

Vocabulary learning strategies

(adapted from Cohen & Weaver, 2005, p. 44)

Here are some ideas about how you could learn new vocabulary. Know that everybody has different strategies that work well for them. For example, visualization of new words (e.g., using illustration or pictures) may be helpful for somebody, but knowing pronunciation of new words may be helpful for somebody else. **The important thing is that you can think about your own learning strategies and evaluate how well they are working to accomplish your purpose.**

Task:

Pick the top 3 strategies that YOU think would work for your own vocabulary learning. Write down 1, 2, and 3 next to the letters below.

Then, compare your answers with your partner. Do you guys have similar or different preferences for vocabulary learning strategies?

- a. Categorization (e.g. sorting words based on meaning, part of speech, formal vs. informal language forms, alphabetical order, or types of clothing or food)
 - b. Keyword mnemonics (e.g., finding a native language word or phrase with similar sounds and creating a visual image that ties the word or phrase to the target-language word).
 - c. Visualization (e.g., using mental images, photographs, drawings, charts, or graphs).
 - d. Rhyme/rhythm (e.g., making up songs or short rhymes).
 - e. Language transfer (e.g., using prior knowledge of native, target, or other language structures).
 - f. Repetition (e.g., repeating words over and over to improve pronunciation or spelling, practicing writing down the words, making up stories with the words, reading texts that have the words, using the words in conversation).
 - g. Other strategies.
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