Noticing Learner Agency – Observable Shifts in Student Roles

FROM	ТО
Students avoid mistakes	Students reflect on and learn from mistakes
Teacher is seen as the sole expert on what students know	Student expertise is known and valued by peers
Students avoid cognitive struggle	Students value generative struggle and confusion
Teacher uses goals and criteria	Teacher and students use goals and criteria
Students emphasize the correctness of responses	Students highlight their emerging understanding
Students complete assignments	Students set academic and personal goals
Students rely on grades for motivation	Students internalize criteria to support learning
Students regard learning as a private activity	Students engage in feedback with peers to contribute to and benefit from the learning of others
Students offer non-specific or overly prescriptive feedback to peers	Students offer feedback that scaffolds learning for peers
Feedback is seen as a final step in a learning process	Students engage with feedback to further learning

FROM

Students are dependent on teacher to carry cognitive load of task	Students carry most of the cognitive load of task
Students unsure how to tackle new problems	Students adapt learning strategies when needed
Students keep what they don't know private	Students ask questions of themselves, the teacher, and others
Students are hesitant to share their ideas	 Students give thoughtful and extended responses
Students don't feel like they have a say	Students feel comfortable making suggestions and choosing ways to enhance their own learning
Students play it safe	 Students take risks in learning
Students give up quickly	Students persevere in their learning
Students see learning as an independent activity	Students value learning with and from peers
Students do not let others know when they are confused about an idea or concept	Students seek out support from peers or others when they are confused about an idea or concept
Teachers respond to evidence	Teachers and students respond to evidence