

Vocabulary for the Long-Term

Teachers hope that students will remember what has been covered in class. However, forgetting is a natural part of the learning process. This can be especially frustrating for English Language Learners and their teachers. Students have often been subjected to endless lists of vocabulary & expressions. Even with all the time and effort invested, students often complain of not retaining very much and being unable to produce the words and expressions in natural situations. In many language learning situations geared towards tests, there is a cycle of learning, forgetting, and then relearning the same material. This presentation looks at ways to break this cycle and help students attain long-term retention of vocabulary and expressions.

This presentation will look at how human memory works and cover vocabulary activities for different ages and levels of learners. Recognition (learning to recognize words) and recall (remembering and producing) will be discussed during the presentation. The effect of spacing, retrieval, and imaging on vocabulary retention will be explored. The more vocabulary and expressions students truly know, the more comfortable they will feel in a wide variety of situations where they are required to use English.

Bio:

Jessica Magnusson has taught English conversation, teacher training, and special programs at Gwangju National University of Education(GNUE) since 2011. She earned an MA in TESOL from the School for International Training(SIT) in Brattleboro, VT. She is interested in teaching vocabulary and reading comprehension to all ages of learners. In her free time, she enjoys reading and going for walks.