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HOW TO MEMORIZE VOCABULARY OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE?

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Relevance. During our studies we often encounter foreign term memorization, sometimes even in several languages such as English, Latin, Greek and others. Besides, we may have trouble remembering words even in our native language. Given the innate limitations of human memory, however, the ability to acquire a large amount of new information must receive assistance. While everyone learns a little differently, a number of tried and true methods tend to have more long-lasting results when it comes to learning a foreign vocabulary.

Aim: to investigate the techniques of memorization of English medical terms, including types of memory, classification of memorization methods and the effectiveness of using these methods.

Materials and methods. In the course of the study, I used the method of deep analysis and synthesis of web pages and research data from studies conducted in Indonesia in 2016 and a 2018 study conducted in Russia. I also conducted a survey among BSMU students to determine the types of students' memory and the frequency of using memorization methods. 70 people took part in the survey consisting of 13 questions.

Results and their discussion. There are 3 main types of memory, each of which is developed differently in individuals. The experiment in Indonesia in 2016 aimed at studying the effectiveness of the mnemonic method proved that students who used mnemonic techniques for memorization and had strong motivation improved their academic performance by 64%, while students with low motivation improved it by 51.45%. The 2018 Russian study showed that memorization of words improved by 40% if there was a logical connection between them, the success of memorization depending on the time of the day (for people who underwent the study in the evening, the results were 15% worse than for those tested in the morning). The survey of BSMU students showed that the majority (74.3%) had never heard of mnemonics, although they often used various techniques to better memorize information: visualization of information (92.9%), making up associations (94.3%), use of acronyms (85.7%), the image of diagrams and illustrations (60%), as well as the use of flash cards (30%). Most students also appeared to assimilate information easily (52.9%), the success of memorization depending on the nature of the information (98.6%). The results of the survey showed that 85.7% of our students have visual memory, 48.6% have muscle memory and only 14.3% have auditory memory. All types of mnemonic techniques can be actively used to study medical terminology. For example, acronyms are widely used to remember symptoms of a disease, ode mnemonics for anatomical structures, and the use of similar-sounding words to memorize foreign terms. During the period of studying English at BSMU, I managed to come up with about 30 mnemonics for memorizing the most difficult words for me. It is important to note that the method of similar-sounding words was most often used, as it is very easy to use and understandable to everyone.

Conclusion. The results showed that cognitive strategies and achievement motivation have a very significant impact on student learning outcomes. Identifying their type of memory and using mnemonic techniques will help students improve their academic performance and level of knowledge. Invented mnemonics can help the BSMU students to memorise intricate words and word combinations more effectively and form a long-term memory, which contributes to academic success. In a broader perspective improved memorization results in significant enhancement of productivity.