

# Creative activities promote student motivation and engagement in a large cell biology course

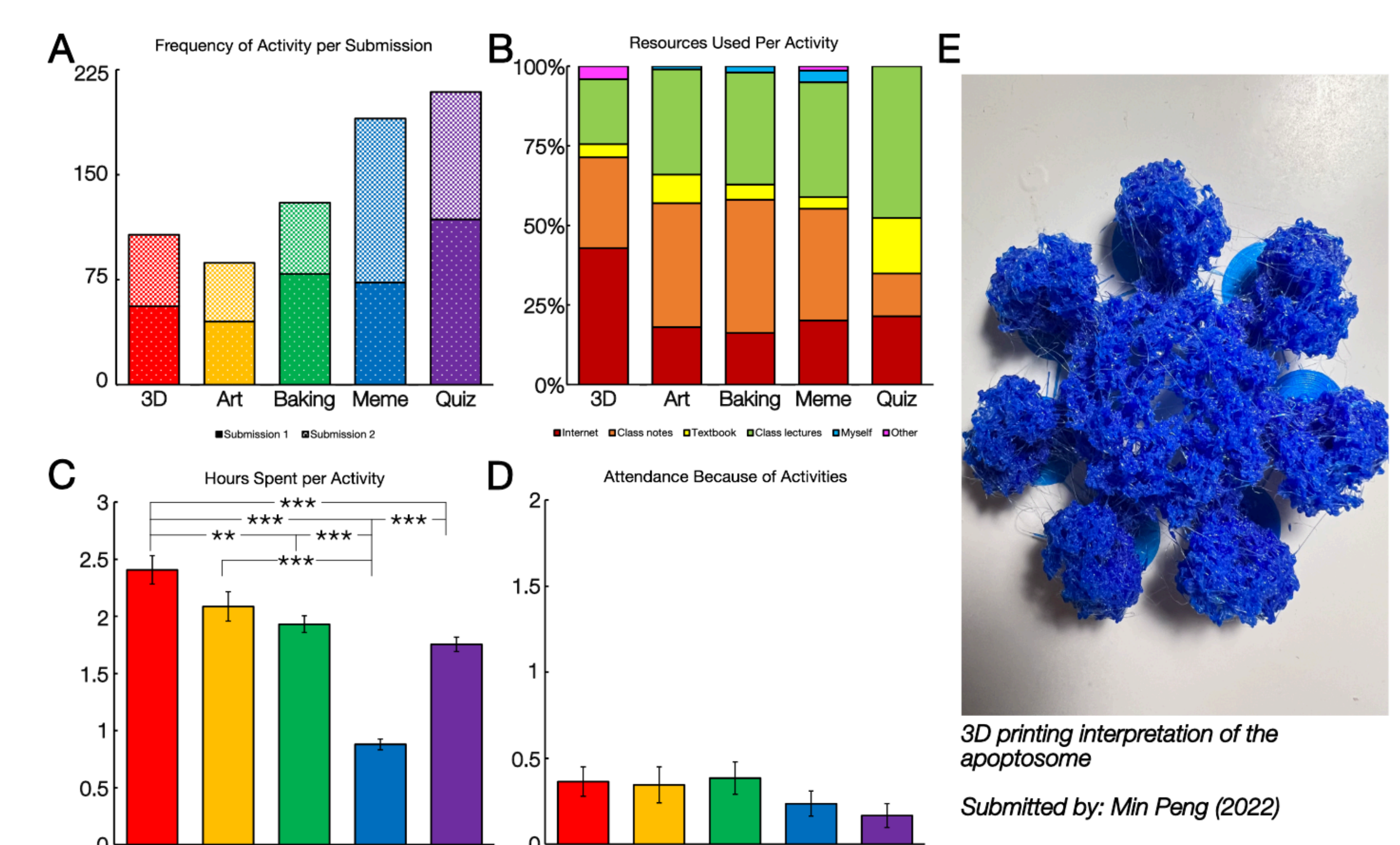
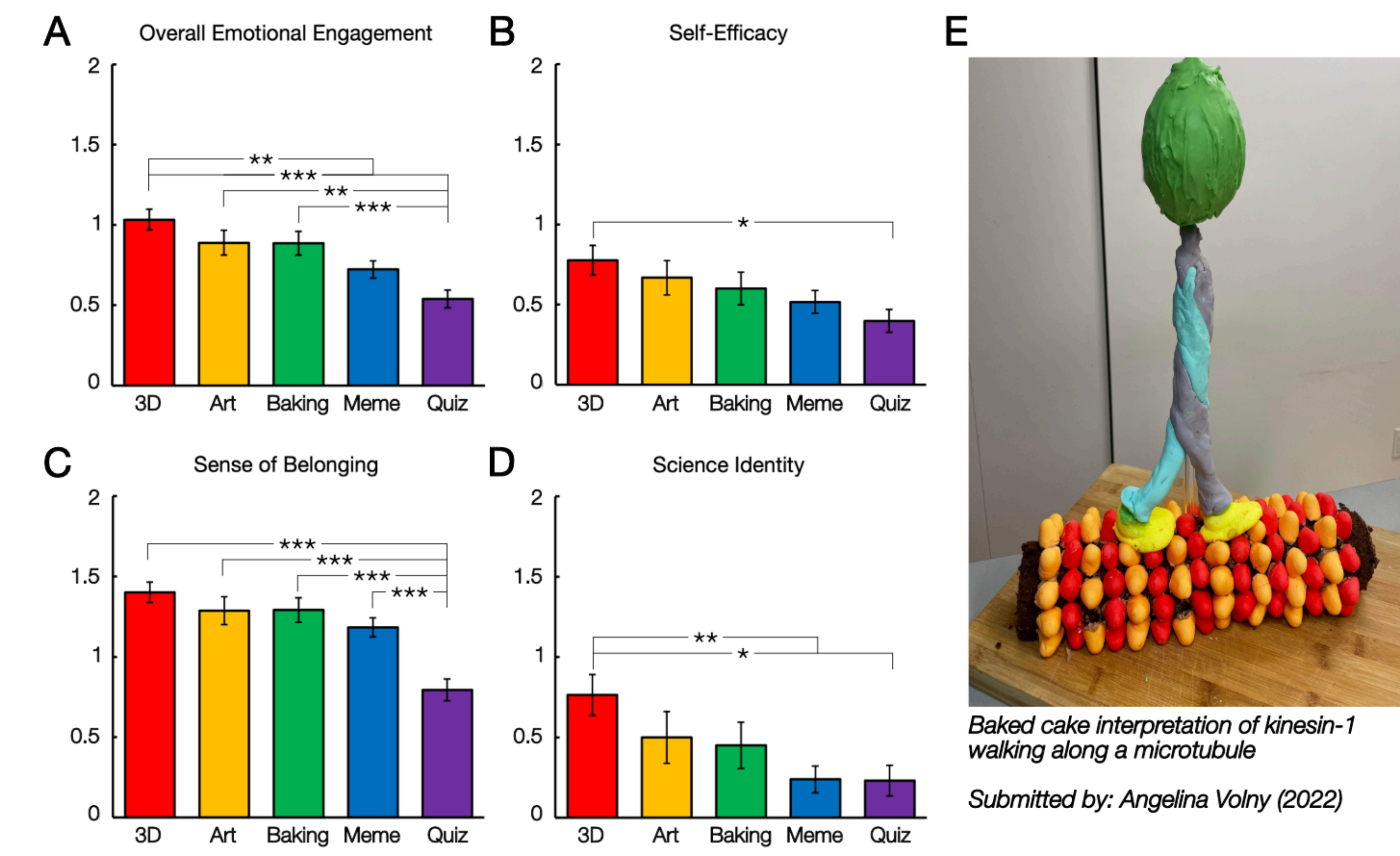
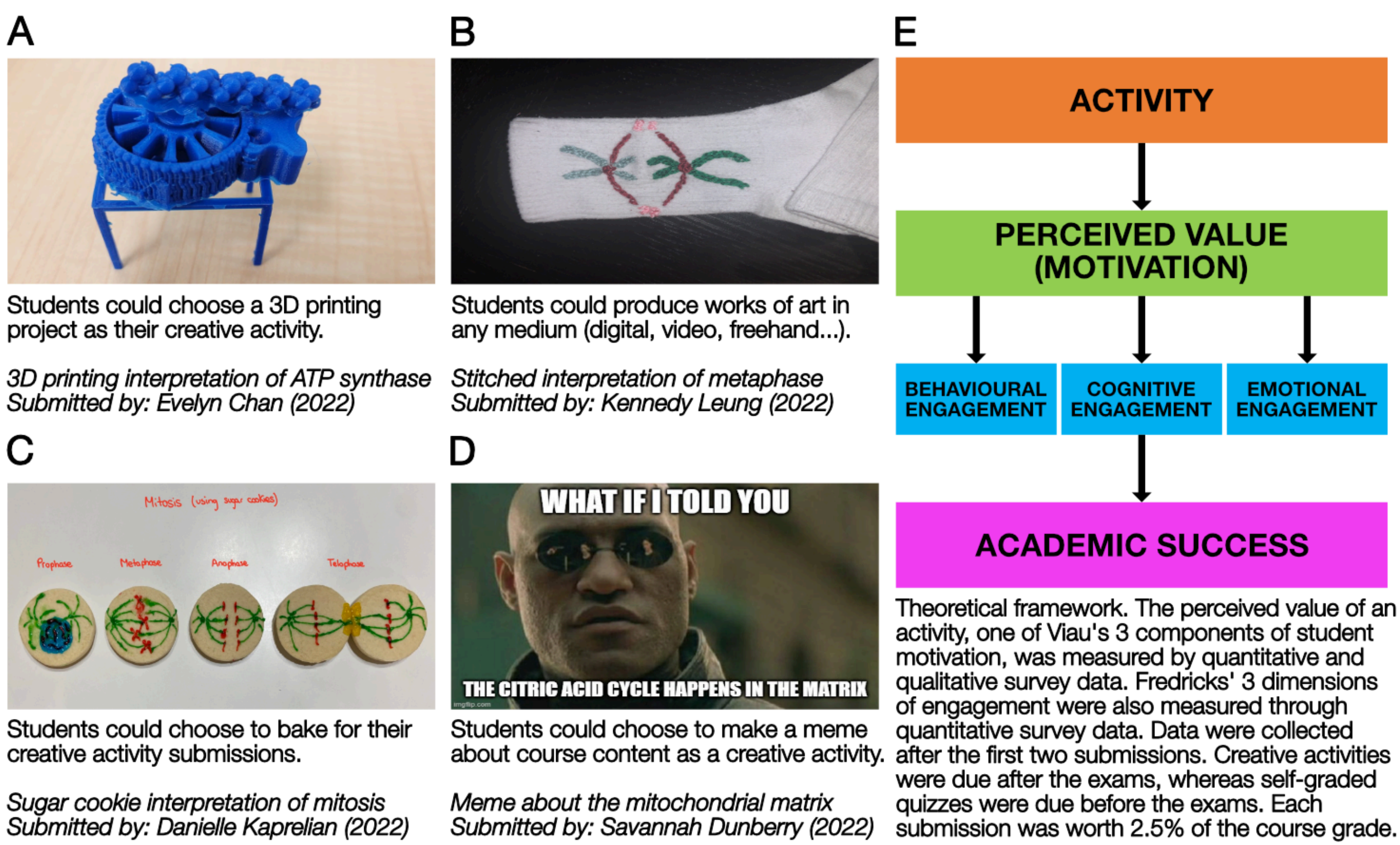
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**QUESTION:** *How are creative activities perceived, and how do they impact engagement and performance?*

**Creative activities foster a sense of belonging. Some also increase self-efficacy and science identity.**

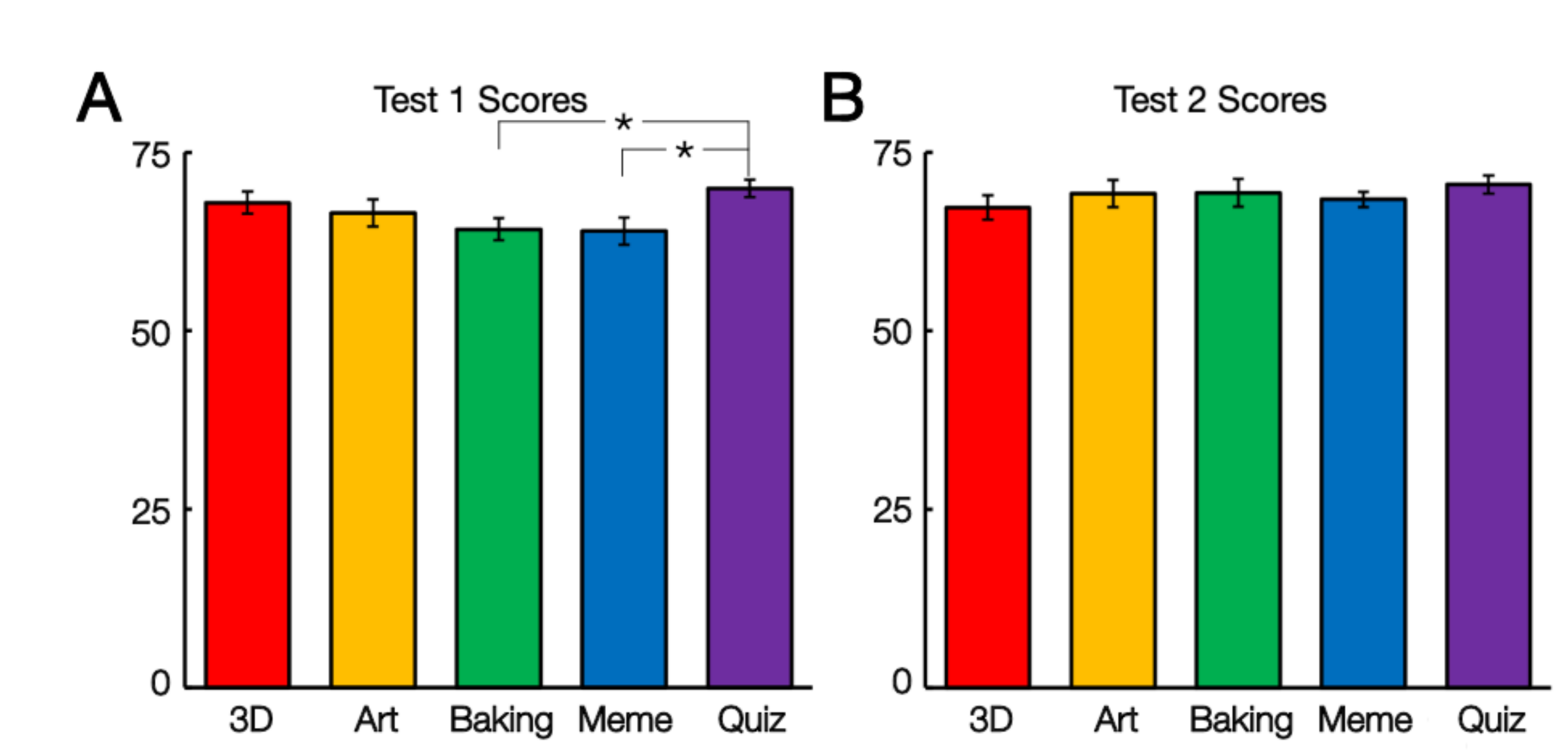
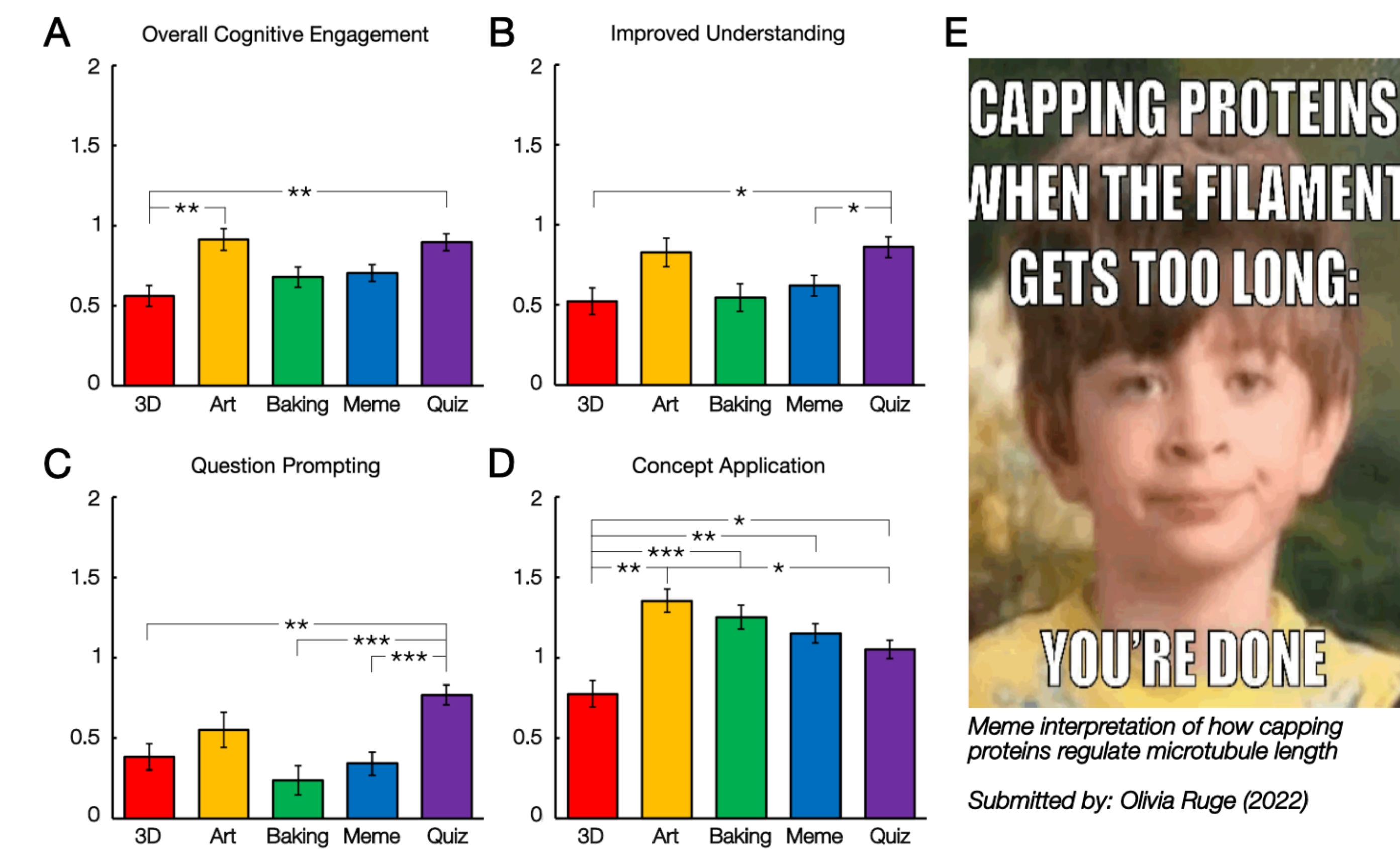
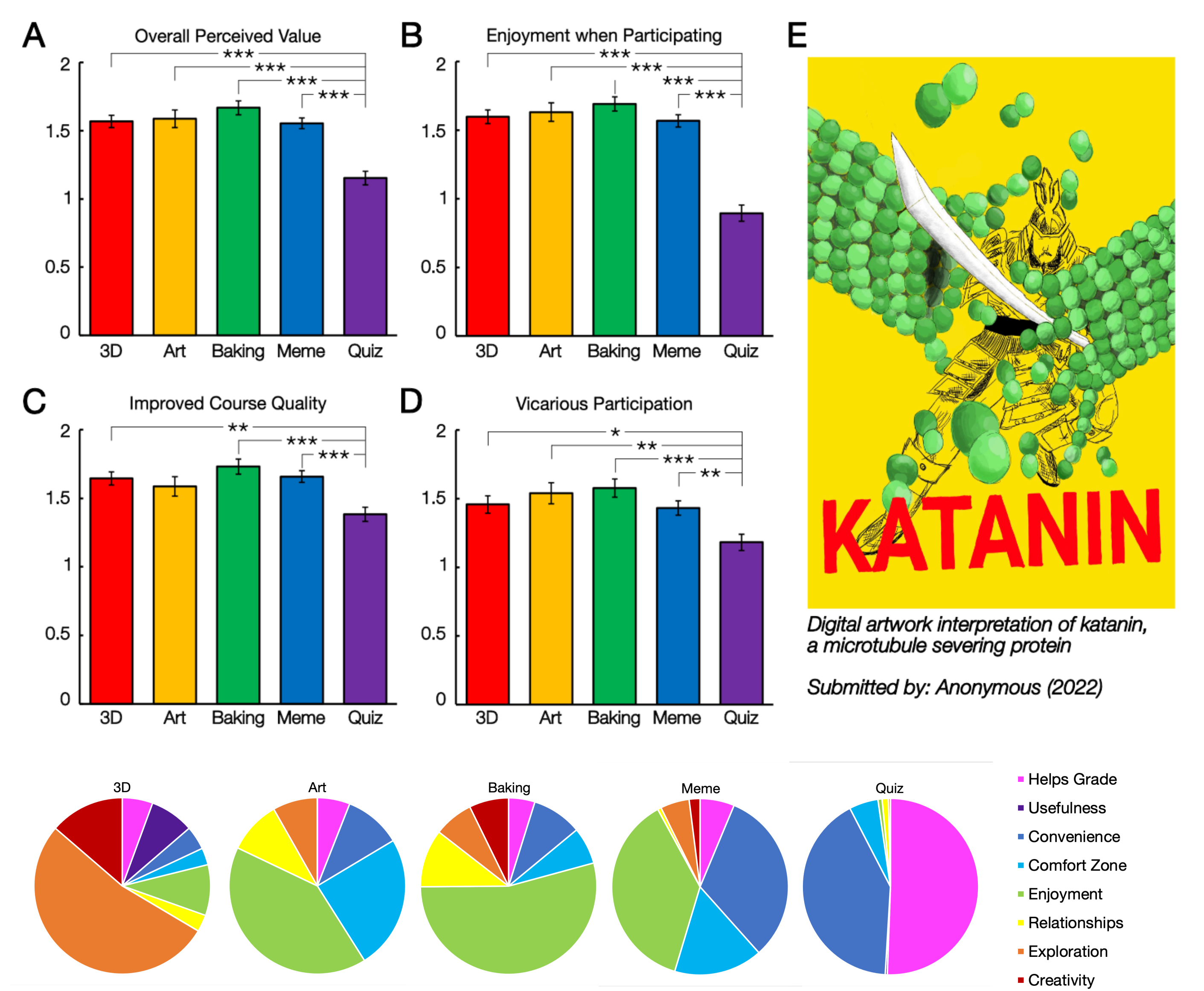
**Quizzes accounted for most submissions overall and demanded the most use of lectures and textbook.**



**Students thought creative activities were valuable, but that self-graded quizzes would help their grade.**

**Choosing 3D printing, baking, and memes was less cognitively engaging than writing a self-graded quiz.**

**Students who baked or made memes scored lower than those who wrote quizzes on the first class test.**



**CONCLUSION:** *Our results indicate that cognitive engagement is key to academic success and should be considered in the future of these activities. Nevertheless, creative activities are motivating and help foster a sense of belonging, and can thus favour academic persistence.*

**References**

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