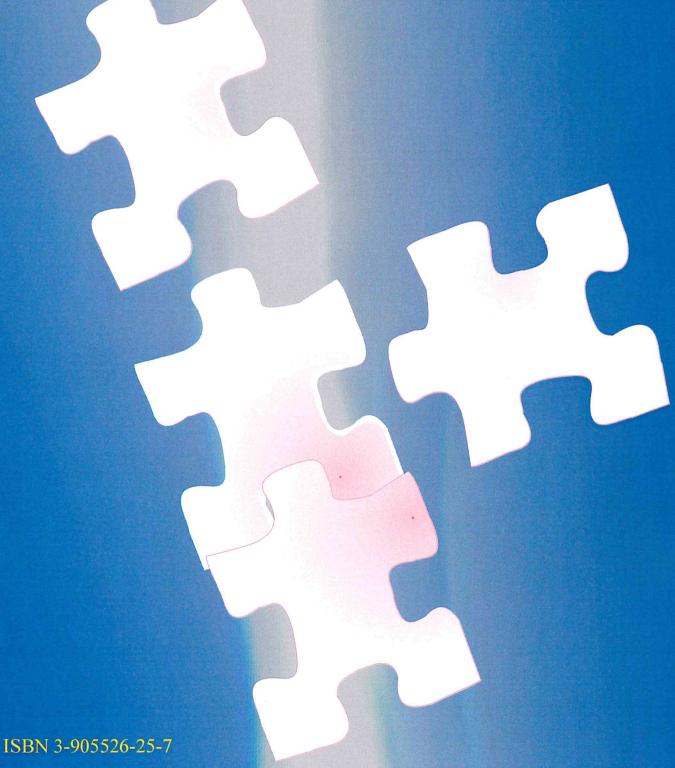


European Foundation For Education, Communication and Teaching

Learning Strategies

by Tony Stockwell



NOTE

Learning dialogues are an important part of each course as they contain all the information to be taught. In order to be successful, they must be accompanied by the other important elements of the course. These include posters containing key elements, learning activities for transfer and presentation, all of which are set out and explained in the teacher's manual which is created in the form of a Learnflow for each course.

The following elements are essential:
Text Dialogues
Learning Posters
Learning Activities
Selected Music
Detailed Lesson Plan

Tony Stockwell Learning Techniques

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Preamble

The following learning techniques are simple and have been tested. They can be applied to most ages and types of learners. Some are particularly useful for children or learners with disabilities. They all allow repetition and most of them facilitate self-correction. The creation of the activity by the learner is part of the learning process. The techniques provide a structure on which to learn and eliminate the "I don't know what to do factor". They give a feeling of security. They are designed to address two or more types of learners:

The kinaesthetic - the doer (emotional and physical activity)
The visual - the seer (visualisation and imagery)
The verbal - the speaker (internal and external dialogue)
The auditory - the hearer (auditory repetition, passive hearing)
The scriptoric - the writer (structured documentation)

The techniques should be enjoyable. It is better to have short learning periods. Keep playing as long as it is fun.

About the Author

Tony Stockwell is an internationally recognised learning expert with over 40 years of experience in learning methodology. All of the techniques in this booklet have been tried and tested at various age levels and in numerous subjects.

Quote: "If you want to learn you must see it, do it and feel it."

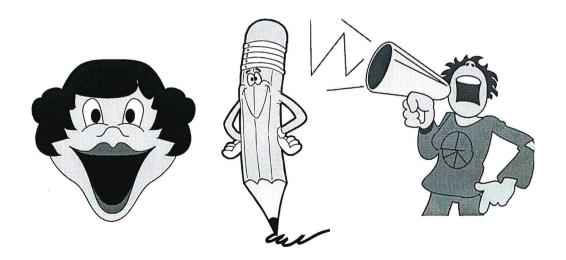
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Text Reading

You often have to read a text when learning and remember as much as possible. This 3-step-system will help you understand and learn the text easily and improve your reading skills.

- 1. Read the text/and put a pencil line/where you think/you should make/a short pause./The pauses/should come regularly/in a short distance/from each other/but not after every word.
- 2. Read the text again, underlining the key words/with a pencil/ or highliner.
- 3. Read the text/a third time out loud/taking breaks/at each line/and emphasizing the words/that are underlined.

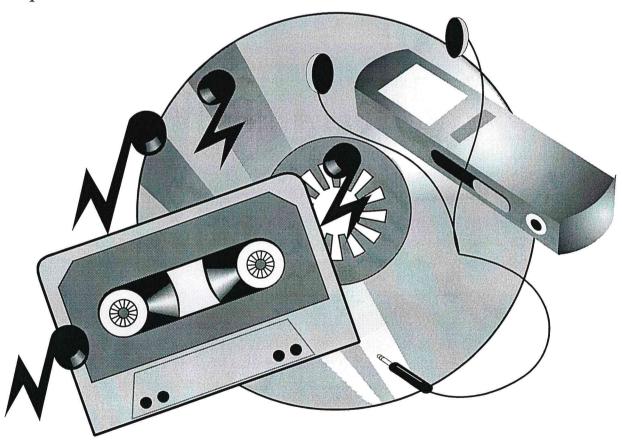


Musical Text

If you need to read a book or text choose a piece of instrumental music and read your text out loud to the music. The music should accompany your text and you should follow the music. This activity can be repeated two or three times.

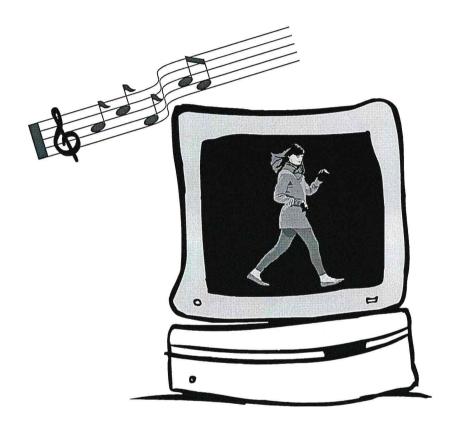
Text Shower

If you need to learn a text or from a text, read the text to music as described above and record your readings with background music. Then listen to them while doing something else. This exercise should be repeated two or three times.



Guided Imagery

This technique is ideal for repetition. Read a short text or passage three times out loud to instrumental music. Now play the music, lay back and relax, close your eyes and speak the text in your mind to the music. Try and create pictures while doing this.



Music has a strong associative effect. Rythm creates emotions. This was given to us before birth through the heartbeat of our mother. The information is often stored in two or more locals in the brain, usually the music and language locals.

Learning Songs

To learn formulas, processes or contents simply write the content in the form of a song using a well-known melody. Choose the melody to fit the language and the length of the words and sentences. Rap is an alternative as it involves repetition.

Business Cycle (Melody: Drunken sailor)

What do you do in the Business Cycle (3x) Talk to your legal counsel.

Depression can't do anything (3x) talk to your legal counsel.

Lower turning point and getting better (3x) Talk to your legal counsel.

Boom hey and up she rises (3x) Talk to your legal counsel.

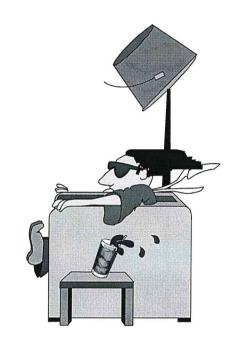
Upper turning point and it's all over (3x) Talk to your legal counsel.

Depression - I've gone bankrupt (3x) Talk to your legal counsel.

That's what you do in the Business Cycle (3x) Start all over again.



The square of the hypothenuse in a right-angle triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the two adjacent sides.



Past Tense of "to be" (Melody: Happy Birthday)

I am here and I was there. You are here and you were there. He is here and he was there. "To be" without care.

She is here and she *was* there. It is here and it *was* there. We are here and we *were* there. "To be" without care.

They are here and they *were* there. You are here and you *were* there. "To be" in the past tense - "To be" without care.

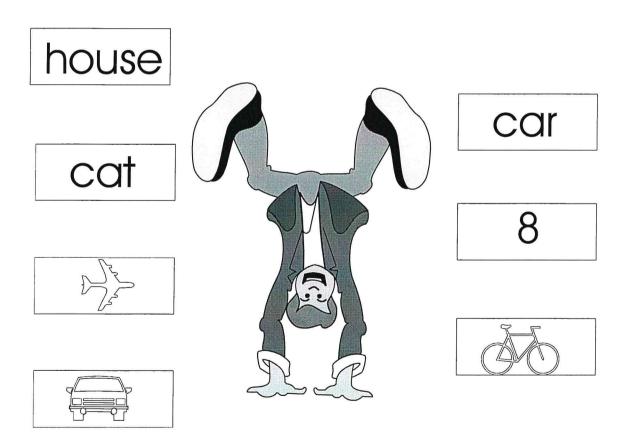
Vocabulary Crawling

(for young children and challenged learners)

Write words or draw pictures on paper slips and place them on the floor in a zigzag, preferably in a circle to form a path. The distance between the paper slips should be at least 50 cm. The learner now crawls along the path turning their head from side to side and reading the words out loud or describing the picture. This should be done as fast as possible.

Older learners can then run through the path in their heads giving the information in the right order.

Comments for teachers and parents: crawling and turning the head from side to side is an important activity as it influences the development of the neurological connectors. This challenges the neural network (ponts) and the hand-eye coordination which is an important aspect for young people in the development and tuning of their learning processes.

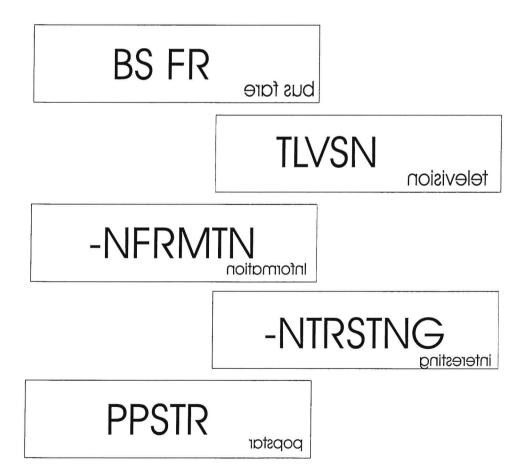


Missing Vowels

Keys words and statements are written on cards or paper slips without the vowels. Hang the slips on the wall in a room which you use regularly. Write the correct word in pencil, if necessary with a translation, on the back of the card.

The constant presence of the slips of paper and the natural desire to play will ensure that the words and phrases are implanted in your memory, especially if you cannot remember the word - in which case look at the back of the slip.

This technique is ideal for learning vocabulary and foreign languages.



Alphabetical Salad

This activity is similar to Missing Vowels. Key words and statements are written on cards or slips of paper. The letters of the words are jumbled up to form nonsense words or new words. If 2 words are written on a card, they are kept separately. All the letters of the words must be used and none may be added.

For young learners and for foreign language learners it is an advantage to use the correct first letter of the word. Write the correct word and, if necessary the translation, in pencil on the back of the card.

The cards are hung on the wall, your brain will do the rest. If you wish, you may look at the correct word on the back of the card.

This technique is ideal for vocabulary and foreign language learning.

panewsper
dorfj
lootfalb
meddil-gaes
nsiercod

Solution: newspaper, fjord, football, middle-ages, consider

Card Games

Card games can be created to learn almost anything.

Memory

Information is written on a card. Further information or a picture is put on a second card. The cards are mixed and turned facing down. Player 1 turns over two cards. If they match, they are removed. If they don't match, they are turned over into their original position.

Languages:

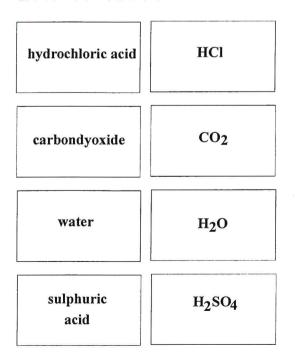
The foreign language is written on one card, the translation on the other.

Geography:

The country is written on one card, the town/area/river etc. on the other.

Mathematics

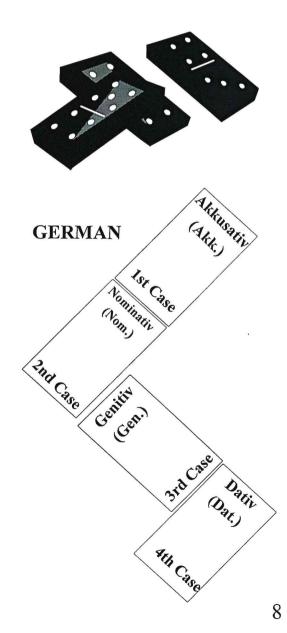
The exercise is written on one card, the solution on the other.



Domino

Domino cards are prepared with information on the bottom of the card which fits the information on the top of the next card.

The cards are distributed, one card is laid and the participants have to find the matching cards.



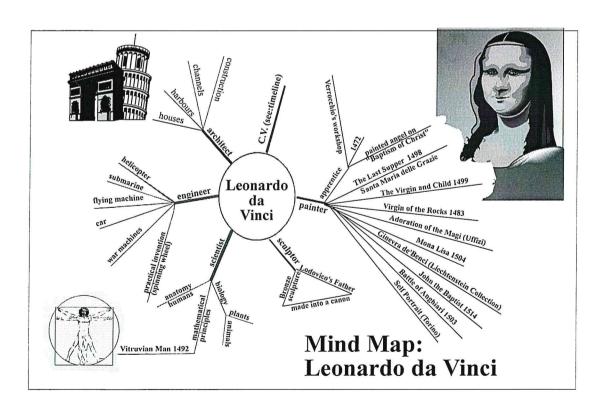
Mind Map

This technique was invented by Tony Buzan. A small circle is drawn in the middle of a page with the title or topic.

Subtitles are written on lines moving out from the center rather like rays of sun. These rays form the branches and twigs.

The information can now be written and structured on lines which branch out in all directions.

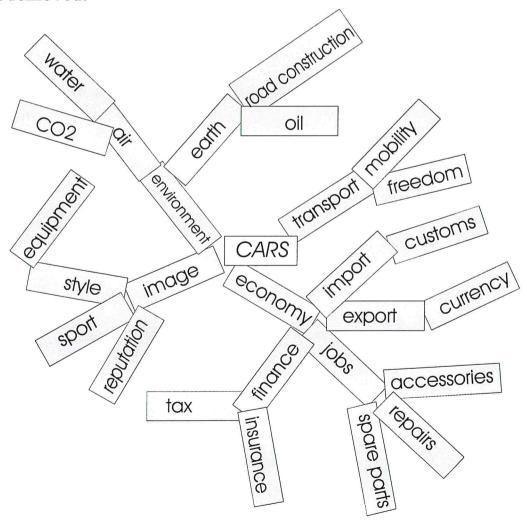
The information must be in the correct and logical order. little pictures and sketches may be added Mind Maps are very individual and are ideal for analysis, planning and summarizing.



Meta Mind Mapping

Meta Mind Mapping is an extension of Mind Maps and suitable for groups. Paper slips are used starting with a central subject (heading). Subtitles are written on cards and placed around the heading. Then the information which belongs to one subtitle is written on cards, one piece of information per card and placed next to the subtitle.

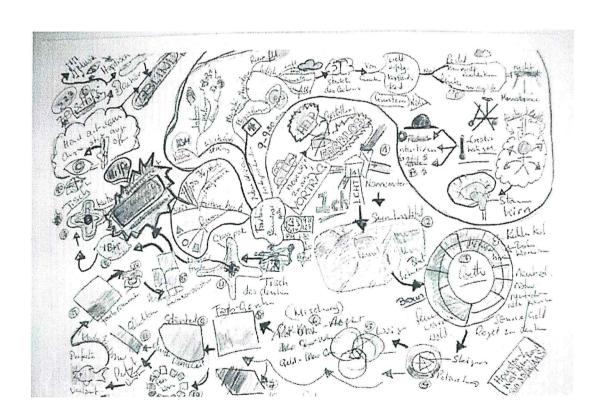
When most of the information has been gathered, the cards belonging to one subtitle are sorted and placed in a logical, progressive order running outwards - rather like a branch of a tree. This system is ideal for groups. The group decides on the main subtitles, then write their cards individually, then organise one particular branch in a group of 2 or 3 and when complete, the groups change branches and check the work of the others. Anything can be added at any time, nothing may be removed.



Picto Mind Map

A Picto Mind Map follows the same system as a Mind Map, but instead of words use pictures and words or just pictures. From a central point lines are drawn showing the various areas by means of pictures and symbols. It is important to have the correct order. It is helpful to have colourful pictures as this increases memory. Once the Picto Mind Map is finished, you may go down each line using the pictures and words to present a spoken description of the subject.

This system is ideal for planning and preparation for exams.

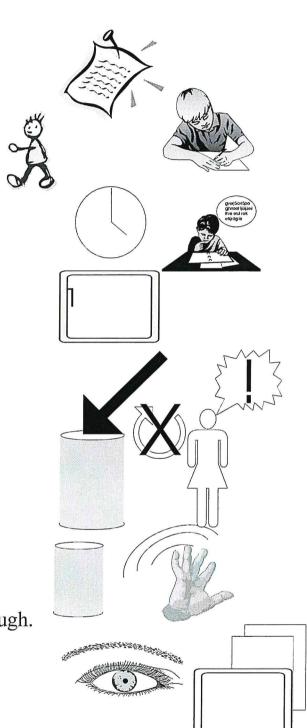


Pictogramme

If you want to learn from a text, read the text and draw simple pictures next to it.

There are 4 possibilities:

- 1. If you need to know the text exactly (by heart) draw one picture per information unit.
- 2. If you need the basic content but not word for word, a picture per process, thought or idea is sufficient.
- 3. If you need to know the general content, one or two pictures per page are enough.
- 4. One picture is sufficient for a general overview.



Time Line

Use the Time Line to learn lists, series, procedures and processes.

A Time Line has 3 columns:

- 1. In column 1 write the key words
- 2. In column 2 only write numbers (time, amount, dates)
- 3. In column 3 draw a picture for the key word

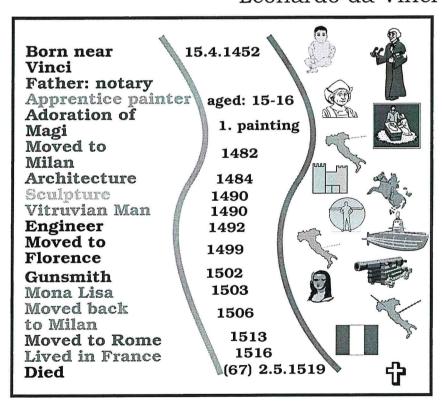
When all the key words, dates and pictures are finished, fold back the words so that you can only see the dates and pictures. You have to put in the details. If you want to check, you may.

Now fold back the pictures, so you can only see the numbers and go through again, stating all details.

If you are not sure, you may check.

Finally, only look at the pictures. Give all the details and dates.

Leonardo da Vinci



Learnflow

A Learnflow is made of 3 columns: in the first column write titles and headings, in the second column write the subheadings and in the third column the details in key words, phrases and statements.

To learn from a learnflow fold back the third column with the key words and using the first and second column as prompts, reconstruct the third column verbally. If you are not sure, check. Then, fold back the second column and reconstruct the first and the third column.

Learnflows can be used for any subject at any level. Only use three columns.

Sample Learnflow Cytology / The Study of Cells

Cell / Structure	cell membrane	1 protein layer
		2 lipoid layers (fat)
		semi permeable
		with pores
		allows osmosis
	ecto and endoplasm	protoplasm
		different densities
		over 80% water
		contains mineral salt
		cell organelles
Cell Organelles	endoplasmatic reticulum	canal system of the cell
		from nucleus to pores
		contains ribosomes
	mitochondria	power stations of the cell
		peanut form
		allow ATP
		different internal structures
	Golgi Apparatus	processes and packs protein
		and fats
Nucleus	nucleus	

Association of Ideas

Simple brain gymnastics for everybody on 2 levels.

Level 1 (Simple Method)

Associate the words and concepts you want to learn with the objects in a particular room e.g.

wall = cell membrane, door = pore, lamp = nucleus

You can recall the room to memory at any time. Everybody can easily remember 10 to 25 words or phrases or objects without any practice using this technique. Alternatively think up a story using places and objects or ideas as anchors e.g.

My Very Easy Method Just Speeds Up Naming Planets mercury, venus, earth, mars, jupiter, saturn, uranus, neptune, pluto.

Level 2 (Advanced Method)

This technique is the basis of a super-memory as seen on TV. You can remember 150 names or objects. The information you want to learn is put into a story or embedded in a route.

Each individual phrase is associated with a common object. You can run through the same path many times. This technique requires training and constant practice.



TPR

If you need to learn difficult words and expressions or remember long lists of words, TPR is the ideal solution.

TPR means Total Physical Response. Each word and phrase you wish to learn is connected to a movement e.g. you point to your head and say "think".

You put your thumb up for "excellent".

It doesn't matter what the movement is as long as you understand the word.

The list of words and movements must be repeated at least three times. Always keep the same order.

This will plant the words and the movements

into your long-term memory.

TPR can be used for any subject at any level.

It is active and the great thing is you can take the movements with you to any exam.

think	penser	denken	fractions
idea	idée	Idee	decimals
concentrate	se concentrer	sich konzentrieren	variables
consider	considérer	überlegen	weight
ponder	ruminer	grübeln	power
newspaper	journal	Zeitung	pulley
magazine	magazine	Zeitschrift	
book	livre	Buch	

Learning posters

Create an A4 poster with the information you want to learn and a picture which reflects the content. Then hang the poster in a room you visit frequently and your brain will do the rest. This system is ideal for all subjects especially grammar.







31 years old died of Typhus composed over 1000 pieces of music

