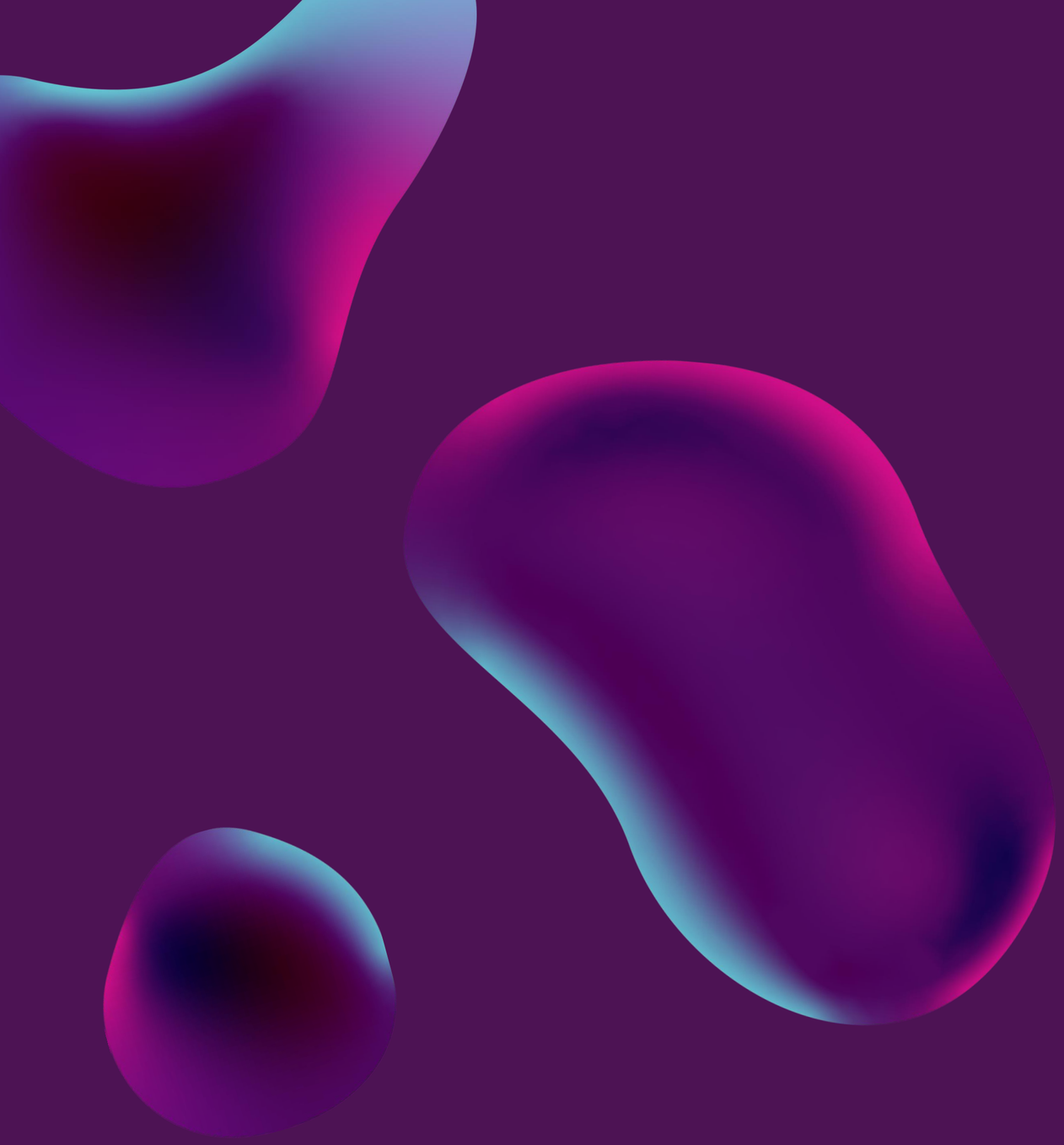
01

Spend 60 minutes doing something a teacher will see?

02

Spend 5 minutes making something 1,000 people will see?

The drive for social media engagement is driven by a desire to have an impact and make your mark.



“I have seen fire-balloons by the hundred. I have seen the moon, and—then I saw no more fire-balloons.”

Rudyard Kipling

“Without Benefit of Clergy”

We can help students see their power by given them opportunities for...

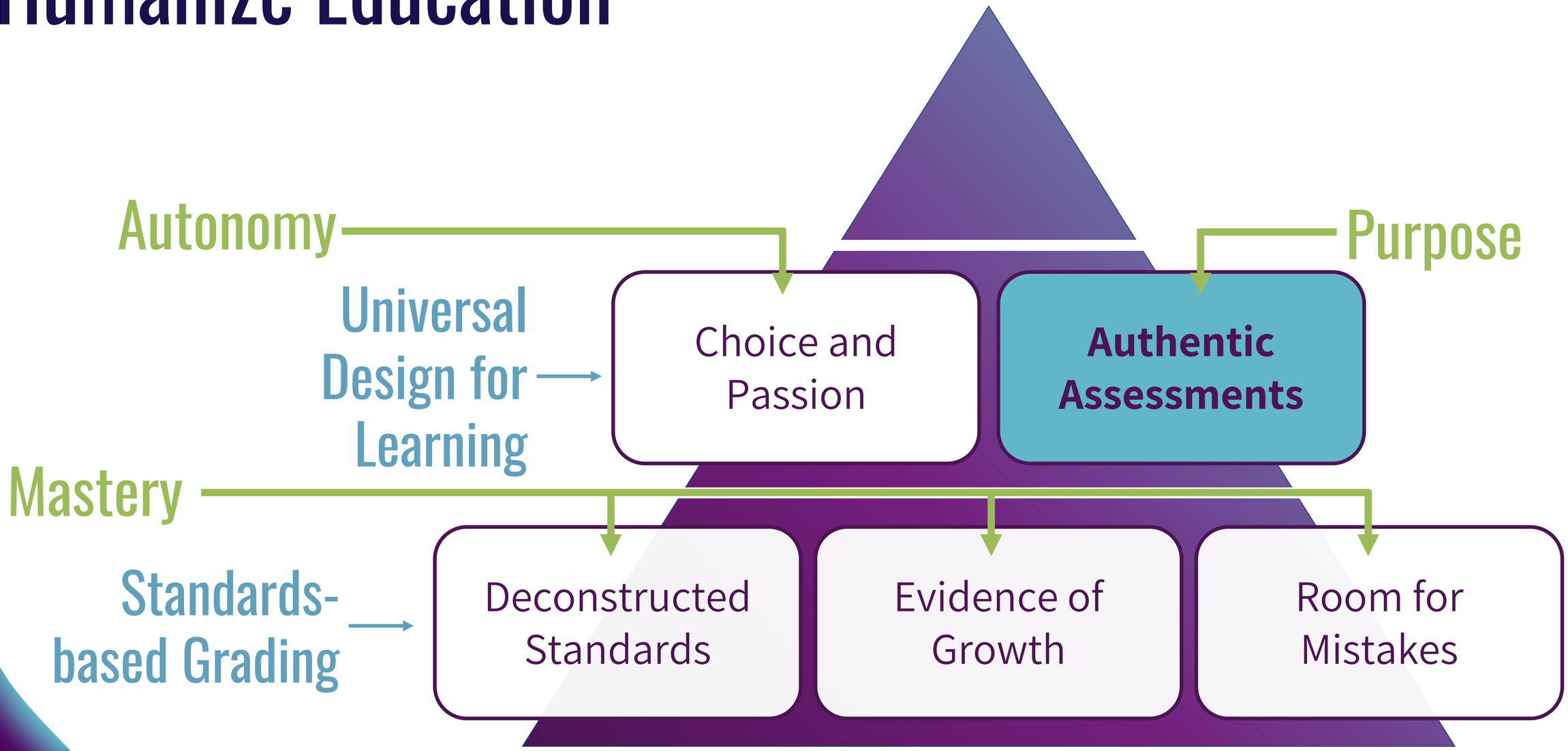
Impact

Audience

In a humanized system:

Every student has an opportunity to recognize that they can make a difference.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



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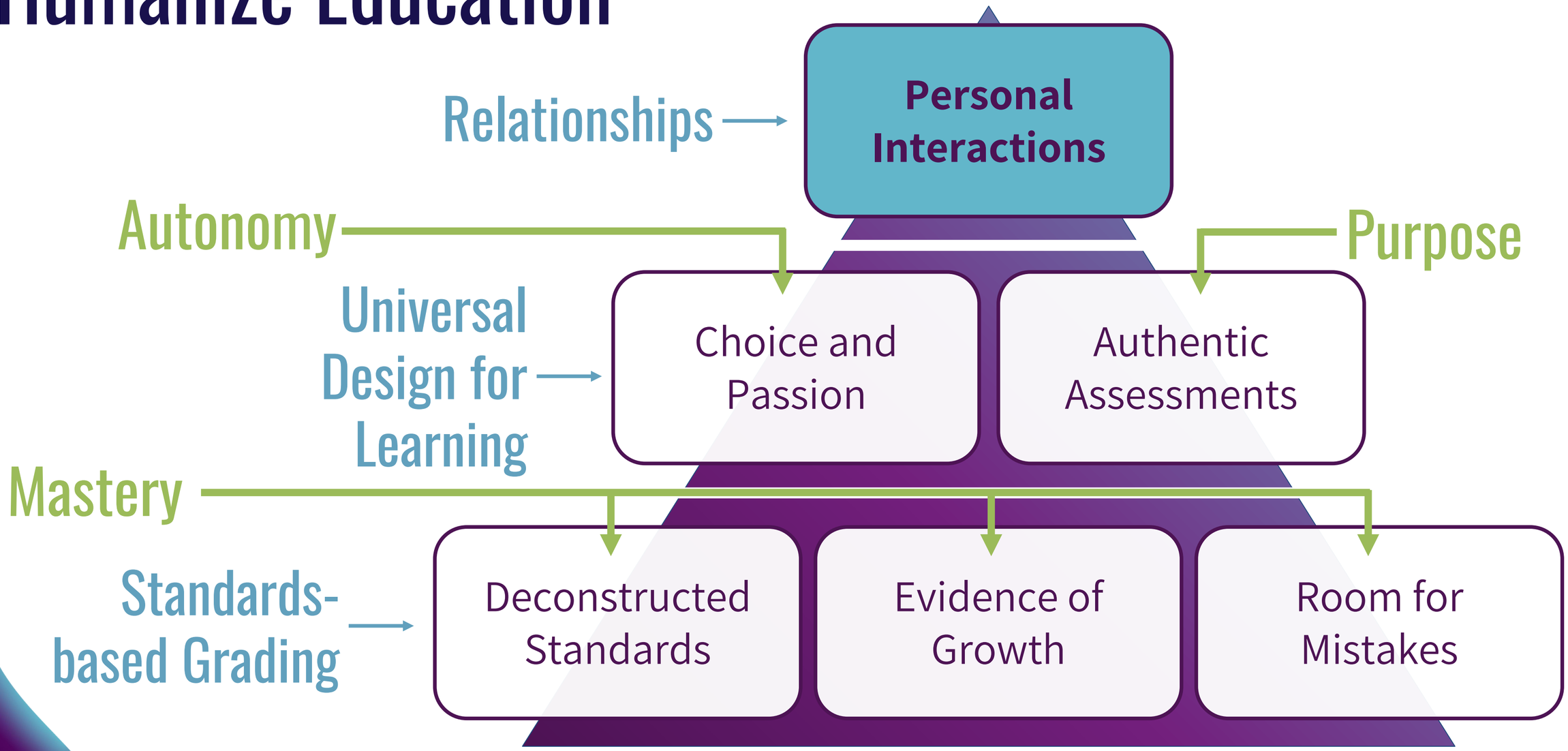
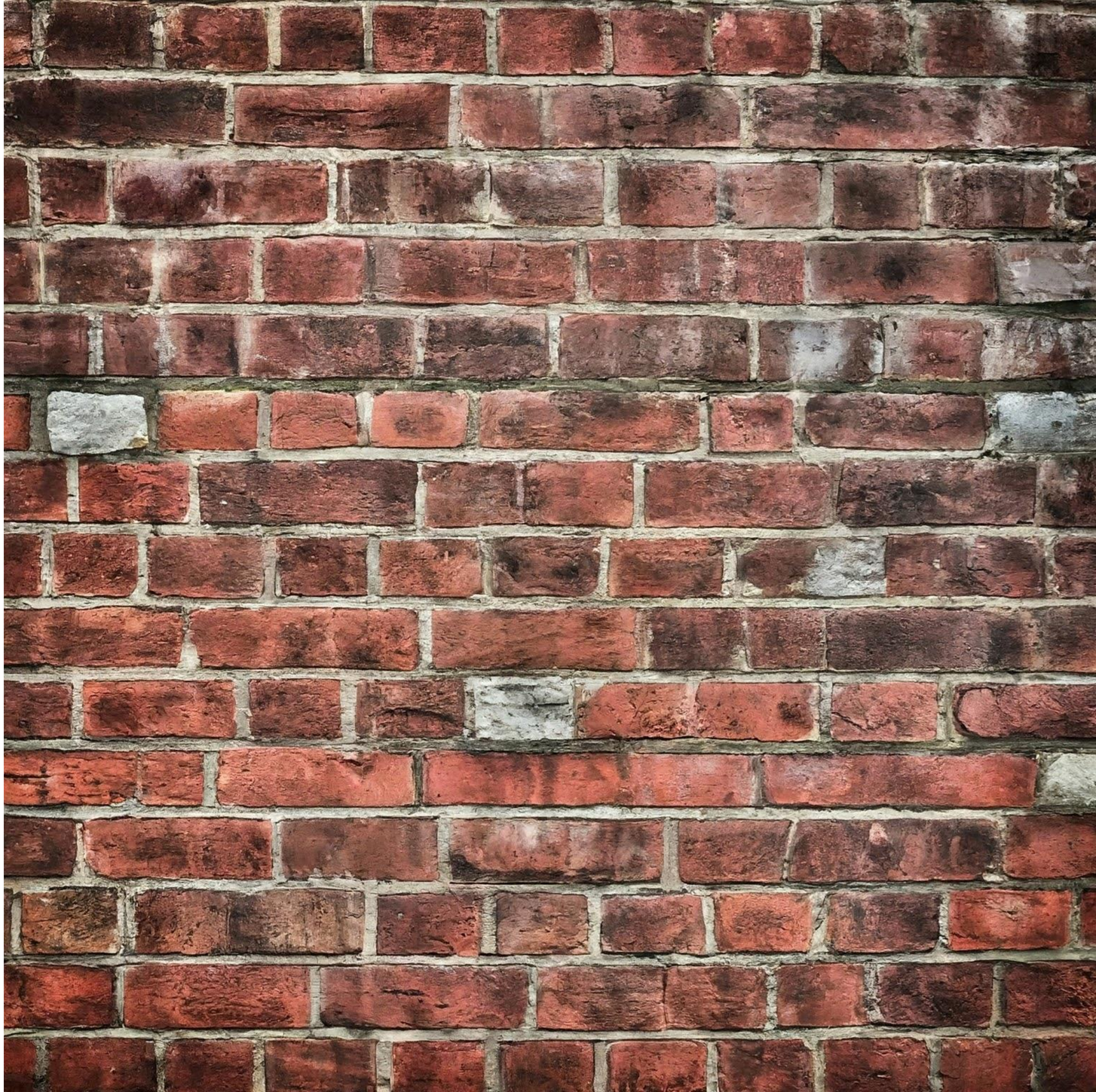


Learning Conferences

Feedback

Relational Trust

Assessment



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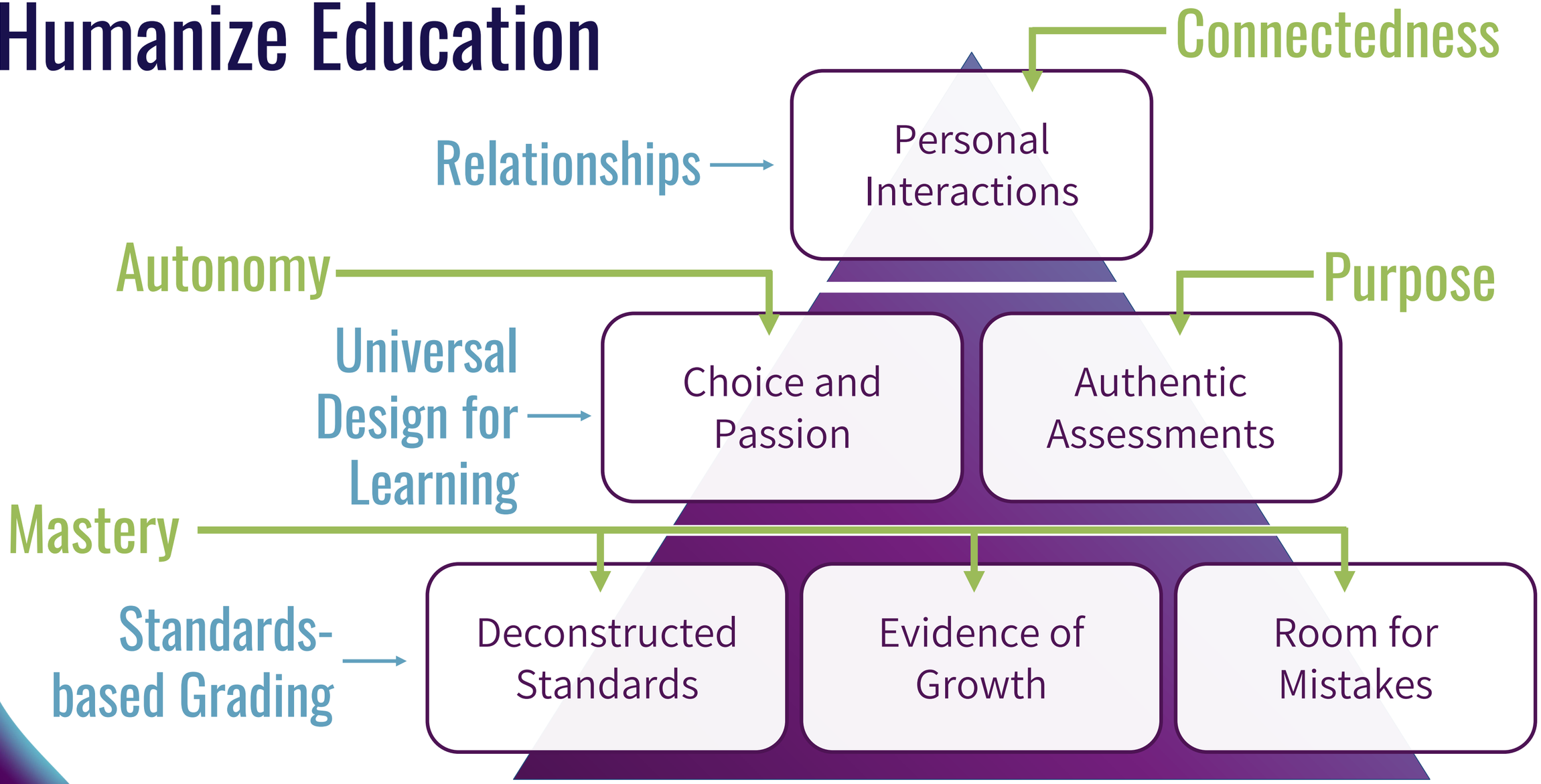
Learning conferences are the key in humanizing our assessment practices.

In a humanized system:

Every student knows that their teacher is invested in them and their learning.

Modernized Assessment Practices That Humanize Education



What is your reason to move?

An Exceptional Student and a Failing Grade

How do grades make you feel?

“Pressured”

How do grades make you feel?

“Not good cause everytime I look at them I get discouraged.”

How do grades make you feel?

“I honestly don't like grades. When you don't have good grades people will think you're unintelligent but you could be a gifted person.”

How do grades make you feel?

“Bad, they stress me out to the point where idk what to do.”

How do grades make you feel?

“I have a love hate relationship with grades because I like seeing that I have all A's but at the same time even when you have a perfect 4.0 you are not happy. I don't think getting good grades should make you so stressed and hate yourself. I don't grades are everything in school. I don't know why teachers think that's all we should worry about. I don't think teachers see how that affects a students mental health.”

How do grades make you feel?

“Dumb”

What really matters?

1. How are we providing **clarity** and the **possibility of mastery** for all our students?

2. How are we creating space for elements of **autonomy** to honor **learner variability**?

3. How are we providing students experience of **purpose** to **empower** them to make a difference?

4. How are we embedding **relational elements** in our assessment practices to facilitate **connectedness**?

Contact:

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Book: *Hacking Student Motivation*

Thank You