

Activity Handout 7.4

What Type of Memory Is It?

Read each statement below and then state what type of memory is being used or what type of organizational technique is being used.

1. Susie is baking blueberry muffins and goes through the following steps: she preheats the oven, mixes all the ingredients in the order in which they are presented, greases the muffin pan, places the batter in separate cups, places the pan in the oven, and then sets the timer.

Type of Memory: _____

2. In school, John is asked to name the first president of the United States and he answers, "George Washington."

Type of Memory: _____

3. Johanna is giving a speech in her speech class about her most memorable birthday, which was her sweet sixteen birthday party.

Type of Memory: _____

4. Thomas is trying to remember various items on a list for Christmas shopping. He organizes the items in the following way: DVDs for his daughter, PS2 games for his son, a new microwave for his sister in college, a new TV for his parents, and a new diamond tennis bracelet for his wife.

Type of Memory: _____

5. Rebecca goes into a restaurant with her five-year-old niece and sits down. The niece seems fidgety and wants to eat because she is so hungry. Rebecca explains to her that they need to wait to order. She knows since this is a not a fast-food restaurant that they must wait first for the server to bring them some menus. Next they have to give a drink order and then when the server comes back they need to give him/her their dinner order. Salads will be brought out, and when they are finished with the salads, their dinners will be brought to the table. Finally, they will finish their meal with dessert.

Type of Memory: _____

Activity Handout 7.3

Chunking

Use chunking to divide the following bits of information.

1. issheilagoingtobuythenewphone
2. 1776200119951970179219402007
3. canyouchunktheselettersintowords
4. 5101520253035404
5. 300305310320330340350

Tested Your Memory Lately?

When it comes to our memories we are our harshest critics, focusing not on countless facts recalled every day, but on the forgotten few. This quiz offers a rough guide to how your memory stacks up against the norm. Now, where did you put that pen?

- 1 = Not within the last six months**
- 2 = Once or twice in the last six months**
- 3 = About once a month**
- 4 = About once a week**
- 5 = Daily**
- 6 = More than once a day**

- _____ 1. How often do you fail to recognize places you've been before?
- _____ 2. How often do you forget whether you did something, such as lock the door or turn off the lights or the oven?
- _____ 3. How often do you forget when something happened—wondering whether it was yesterday or last week?
- _____ 4. How often do you forget where you put items such as house keys or wallet?
- _____ 5. How often do you forget something you were told recently and had to be reminded of it?
- _____ 6. How often are you unable to remember a word or name, even though it's "on the tip of your tongue"?
- _____ 7. In conversations, how often do you forget what you were just talking about?

Total points:

Score: 7-14 = better than average memory

15-25 = average

26 or higher = below average

HANDOUT 8-9

Eyewitness Memory

Please indicate your agreement with each of the following:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| T F | 1. The presence of a weapon impairs an eyewitness' ability to accurately identify the perpetrator's face. |
| T F | 2. Police instructions can affect an eyewitness' willingness to make an identification. |
| T F | 3. The less time an eyewitness has to observe an event, the less well he or she will remember it. |
| T F | 4. The rate of memory loss for an event is greatest right after the event and then levels off over time. |
| T F | 5. An eyewitness' confidence is not a good predictor of his or her identification accuracy. |
| T F | 6. Eyewitness testimony about an event often reflects not only what they actually saw but information they obtained later on. |
| T F | 7. An eyewitness' testimony about an event can be affected by how the questions put to that witness are worded. |
| T F | 8. Eyewitnesses sometimes identify as a culprit someone they have seen in another situation or context. |
| T F | 9. Hypnosis increases the accuracy of an eyewitness' reported memory. |
| T F | 10. Hypnosis increases suggestibility to leading and misleading questions. |
| T F | 11. An eyewitness' perception and memory for an event may be affected by his or her attitudes and expectations. |
| T F | 12. Eyewitnesses are more accurate when identifying members of their own race than members of other races. |
| T F | 13. An eyewitness' confidence can be influenced by factors that are unrelated to identification accuracy. |
| T F | 14. Alcoholic intoxication impairs an eyewitness' later ability to recall persons and events. |
| T F | 15. Exposure to mug shots of a suspect increases the likelihood that the witness will later choose that suspect in a lineup. |
| T F | 16. Young children are more vulnerable than adults to interviewer suggestion, peer pressures, and other social influences. |
| T F | 17. Witnesses are more likely to misidentify someone by making a relative judgment when presented with a simultaneous (as opposed to sequential) lineup. |

Source: Kassin, S. M., Tubb, V. A., Hosch, H. M., & Memon, A. (2001). On the "general acceptance" of eyewitness testimony research: A new survey of the experts. *American Psychologist*, 56, 405-415. (The items appear on p. 408.)