Definition:

**Mnemonic devices** are techniques a person can use to help them improve their ability to remember something.

In other words, it’s a memory technique to help your brain better encode and recall important information.

**Spelling and Pronunciation of “Mnemonic”:**

The M is silent, similar to the P in Pneumonia or Pneumatic. (Pneu- has to do with air, in the lungs or in a machine)

Also, notice that the Mn has the alphabetical order: “L-M-N-O-P” from the ABC Song.

And, by the way, what kind of a device is the ABC Song?

Answer: It is a Mnemonic device.

The “Mn” at the beginning of the word comes from the Greek Goddess of Memory; “Mnemosyne” (Nee mos’ i nee)

And also, the “monic” part of the word comes from the same derivation as “harmonica” or “harmonic” or “harmony”, having to do with music or sounds.

**Examples of Mnemonic Devices:**

(Sayings, Poems, Songs to help you remember certain information)

1. Suppose it is the autumn season and it’s time to change the clocks. Do we go one hour forward or back?

   “Spring forward, fall back.”

2. Your daughter sends you a birthday gift and you want to acknowledge it. So you send her a note. “I have received your gift.” “I before E, except after C, or when pronounced like A as in neighbor and weight.”

3. Your grandson wants to know what is the letter after q in the alphabet A, B, C, D, E-F- G-...

   .

4. What is the meaning of this mnemonic device, which is an ACRONYM?

   **HOMES**

5. What is the meaning of this mnemonic device, which is an **ACROSTIC**?

   **My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas** (or Nachos)

**More Mnemonic Devices**

There are two types of Camels, one hump and two

**Bactrian**

Dromedary

Can you guess which is which?

In what year did Paul Revere make his ride?

“in seventeen hundred and seventy-five...”

What do these phrases mean?

lefty – Loosey, Righty – Tighty

Red – Right – Return

L (left), D (down), and L (left) – Which is horizontal, which vertical?

D (down) = across, N (north)

For Cincinnati:

Big Strong Men Will Very Rarely Eat Plum Cake

Which American joined Many Migrants And Journeyed, Very Historically, Together

English History:

No Plan Like Yours To Study History Wisely

Norman, Saxon, Plunder, Lancaster, Irish, Tudor, Stuart, Waverley, Windsor

Divorced, Beheaded, Died, Divorced, Beheaded, Surived

The Bible:

God’s Eternal Love Never Dies

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
Choose a Number between 2 and 9. Keep it secret.
2. Multiply by 9, to give you a two-digit number. Then add the two digits together.
3. Subtract 5. The result is called your Base Number.
4. Your Base Number corresponds to a Base Letter, such as 1=A, 2=B, etc. So find your Base Letter.
5. Think of a Country beginning with your Base Letter.
6. Go to the last letter of that country and think of an Animal beginning with that letter.
7. Go to the last letter of that animal and think of a Color beginning with that letter.
8. Is anyone thinking of an Orange Kangaroo from Denmark?

And a few more examples that may be useful:

30 days hath ...
1492, Columbus...
NA-SA HAS AN EXTRA-SAFE HAUS
Desert vs Dessert – which gets the extra s(ugar)?
Mississippi – Can you spell it without chanting?
Roy G. Biv or Roy G. Bv
Which Americans Joined Many Migrants And Journeyed, Very Historically, Together

This Mnemonic can be very useful to many people:
I Value Xylophones Like Cats Drink Milk
Hint: It was useful a few years ago when perhaps you watched Lil?
So what does it mean?
I=1, V=5,
X=10, L=50, C=100, D=500, M=1000
Therefore, what are these numbers:
Super Bowl XLIV: 44
Movie Produced in MCMLVI: 1956
Whatever happened to MMXVII? 2017

To help your memory, and to keep your mind sharp, it’s good to use little mental exercises.
So, here is an interesting little mental exercise:
How Music Can Improve Memory
By Anne Murphy Paul, September 22, 2013

The best way to remember facts might be to set them to music. Medical students, for example, have long used rhymes and songs to help them master vast quantities of information, and we’ve just gotten fresh evidence of how effective this strategy can be.

A young British doctor, Tapas Mukherjee of Glenfield Hospital in Leicester, was distressed by a survey showing that 95 percent of nurses and doctors at Glenfield were not following hospital guidelines on the management of asthma; 98 percent were not even aware that the guidelines existed.

Using his cell phone, Mukherjee recorded a video of himself singing medical lines like “Aim for 94 percent to 98 percent sat 02” (that’s a reference to blood oxygen level). He posted the video to YouTube and it went viral on the hospital staff. Two months after he released the video, Glenside conducted another survey, finding that 100 percent of doctors and nurses were now aware of the asthma guidelines, and that compliance with the guidelines had also increased markedly.

How to remember music

Here’s a new “T” (Testament) for you

(tune of Tea for Two)

Some abbreviations:
- Corinths = Corinthians, Fesians = Ephesians
- Flips = Philippians, Colossal = Colossians
- Thess = Thessalonians, Timothy = Timothy
- Phil = Philémon, Pete = Peter, Rev = Revelation

Matthew, Mark and Luke and John,
Acts and Romans, let’s go on.
Two Corinths, and then Galatians true,
Fesians, Flips, Colossal too,
1,2 Thess and Timmy two.
Titus, Phil and then we have Hebrew,
James, 2 Petes, 3 Johns, it’s true
And Jude and Rev and it’s all through.
Now aren’t you glad
That you can sing this too?

How about this one:

How to react to a Bear:
If it’s brown, lay down.
If it’s black, fight back.
But if it’s white, “Good Night!”

New Example of an Acrostic:

Oh I Never Say Helping Kids Achieves Security, Without Comment
O,J,N,S,H,K,A,S,W,C…... Hint: There are 10 of them and very important.
Other, Image, Name, Sabbath, Honor, Kill, Adultery, Steal, Witness, Covet

I am the Lord thy God,
1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain
4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy
5. Honor thy father and thy mother
6. Thou shalt not kill
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery
8. Thou shalt not steal
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour
10. Thou shalt not covet

That’s All Folks!