

The Adult Learning Theory

ANDRAGOGY

of Malcolm Knowles

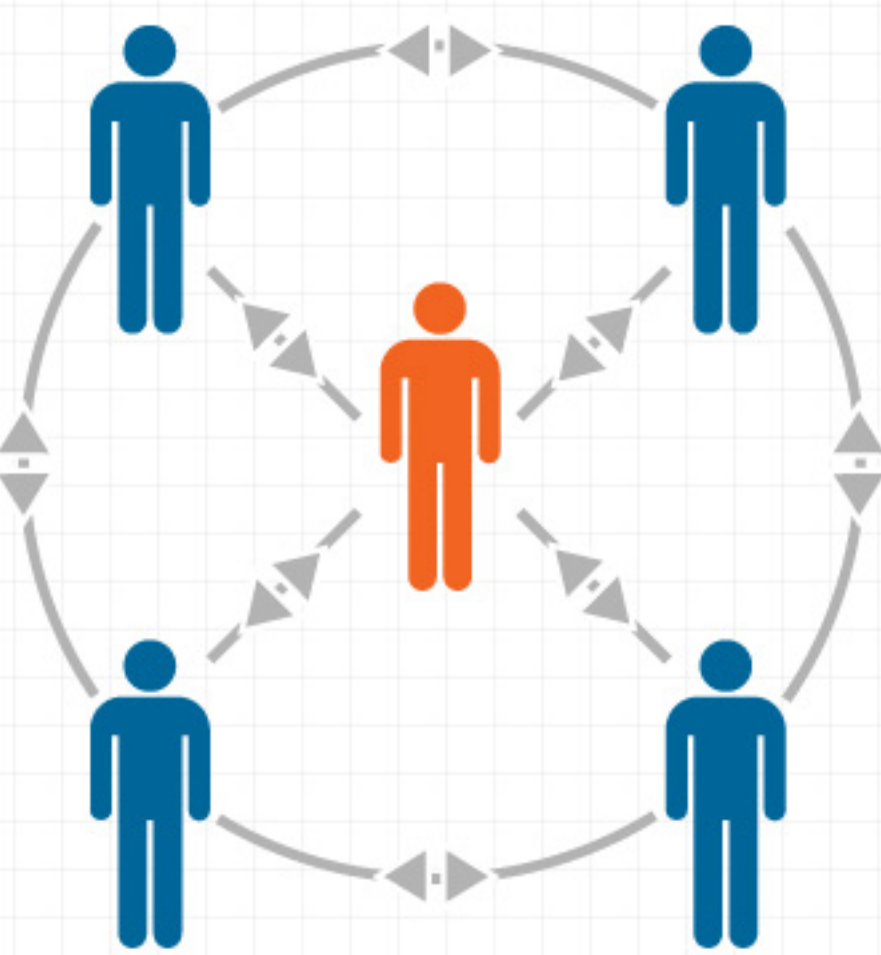


Malcolm Shepherd Knowles (1913 – 1997)

Was an American educator well known for the use of the term **Andragogy** as synonymous to the **adult education**.

According to Malcolm Knowles, **andragogy** is the art and science of adult learning, thus **andragogy** refers to any form of **adult learning**. (Kearsley, 2010).

ANDRAGOGY

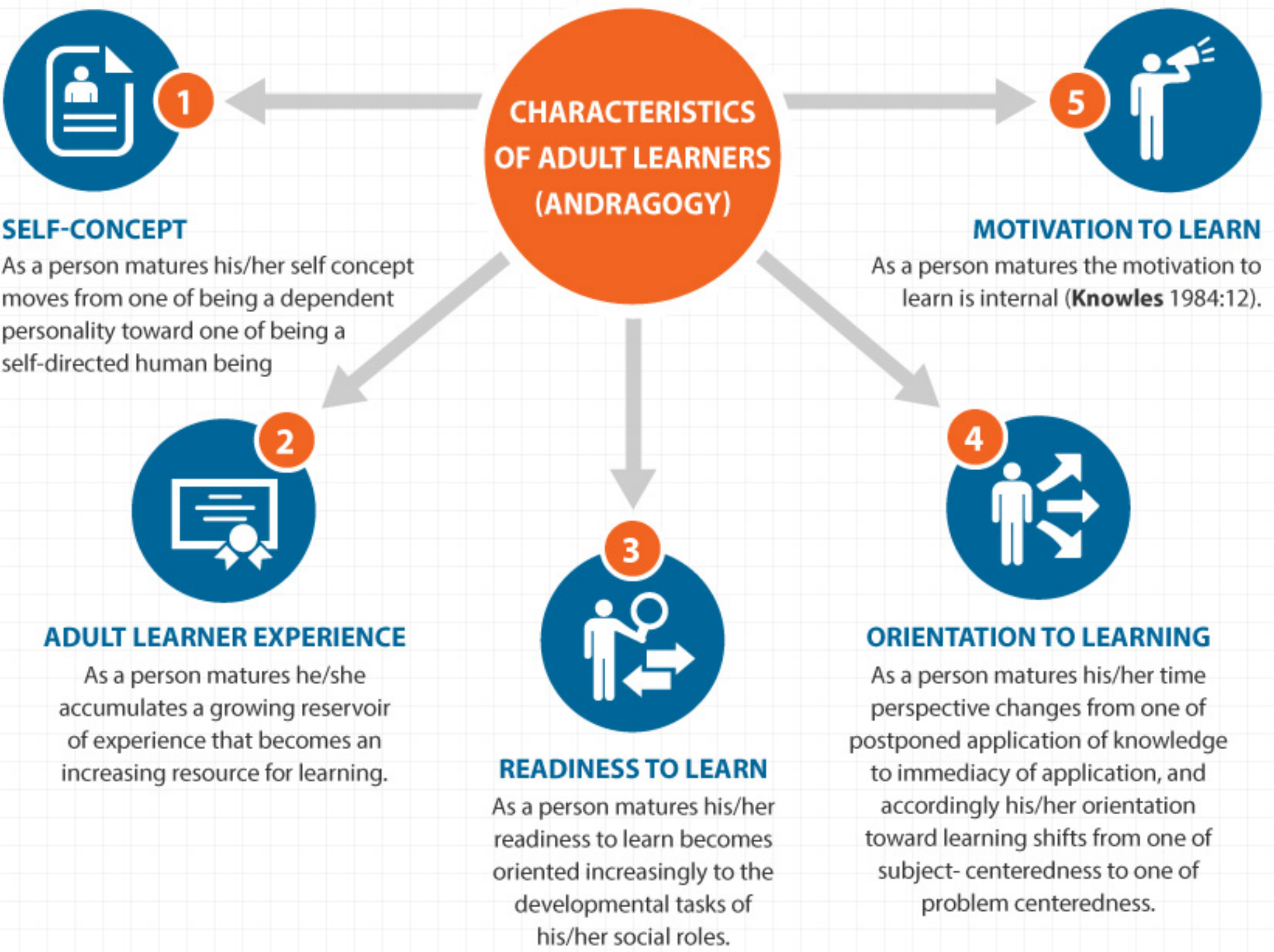


The term **andragogy** can be supposedly equivalent to the term pedagogy. **Andragogy** in Greek means man-leading in comparison to pedagogy, which in Greek means child-leading. However, it should be noticed that the term pedagogy is used since the Ancient Greek times while Alexander Kapp, a German educator, originally used the term **andragogy** in 1833.

KNOWLES'

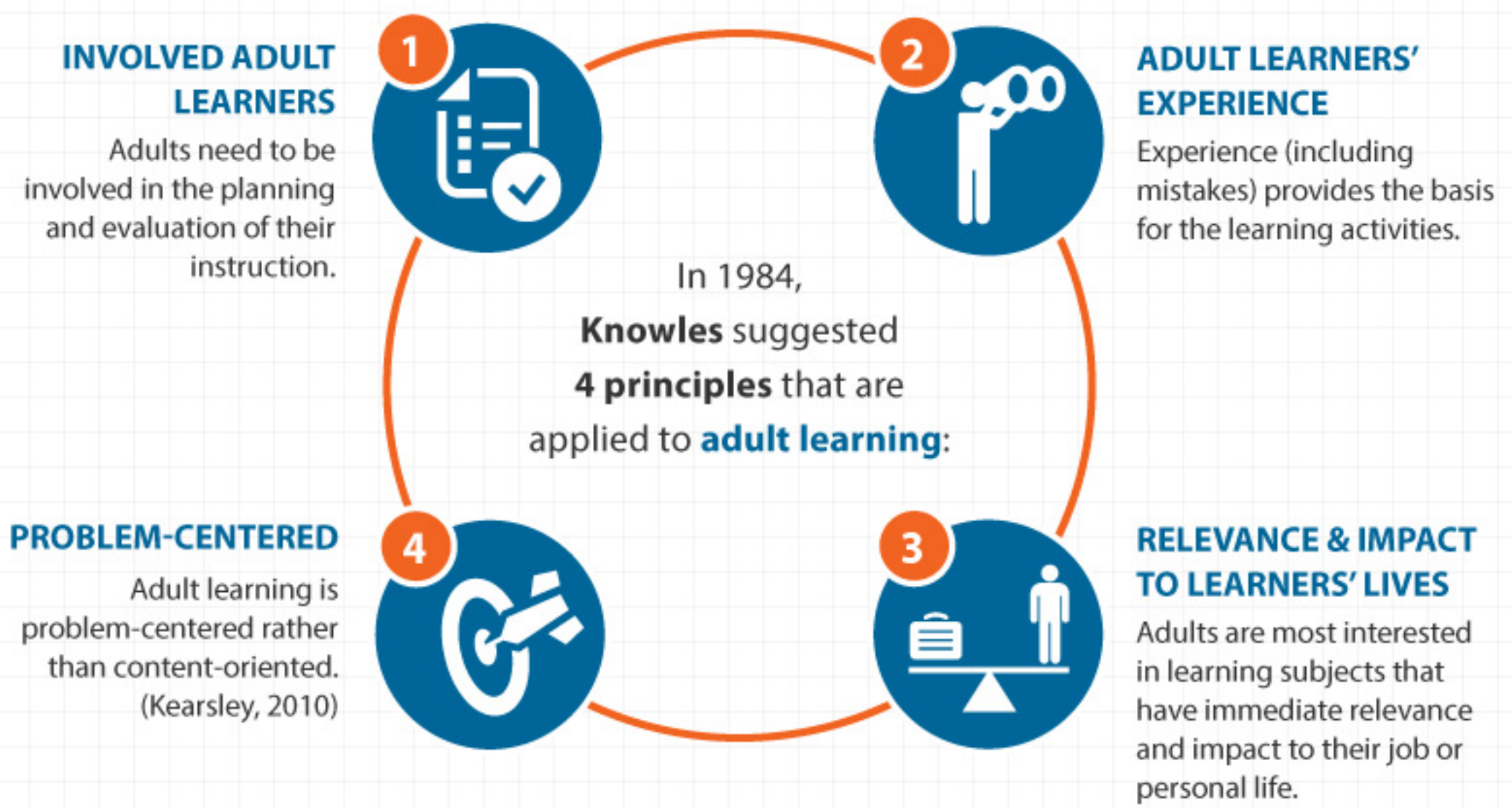
5 ASSUMPTIONS OF ADULT LEARNERS

In 1980, **Knowles** made 4 **assumptions** about the **characteristics of adult learners (andragogy)** that are different from the assumptions about the characteristics of child learners (pedagogy). In 1984, **Knowles** added the 5th assumption.



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4 PRINCIPLES OF ANDRAGOGY



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