

LEARNING & MEMORY

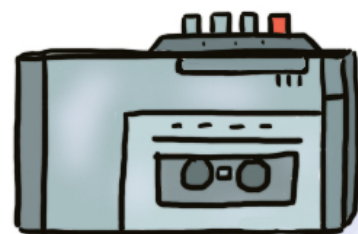
or forgetting & implications for teaching

@ImpactWales

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Human memory is not the same as a tape recorder

Learning is stored by connecting with prior learning. The more memories we are given, the more ways we have to store additional learning. Recalling learning is erratic, highly fallible & heavily cue dependent.

2

NEW LEARNING
INPUT



New learning is interpreted & stored through links with prior learning.
INPUT

PRIOR LEARNING
OUTPUT



Recalling or retrieving learning changes the way in which it is stored.
OUTPUT

4

Implications for teaching

3

Two types of Memory 'Strength'

Retrieval strength - how easy it is to recall something now.

Storage strength - how deeply embedded something is in the memory.

Recalling a memory results in improvements in both storage & retrieval strength but also results in other associated, less studied items weakening in retrieval strength.

		RETRIEVAL STRENGTH	
		Low	High
STORAGE STRENGTH	High	Childhood phone number	Current phone number
	Low	Hotel room number from last year	Current hotel room number

