

VOCABULARY LEARNING STRATEGIES

To learn a new word, you should learn:

- the meaning(s) of the word
- its pronunciation
- what ‘word parts’ it has (e.g., any prefix, suffix, and root form)
- its grammatical behavior (e.g., its word class, typical grammatical patterns it occurs in)
- its collocations <https://www.freecollocation.com/search?word=impact>
- what associations it has (e.g., words that are similar or opposite in meaning)
- its frequency <https://www.macmillandictionary.com/learn/red-words.html>

The five key principles to learn new vocabulary quickly and effectively are:

▶ Selection

▶ Association

▶ Revision

▶ Storage

▶ Use

SELECTION (WHICH WORD?)

- A good Academic English vocabulary → better essays, better presentations, understanding more of your lectures and reading academic articles easily.
- To build a large Academic English vocabulary you’ll need to learn words from two categories:
 - **general academic words** → *identify and analyze*.
 - **subject specific words** → *application integration* (for software development)

<https://www.eapfoundation.com/vocab/academic/awllists/>

https://www.examenglish.com/vocabulary/academic_wordlist.html

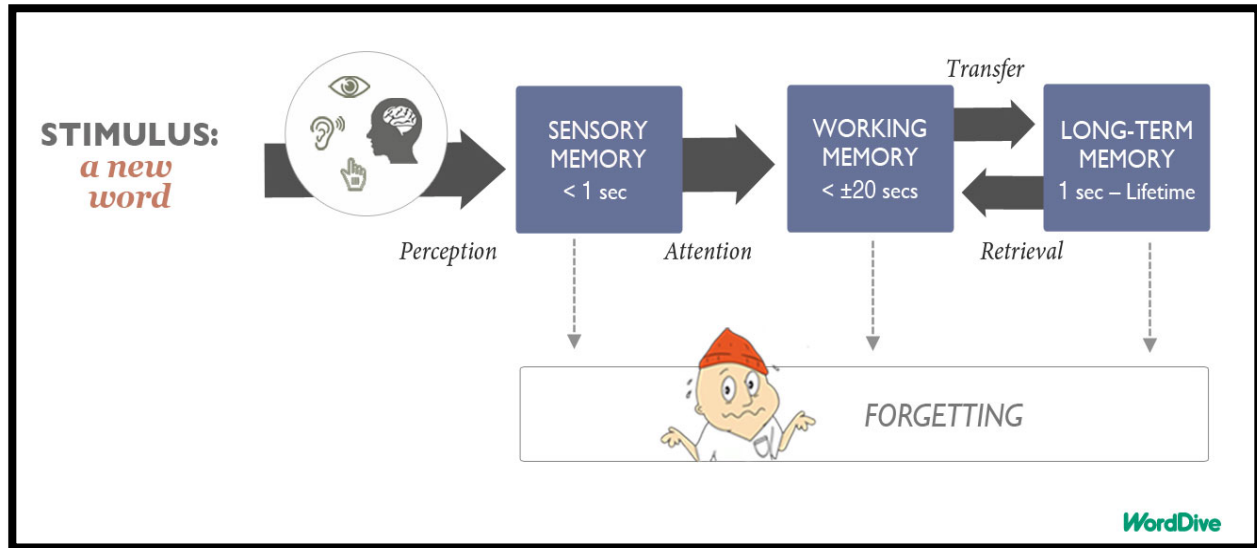
<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/learn/red-words.html>

ASSOCIATION (HOW TO CONNECT?)

- If you try to learn words without **context**, you'll have a hard time. Our key to building this context is **association**.
 - Association is the process by which new, incoming information is connected to old, preexisting information.
 - If we try to learn new words on their own, we'll soon forget them, or have to relearn them. If we learn these words in a **larger context such as a sentence**, however, we'll have a much better ability to connect them together in our minds.
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- Think about images
 - Exaggeration
 - Movement
 - Creative association
 - Emotional reaction
 - Invent fun stories with words
 - Create ties and relationships between words
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- A learning anecdote from one of our native instructors:
«I learned the Turkish words for **spoon** and **eyebrow** by making a pair and imagining scratching my eyebrow with a spoon. I always had a hard time remembering spoon until I matched it with eyebrow!»

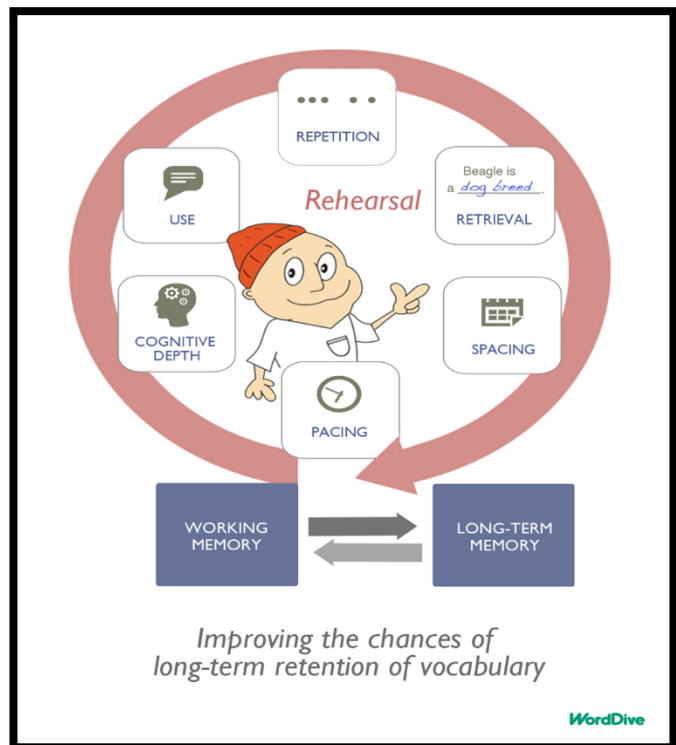


REVISION



80% of material is lost within 24 hours of initial learning!!!

- Simply repeating a word you just learned ten times in a row is useless.
- You need to space out the repetitions of the word. Of course, the number of review sessions depends on the word and your personal struggles. **For example:** review the word for the first time 10 minutes after you learn it, again after 8 hours, again after 24 hours, again after 3 days, 10 days, 25 days, etc. (**SPACING**)
- This technique will enable you to store vocabulary in your **long-term memory** and **spend the least amount of time reviewing**.



- Leitner system for revision: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C20EvKtdJwQ>

STORAGE

“Spoken words fly away, but written words stay.”

- When you learn new words, you must write them down or type them somewhere for safekeeping and later review.
- A Personal Vocabulary Bank
- There are a few ways that you can organize your word lists:
 - ✓ List words by **date**
 - ✓ List words by **subject**
 - ✓ List words by **type** (nouns/ adjectives/ verbs etc.)
- You can also choose what information to include about each word. For example, you could include:
 - ✓ pronunciation
 - ✓ word family
 - ✓ definition
 - ✓ an example sentence
 - ✓ collocations
 - ✓ the translation in your language

USE

- Use it or lose it! Write and/or speak!
- Suppose that you read an article about a topic that is interesting to you. After selecting and looking up some unknown words, you can have a short discussion with your language partner a few days later. Summarize the article by using some key words that you have selected and reviewed. You will see how effectively you will remember them after this brief conversation.

IN SHORT:

- 1) Choose the words you want/need to learn.
- 2) Relate them to what you already know.
- 3) Review them until they've reached your long-term memory.
- 4) Record them so learning is never lost.
- 5) Use them in a meaningful conversation and communication.