

Strategy: Method of Loci

Content: Teaching college students how to remember information through the use of loci

Title: Remembering through loci

Time Required: 1 hour

Number of Participants: 4-7

Target Audience: College students

Goal of Activity: Students will remember a list of 20 words in the order of presentation.

Purpose of Script: Learning long lists through locations created in the mind

Learning Outcome(s), Gagnes Taxonomy: Verbal Information

Learning Outcome(s), HEO Taxonomy: Knowledge, Comprehension

Entry Skills: Students should be able to form a mental picture of persons, events, or information to be learned.

Setting: Classroom

Media: Da-Lite screen, Kodak slide projector with an automatic timing device, live instruction.

Procedure:

Students are asked to select a series of 20 memory locations, or loci, that they could use to remember a list of words. These loci have to be campus locations such as buildings, statues, offices, flagpoles, or other object or places that they were familiar with on the university grounds. They are also reminded to make each location unique and distinct so that it will be easier for the students to recall how to travel mentally from one location to the next in a logical and consistent

order. Ten minutes should be allowed for the students to create and memorize their series of locations.

Once they have learned their loci, the students should practice using this method with the list of 20 words they are to learn. The words are presented at a 5-second rate on a Da-Lite screen using a Kodak slide projector with an automatic timing device. After studying the word list, the student is given 3 minutes in which to recall the 20 words in the order of presentation

Strategy Assessment: The test consists of using the students series of loci to recall two additional lists of 20 words.

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References: O'Neil, Harold F., Spielberger, Charles D. Cognitive and Affective learning Strategies, 1979, New York, NY; Academic Press.