

Strategy: Mnemonics

Content: Link Method to remember lists

Title: Mind Tools-Helping you to think your way to a great life!

Time Required: Varies from individual to individual

Number of Participants: Could be used by an individual to remember a grocery list to a classroom of junior high students to remember lists of items

Target Audience: From age ten and up

Goal of Activity: To remember a list of words through association that can be placed in a story form.

Purpose of Script: Relying on a series of images coding information

Learning Outcome(s), Gagnes Taxonomy: Verbal Information, Intellectual Skills

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

Entry Skills: This technique relies on the user remembering the sequences of events in a story, or a sequence of images..

Setting: Any environment limited of distractions

Media: Live instruction on mnemonics.

Procedure:

If the task is remembering the counties in the South of England:

Avon, Dorset, Somerset, Cornwall, Wiltshire, Devon, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Surrey

...And the story method is used the following example may be used:

An AVON lady is walking up a path towards a strange house. She is hot and sweating slightly in the heat of high SUMMER (Somerset). Beside the path

someone has planted giant CORN in a WALL (Cornwall), but it's beginning to WILT (Wiltshire) in the heat. She knocks on the Door (Dorset), which is opened by the DEVil (Devon). In the background she can see a kitchen in which a servant is smearing honey on a HAM (Hampshire), making it GLOSSy (Gloucestershire) and gleam in bright sunlight streaming in through a window. Panicked by seeing the Devil, the Avon lady panics, screams 'SoRRY' (Surrey), and dashes back down the path.

This example came from the internet and I wanted to compare its use with what we are learning. In the first chapter of our book the cognitive strategies are grouped into four families. I took these four areas and put into a story as an aid for remembering. Here is the story I devised:

A (Family A) Chair (chunking) and ORGAN (Organizing) were in the corner of the room. Beside (Family B) them was a SPectacular LEopard STRiped (Spatial Learning Strategies) coat hanging on the wall. Close (Family C) by was a BRilliant STRiped rug (Bridging Strategies) and a Door (Family D) leading to the Garden Past the Stairs (General Purpose Strategies).

Strategy Assessment: Will I remember the four cognitive strategies when tested?

Author: Star H. Smith

References: Mind Tools - Memory Techniques - The Link Method