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The AI learning paradox in foreign language education

Media & Learning conference, Leuven
Katrien Dewaele

Co-funded by the
European Union

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What a trip!

WOW!

Disruptive innovation

HELP!

LET'S GO!

Risks and opportunities
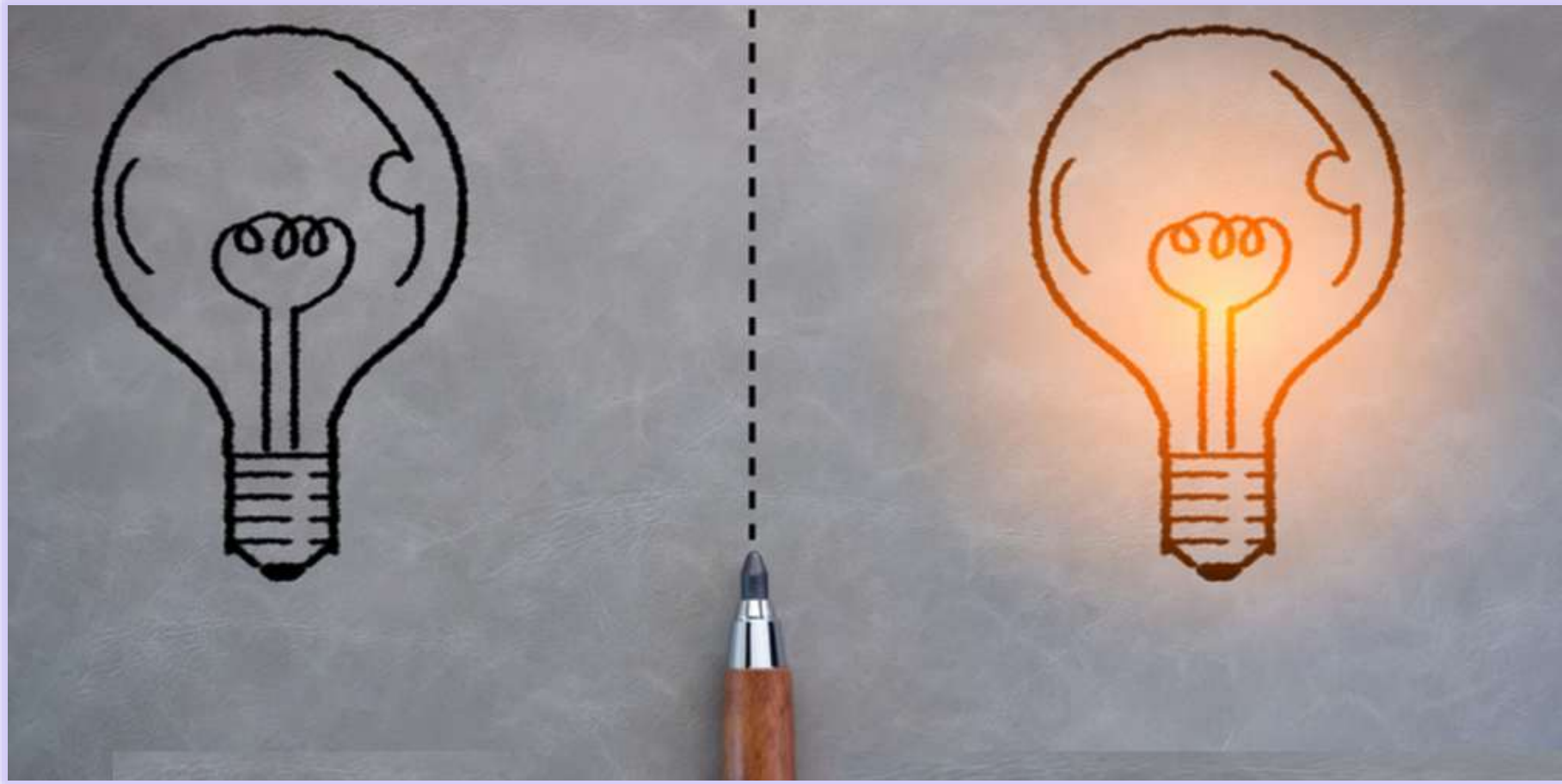
A growing gap?

Novice learners

Expert learners

Hamilton, A.; Hattie, J.; & Wiliam, D. (2023) and Dewaele, K. (2024).
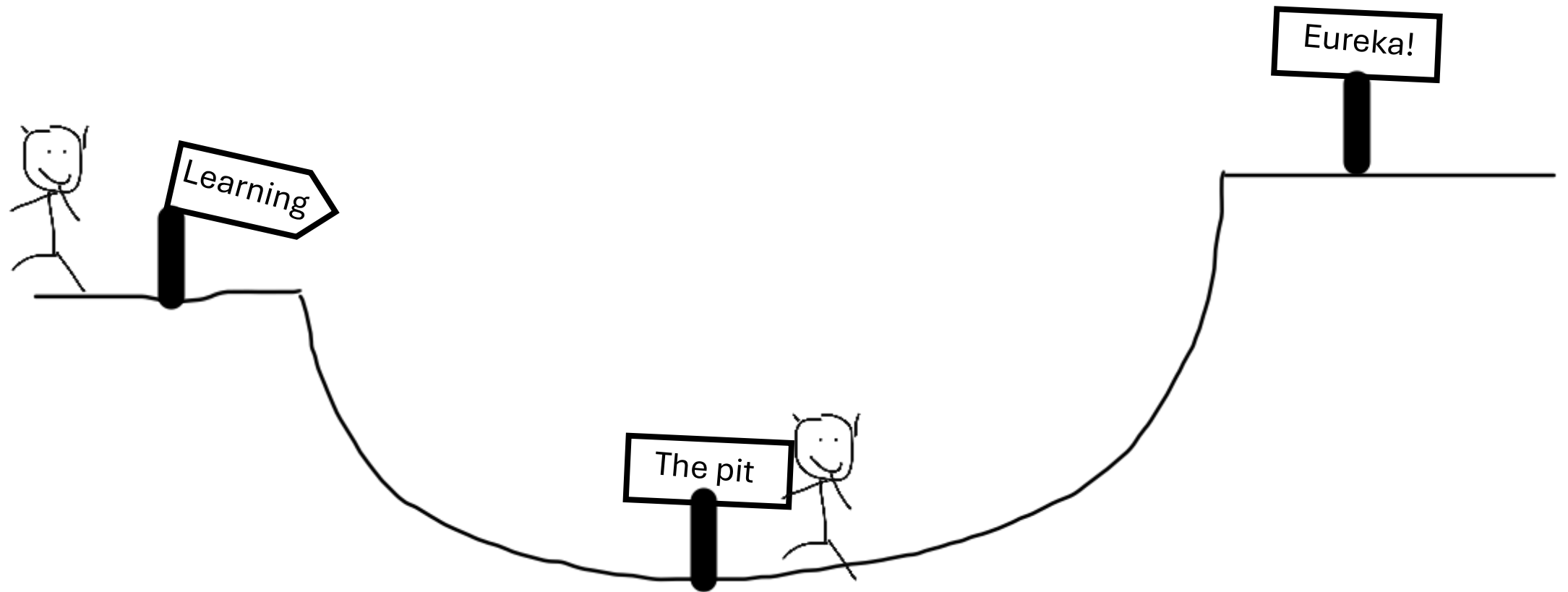
The AI learning paradox
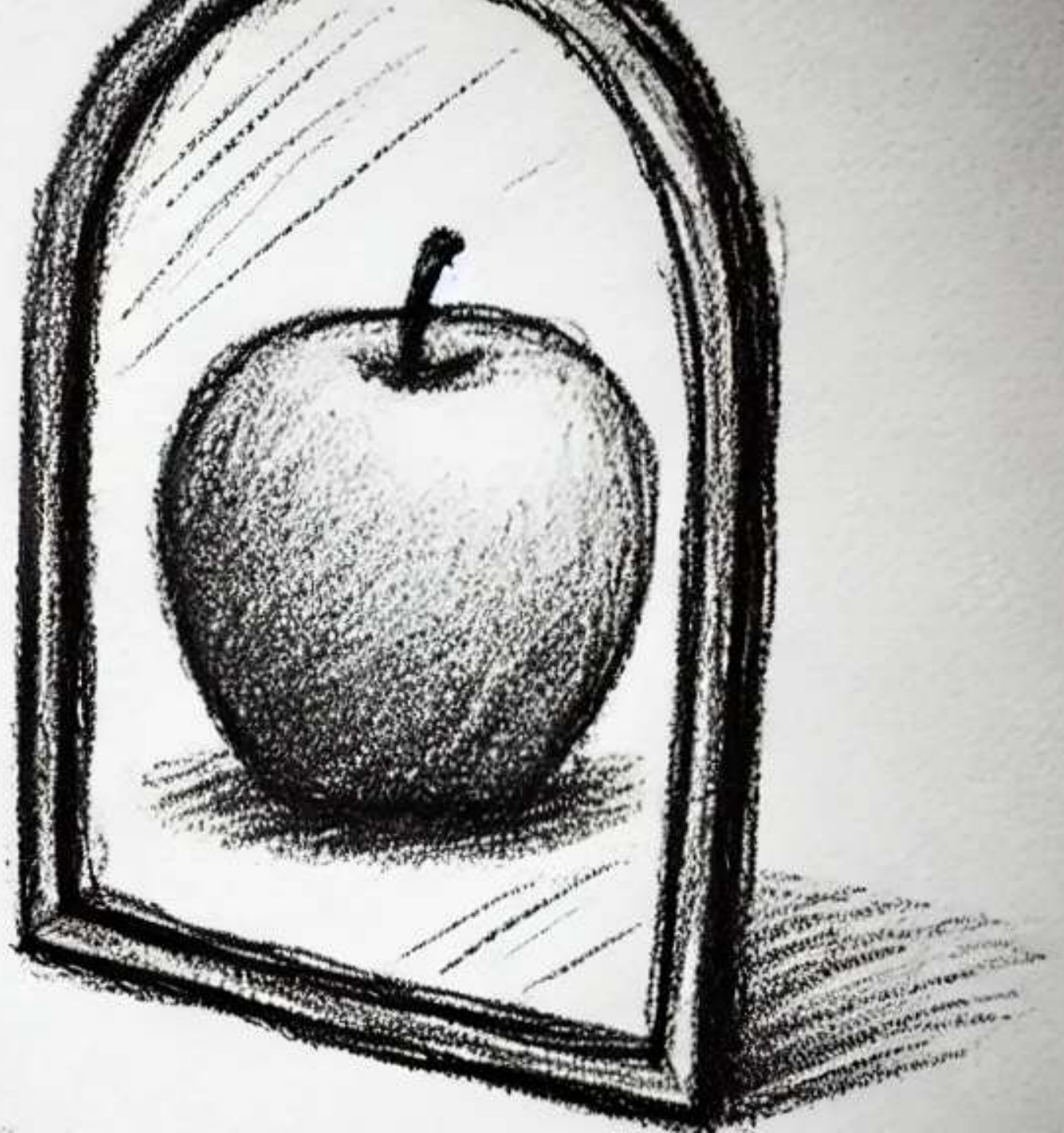
The learning pit

Based upon the Learning pit of James Nottingham

The button

Waar kan ik je mee helpen?

I am a 13-year-old student. I have to write a text in French in which I present my family. The text must contain the words in the attached file and it contains 20 sentences. My level is A2. Don't use grammar structures that are above my level.

\+ ⊕ Zoeken   🔭 Diepgaand onderzoeken   •••

↑ **The button**

Research

Negative correlation: frequent AI tool usage and critical thinking abilities

Higher dependence and lower critical thinking scores for younger participants

Article

AI Tools in Society: Impacts on Cognitive Offloading and the Future of Critical Thinking

Michael Gerlich

Center for Strategic Corporate Foresight and Sustainability, SBS Swiss Business School, 8302 Kloten-Zurich, Switzerland; michael.gerlich@cantab.net

Potential cognitive cost of AI tool reliance?

Gerlich, M. (2025). AI Tools in Society: Impacts on Cognitive Offloading and the Future of Critical Thinking. *Societies, 15*(1), 6.
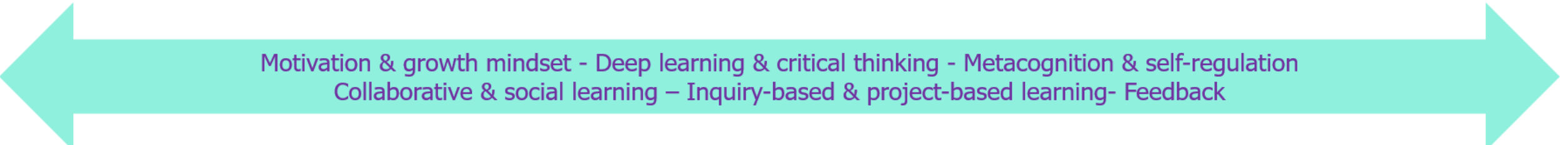
Future FLE?

The super-powered teacher

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Preparing teachers for the AI Development in Education as an Innovative Asset

Foundational instructional guidelines

De Jonghe et al. (2023); Hardman, 2024; Hodges & Kirschner (2024)

The backward design

Motivation & growth mindset - Deep learning & critical thinking - Metacognition & self-regulation
Collaborative & social learning – Inquiry-based & project-based learning- Feedback

Zoom in: chAInging goals
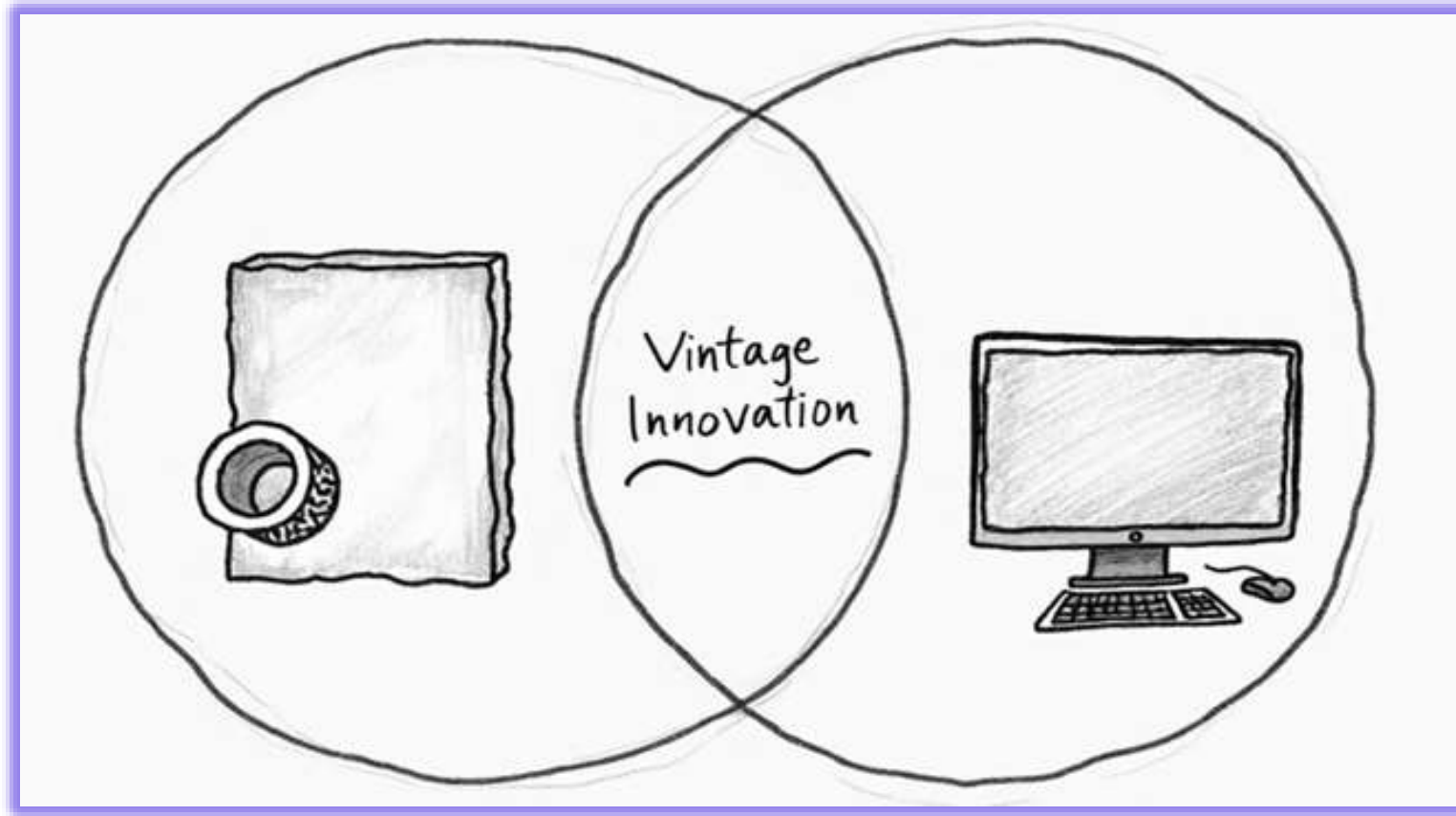
Novice learners
(13 year old)

Being able to write a mail in which they present themselves applying appropriate style, vocabulary and grammar

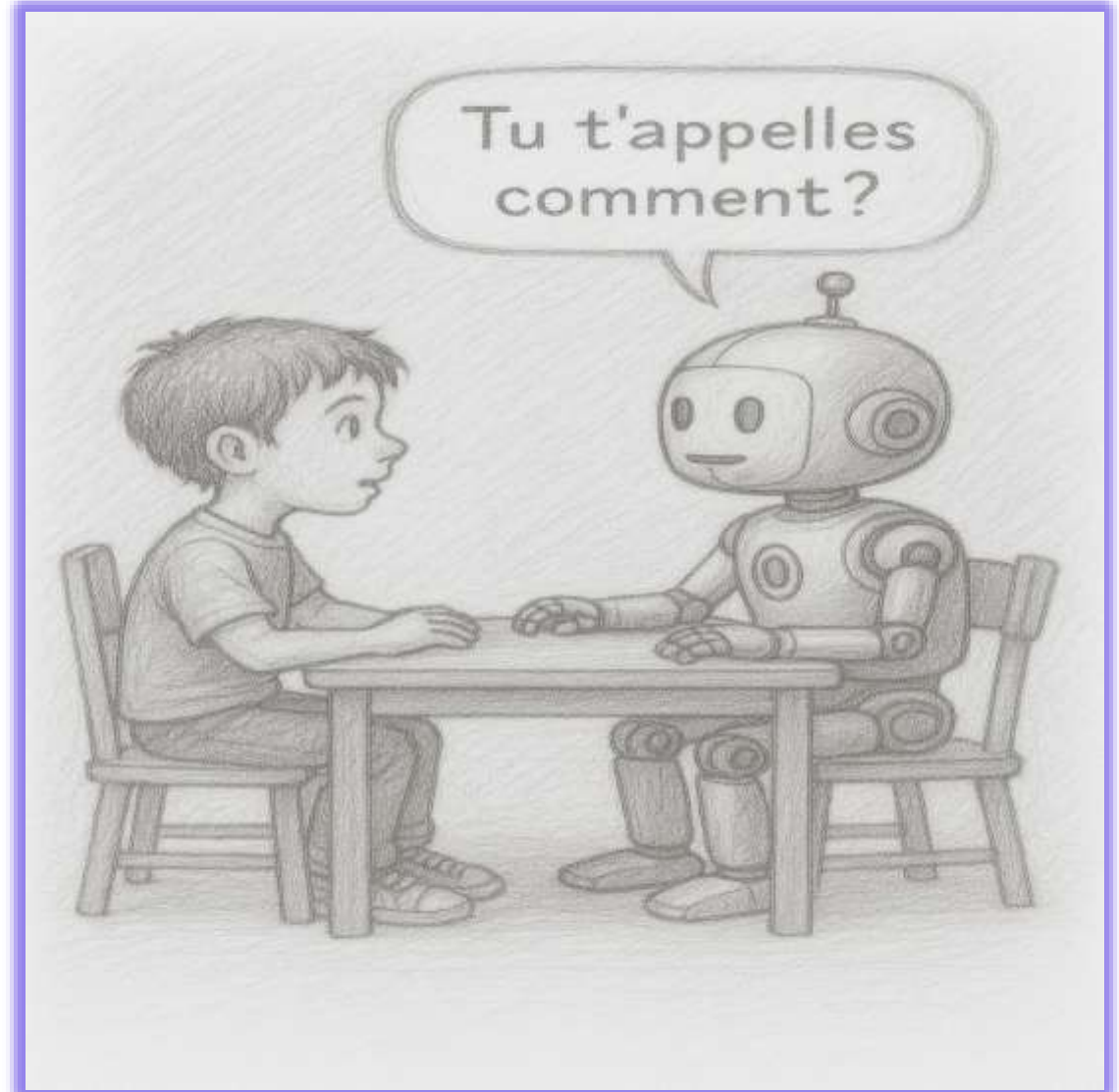New learning goal (AI-literacy): prompt for feedback, text-to-app

Boelen, B., Cams, G., Dehaese, K., & Dewaele, K. (2024). Module 3.1. Teaching with AI. PAIDEIA. ERASMUS-EDU-2023-PI-FORWARD. European Agency for Education and Culture (EACEA). https://www.paideiaproject.eu/
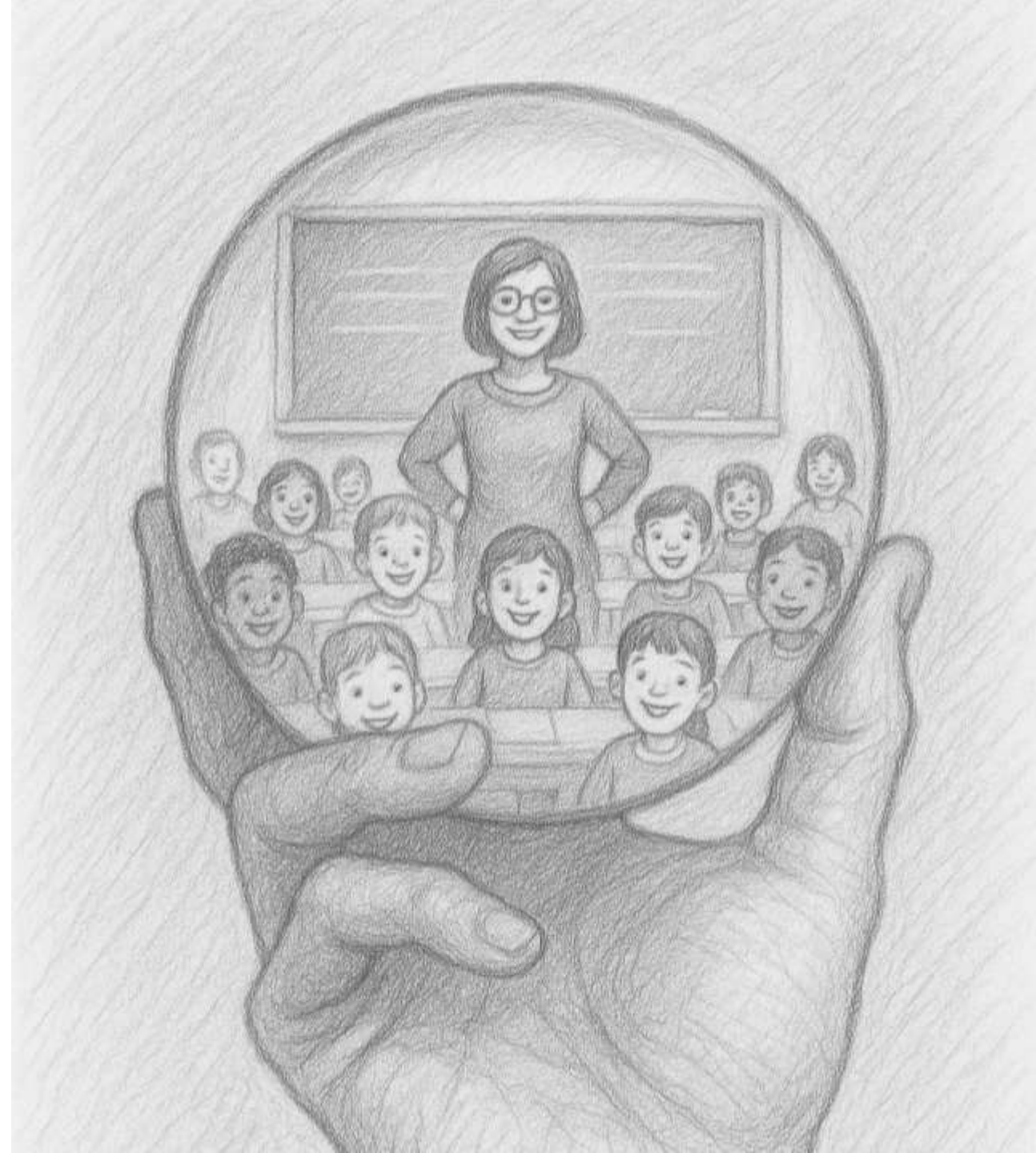
To AI or not to AI

Back to the future?

Vintage innovation

The big question

A curriculum focused on teaching and learning enhanced by human-centered AI

Unit 1
Intake and self reflection

Unit 2
Basic awareness of AI

Understanding AI

A1   A2

AI explorer

Unit 3
Impact of AI in Teaching & Learning

3.1 Teaching with AI

B1

AI teacher

test

3.2 Guiding students how to learn with AI

B2

AI guide

test

Unit 4
Ethical and legal use of AI

Using AI responsibly

B2

AI expert

test

Unit 5
Outboarding and self evaluation

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https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Katrien-Dewaele?ev=hdr_xprf

Interested: please contact katrien.dewaele@ucll.be

thAInk
you