



## MEMORY TIPS

To study effectively means that you understand the material and can recall it quickly when needed. Here are some techniques to help you memorize essential information:

➤ ***Use Mnemonic Devices***

These are words or sentences you develop to help you remember steps or facts such as “H.G. Wells drives a Mercury” (this helps you remember that Hg is the symbol for the chemical Mercury); another popular one is “Please excuse my dear Aunt Sally” (this helps you remember the steps in solving an algebraic equation: **P**arentheses, **E**xponents, **M**ultiply, **D**ivide, **A**dd, **S**ubtract)

➤ ***Form Associations***

Connecting new ideas to familiar objects or events can help you recall items in order. Example: To remember the chronological order of the presidents Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, and John Kennedy, think about your house and the first four rooms you come to upon entry. For instance, let’s say they are the entry hall, living room, dining room, and kitchen. So, you visualize Roosevelt in the entry hall, Truman in the living room, Eisenhower in the dining room, and Kennedy in the kitchen.

➤ ***Use Cue Cards***

On 3 x 5 cards, write a cue word (historical person’s name, an important date, or key term, etc.) on one side, and on the reverse side, write all the key ideas and facts you need to know about the cue word. Carry these with you and practice every spare minute. Hint: Color coding these cue cards works well for some students (for example, yellow cards are used for important people you need to know for a class, pink is for important dates, and blue is used for important terms you need to know).

➤ ***Study Your Information in Multi-Modal Ways***

The more ways you use to learn new material, the greater the likelihood you will remember it. Draw pictures to illustrate points, recite the information aloud to yourself, write and highlight important points, talk over important facts with a study partner.