



Memorization Tips

Make it Meaningful

- Try to relate the topic to a **personal interest**. By connecting the information to something that you enjoy, you will remember it more easily.
- Similarly, find a **practical use**. Knowing how the information might benefit you will motivate you to remember it.
- Relate the information to a **real-world example**. If you can connect the information to a situation you are familiar with, you are more likely to remember it.

Understand the information

- Take notes with a **pen or pencil**. Typing is faster, but the speed prevents you from processing the information properly, making it more difficult to remember.
- Try to put the ideas in **your own words** rather than just quoting the book or professor. It is easier to recall your own words than the words of someone else.
- To remember a list of facts, create an **Acronym**. For example, FANBOYS can help you remember the coordinating conjunctions: **F**or, **A**nd, **N**or, **B**ut, **O**r **Y**et, **S**o.

Create Visual Cues

- Use **image association** to recall abstract ideas by relating them to something you can visualize. For example, to remember that the planet Mercury has an iron core, visualize a body-builder lifting iron weights on the planet. Also, the more absurd the image, the more likely you will remember it.
- **Drawing** information gives your mind a visual cue in addition to the verbal ones. Try to show the idea using a picture, chart, or graph.

Create Sound Cues

- Create a **vocal cue** by talking about the information out loud, or singing it with a catchy rhythm. Your mind will draw on the memory of your own voice to recall the information. For example, you are more likely to remember someone's name if you say it 2-3 times during the first few minutes of a conversation!
- Do **practice tests** with questions and answers on flash cards, or by giving a friend a list of key concepts, so they can quiz you. By vocalizing the information to someone else, you will increase your own memory and understanding.