Yr.11: Revision Skill Focus of the Week

Similar Traits Technique:

Two words you would like to remember and link in your mind:

RICHMOND - VIRGINIA

Find things they have in common (e.g., second letter "i"; eight letters)
Find smaller words within the words:

RICH MAN - VIRGINIA

Make up a sentence or short visual/story:

"The rich man drinks gin and lives in Virginia"

Peg Systems

• Uses something you know (and won't forget) to "hang" new information on;

• Pairs old information with new information in a visual format;

• Good for remembering items in order;

• Common pegs: the alphabet; numbers; furniture in your house

Mnemonics

A pattern of letters, ideas, or associations which assists in remembering something.

Forming Sentences with First Letters

In this technique, which most students have learned in school, the first letters of a list of words that need to be remembered are taken out to form a silly sentence or another word that is easy to remember.

For example, if one is trying to remember the planets of the solar system:

Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto

Take the letters M, V, E, M, J, S, U, N and P and form a sentence:

"My very extravagant mother just sent us nine pizzas"

The Link & Story Method

Works by making associations between items in a list, linking them in a story, or a flowing image.

The counties of England: Avon, Dorset, Somerset, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Surrey:

• An AVON (Avon) lady knocking on a heavy oak DOoR (Dorset)
• The DOoR opening to show a beautiful SuMmER landscape with a SETting sun (Somerset)
• The setting sun shines down onto a field of CORN (Cornwall)
• The WILTing stalks slowly droop onto the tail of the sleeping DEVil (Devon)
• On the DEVil's horn a woman has impaled a GLOSsy (Gloucestershire) HAM (Hampshire) when she hit him over the head with it
• Now the Devil feels soRRY (Surrey) he bothered her.

Note that there need not be any reason or underlying plot to the sequence of images: only the images and the links between them are important.