

03 The 7 New Wonders of the World

This document is to accompany my podcast called Remember Word4Word, and in this episode, you will learn the [7 New Wonders of the World](#). These were chosen from a selection of 200 existing monuments, so unlike the Ancient 7 Wonders, they can all be seen, and you don't have to leave your armchair to do so, as there are several wonderful videos of them all on YouTube. The videos also include details about the monuments, so all you will need here is the list and a technique for linking them together. Please, look them up, it will really help your memory, and as at least one includes travel instructions, you may be tempted to go and see a Wonder for yourself.

This introduces a new technique, that of Linking. Linking is the second powerful technique in your Memory chest. It is the difference between a series of photos and a film, and with it, you create your personal motion picture. The reason why it is so powerful is that the human mind loves stories. Most of us know that Cinderella went to the ball, that Sleeping Beauty slept for a hundred years, that Jack climbed the beanstalk, and that Red Riding Hood met the Wolf, even though we may not have heard or thought of these stories for decades. So, find a quiet spot, turn off any distractions and think about number one, Machu Picchu in Peru.

1. [MACHU PICCHU Peru](#)

Your story starts in Peru, so what would make you think of Peru? For me, it is Paddington Bear who came from darkest Peru – use Paddington, or better still, pick the first image that pops into *your* mind when you think of Peru. Otherwise, break the name up, Pear Ru (pear will probably give it to you, otherwise add another image for RU – kanga's baby roo. Break up the name Machu Picchu:

Ma Chew Pea Chew.

Create an image for Ma chew (Ma is an important image which you will use later in the Major Technique, so make her as strong as you can), and she's chewing peas. Machu Picchu was built by the Incas. I tend to get the Incas, the Mayans, and the Aztecs mixed up, so to remember this, I have Ma put spots of INK on the peas and add some Black Eyed Peas' music in the background. Now Ma climbs on to a llama, perhaps helped by [will.i.am](#) and Paddington. She travels across the Amazon Rain Forest collecting Brazil nuts as she goes, and comes to the Pacific Ocean and Brazil. She climbs the Corcovado Mountain, which overlooks the city of Rio de Janeiro, and drops the nuts at the feet of a huge statue of 'Christ the Redeemer' dominating the city. Christ the Redeemer is WONDER number 2.

2. [CHRIST REDEEMER Brazil](#)

Now drop Ma from the story. The statue comes alive and strides halfway across the world to India and the third Wonder, the Taj Mahal

3. [TAJ MAHAL India](#)

As we admire the monument, we see Roman soldiers marching by the lake. They march on to a ship and set sail for the 4th Wonder, the Colosseum, in Rome, Italy.

4. [ROMAN COLOSSEUM Italy](#)

In the arena are several Mexicans asleep, shaded from the sun by huge sombreros. They represent the Mayans in Mexico.

They wake up and, remember I get confused by the Pre-Columbian South Americans, so I have them dance around a Maypole. A flock of CHICKENS wander into the arena and interrupts the dance. The Mexicans feed the chickens with bits broken off a huge pizza. It is the 5th Wonder, Chichen Itza.

5. CHICHEN ITZA Mexico

The show over, the audience leaves the coliseum and goes outside but instead of Rome, the city is pink and carved out of rock. In the colonnades of the main building, there is a pet shop, full of barking dogs. It is the 6th Wonder of Petra in Jordan.

6. PETRA Jordan

Collect the dogs and climb up onto a huge wall and walk them along it. It is the 7th Wonder, the Great Wall of China.

7. THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

I have put links to all these famous Wonders, and to date (26/9/25) they work. We will always remember something more easily if we have an interest in it, or at least know something about it. With the wonders of the Internet, you can now look up things so easily, so take advantage of this. Look for intriguing stories that interest you - anything that helps your brain make connections.

To remember those 7 Wonders. Find a quiet place with no distractions. Start in the bedroom as before, but pick Paddington Bear off the bed and begin your journey to Peru.

I hope that you have been successful in remembering the 7 Wonders, and as before, don't worry if you find that you have missed an item - just go back in your mind and make the picture stronger, adding elements of exaggeration, movement, sound, and humour.

I used to use the Linking technique to teach the planets in the solar system from the sun outwards. They are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. But I used an anagram for the last three by giving the giant Jupiter a yellow T-shirt and SUN written on it. However, I dropped this story as many people knew the planets already, using the anagram My Very Excellent Mother Just Sent Us Nachos, or variations of that sentence. I mention it because anagrams are a very useful mnemonic device, and I can still remember the one for music from over 70 years ago when I was at primary school. Every Good Boy Deserves Favour/Fruit/Football and FACE. I still use Camels Often Sit Down Carefully. Perhaps, Their Joints Creak? Persistent, Early Oiling Might Prevent Painful Rheumatism for geological periods, and it is useful although rather complicated. It makes me think of the Frasier scene where he is trying to tutor a boy in history and uses some mnemonic anagrams, and the kid says in desperation, 'you are just giving me something extra to learn.' And he has a point. A rather clever student of mine came up with a brilliant anagram for the Major Method, which is the last of the Numerical techniques, but often you can spend more time trying to work out a sensible, memorable sentence for a list of facts, when a quick journey, a linking story or pegging it to numbers 1 to 10 would be much faster.

In the next episode I will introduce the first of the 3 numerical techniques and use it to memorize the ten longest rivers in the world. Numbering is a very powerful tool in your Memory Technique chest, as it can give you an infinite number of pegs to use to hang your facts upon and if you combine it with a Journey, you can be confident that not a single item will escape you.

Finally Use it or Lose it. Remember, you are not just adding to your general knowledge you are creating new pathways in your brain, and the more you exercise your imagination, the more your creativity will flow. This episode and the next 3 will have us skipping all over the world and learning more than lists, but geography and an overview of the rivers, mountains, and countries of our beautiful Blue Planet.