

Hello, I'm Kate D'Ore and I'm here to tell you about the 5 basic memorizing techniques and how to apply them. My podcast is called Remember Word4Word as I have also been teaching line learning to actors for many years so if you want to memorize facts listen to my podcasts and if you're an actor wanting advice *to know your lines and don't bump into the furniture.*

The first and most important technique [Journey](#) was covered [in Episode One](#) and the link is in the Show Notes or in the transcript of this episode. In this second episode you will learn the [Seven Wonders of the Ancient World](#) using the Journey technique which we covered in that first episode.

We will also touch on how to break up unfamiliar words for memorization, which is valuable here but even more so if you want to learn a foreign vocabulary later.

In Episode 3 we will cover the [New Seven Wonders](#) – using a second memory technique.

I have split these 2 lists of Wonders up for 2 reasons. The first is because most people cannot concentrate for longer than twenty to forty minutes without a break and the effort of using your brain in creative imagination is hard work and to get the most out of these techniques, you do need to concentrate.

The second is that to fix facts in your memory, it is helpful to know something about them rather than learning parrot fashion. Your brain likes what is interesting, what is unique, what is funny, so to amplify the 7 Wonders I have dug out a little information and stories for each of them and added it to the episode. If you want to look them up for yourselves, follow the links in the transcript of this episode.

This additional information means that this episode is nearer my 40 minute maximum, so by all means skip forward to the exercise in memorization if you wish, however you only need to listen once and I promise you, a little knowledge will help you

fix the Wonders in your imagination, and I am particularly proud of the final image I came up with for [the Colossus of Rhodes](#).

The problem with the Ancient Wonders is, only one of them is extant although a second can be seen if you are willing to dive to the ocean bed. So, I think my image really helps you imagine how big this statue was and the effect it had upon people. Of course, There are artist's impressions of the other Wonders and I have put links to them on the transcript of this episode.

By the end of this episode, you will not only know more than you did at the beginning, but also have an overview of the wonderful achievements of the ancient world and how you can adapt your [Journey](#) to a wide variety of subjects.

But Use it or Lose it, so practice what you learn, you never know the 7 Wonders of the Ancient world might turn up in a pub quiz or - if you are lucky, get to see one or possibly two of them for yourself.

An original list of 'things to be seen' was made by the Greek historian [Herodotus](#) about 400 years BC and known as 'The Father of History' and 200 years later [Philo of Byzantium](#) categorized the list as "Seven Wonders of the World" Naturally it only covered the world as it was known then and of the 7 wonders, only one still exists, the first, [The Great Pyramid of Giza](#).

This is the oldest of the Seven Wonders as it was built in the 26th century BC and so it is over four thousand years old and yet it is the only ancient wonder still in existence. It was built as a tomb for the pharaoh Ku Foo ([Khufu](#)) or Key Ops (Cheops) in Egypt and is the largest of the pyramids. At 481 feet it was the tallest structure in the world for nearly 4,000 years, until [Lincoln Cathedral](#) in 1311. It was built around the time of [the Great Sphinx of Giza](#) so you could link it with the story of [Oedipus](#), the riddle and the sphinx.

The second wonder are [The Hanging Gardens of Babylon](#)

This is the only Wonder that cannot be verified but it is such a lovely story that I do hope they did once exist. The gardens were built around 600 B.C. in what is now Iraq for [Nebuchadnezzar](#), who did exist. as did his wife, [Amytis](#). They would not have been 'hanging' in our sense of the word but built on terraces that were stacked. The legend is that the King had the gardens built as a gift for his [Queen](#) [because](#) she was homesick for the green hills and valleys of her own country.

Number 3 is the [Statue of Zeus](#) at Olympia

The Statue was a giant seated figure, about 141 ft tall, that's about the size of a 4 storey building and it was made of ivory and gold around 435 BC. Zeus, was the king of the gods and the sculptor was [Phidias](#) who was the greatest of all ancient Greek sculptors and was a friend of [Pericles](#)

Phidias had rather a sad end because he was accused of purloining some of the gold used on another huge statue, that of Athena and although he weighed her gold robe to prove his innocence, he was then accused of impiously portraying himself and Pericles on the shield of her statue. They really had it in for him or more probably his friend

Pericles. [Plutarch](#) records that the unfortunate man was imprisoned and died in jail. Well, history is full of stories of how people or the establishment treat their famous men, plus ça change.

This gigantic statue of Zeus was destroyed during the 5th century AD but for once we do know what it looked like from ancient Greek descriptions and on coins.

Number 4 is the [Temple of Artemis at Ephesus](#)

This is rather a marvelous description by [Antipater](#) of the world's [Seven Wonders](#):

I have set eyes on the wall of lofty [Babylon](#) on which is a road for chariots, and the [statue of Zeus by the Alpheus](#), and the [hanging gardens](#), and the [colossus of the Sun](#), and the

huge labour of the [high pyramids](#), and the vast [tomb of Mausolus](#); but when I saw the house of Artemis that mounted to the clouds, those other marvels lost their brilliancy, and I said, "Lo, apart from Olympus, the Sun never looked on aught so grand".

Well, as his version of Trip Advisor, you can't say fairer than that – no wonder it made the cut.

This famous temple, built near [Ephesus](#) around 550 BC lasted until 262 AD. It was built on an ancient sacred site, the earliest temple originating in the [Bronze Age](#). There are stories that the [Amazons](#), legendary warrior women showed their devotion here to Artemis the huntress and protector of women.

Number 5 is also mentioned by Antipater and is yet another tomb, I suppose it is nice to be remembered after thousands of years and although the [Mausoleum at Halicarnassus](#) was destroyed by earthquakes 500 years ago, it is still remembered, not only because it was approximately 148 ft in height - that 4 storey building again, but for another reason. It was built between 353 and 350 BC for [Mausolus](#) and his wife and was so outstanding that the Romans considered it one of the greatest wonders of the world and called all their magnificent tombs mausolea after [Mausolus](#) and so the word [mausoleum](#) came to be used for any above-ground tomb.

This is a more cheerful story. You might have noticed that [Antipater](#) mentioned the [colossus of the Sun](#) and he was talking about the 6th wonder, the [Colossus of Rhodes](#) which was a statue of the city's patron god [Helios](#). It was truly colossal as at 108 ft, it was about the height of the [Statue of Liberty](#) from feet to crown. It was the tallest statue in the [ancient world](#) and was erected near the harbour entrance of the island by [Chares of Lindos](#) in 280 BC. It was created to celebrate the successful defense of the city after a yearlong siege and what PR for the city! As ships had to sail past it to get into Rhodes. I imagine it was as iconic as the first glimpse of North America when you steam past the Statue of Liberty into

that other island - [Manhattan](#). However, it did not stand very long, as an earthquake in 226 BC caused it to collapse after 54 years. But Rhodes was not out of pocket the statue had been paid for with the sale of the besiegers abandoned equipment, and the remains lay on the ground for over 800 years, and even broken, they were so impressive that many people travelled to see them, so a nice touch of [Karma](#) for Rhodes. To get a brilliant scene for your imagination, just look on Utube for the [final scene](#) of the Planet of the Apes (spoiler alert). You won't forget the Colossus.

Finally at number 7 is the [Lighthouse of Alexandria](#)

This was built on the island of Pharos just opposite the city of [Alexandria](#) during the reign of [Ptolemy II](#) (280–247 BC). Legend has it that the people on the island were [wreckers](#); and so [Ptolemy I](#) had the lighthouse built to help guide ships into port at night. At 330 ft it was one of the tallest man-made structures in the world for many centuries. After being severely damaged by three earthquakes between 956 and 1323 AD it became an abandoned ruin, but it was still the third-longest surviving ancient wonder (after the [Mausoleum](#) and the extant [Great Pyramid](#)). A legendary tale on the lighthouse's destruction, was that the [Byzantines](#) sent an agent to Pharos, who secured permission from the local Calif to search for hidden treasure at the base of the lighthouse. The search was cunningly made in such a manner that the foundations were undermined, and the lighthouse collapsed, and the agent managed to escape in a ship waiting for him

As with the mausoleum Pharos became the origin of the word "lighthouse" in Greek, and in many [Romance languages](#) and it also turns up as a derived word meaning "[headlight](#)".

In 1994, a team of French archaeologists discovered some remains of the lighthouse on the sea floor and In 2016 there are plans in Egypt to turn the submerged ruins of ancient Alexandria, including those of the Pharos, into an underwater [museum](#). So, I suppose this is second of the

ancient wonders that you may be able to see one day – it's still there at Alexandria, you would just need to dive to get to it.

Now to remember those 7 Wonders. Find a quiet place with no distractions. Start your journey in the bedroom as before, using the same focal points as you did with the shopping list.

You are sitting on the edge of your bed and the room is filled with sand with a huge pyramid taking up all the room. If you have a problem remembering Giza, fill the room with geese, either flying or hissing at you.

1. [Great Pyramid of Giza](#)

Fight your way through the sand to the wardrobe because you hear a baby crying (Babylon).

Wardrobe: Open the door of the wardrobe and knock your head on a couple of hanging baskets. One is filled with plants and the other has a baby swinging in it.

2. [The Hanging Gardens of Babylon](#)

Walk to the bathroom and sitting in the bath is an enormous statue of Zeus, the Greek king of the gods. He has a crown made up of the Olympic rings.

3. [Statue of Zeus at Olympia](#)

Look in the mirror over the wash basin and rub your temple (Temple).

You are about to paint a picture so wash out your brushes in the basin. (Art).

The hot water has made the mirror steam up (MIST).

With your finger write a huge F (EF) in the misty mirror and then pour a bottle of sauce (SUS) down the plug hole.

You may not need all these images to get the right words so if you do not need them, then leave them out.

4. [Temple of Artemis at Ephesus](#)

My seven-year-old grand-daughter had a bit of difficulty with this last Wonder and the following. Mostly because she could not pronounce Ephesus and she had never heard of a mausoleum, so she had no idea what it was. However, by breaking the words up and putting images to them - she managed to learn the whole list. As I said in my first episode, these techniques are for everyone and to be honest, I find myself tripping over the words sometimes too.

5. [Mausoleum at Halicarnassus](#)

Look at the loo. If you know anyone called Moor, use their image. Otherwise perhaps a famous Moor – [Captain Moore](#) with his walking frame, raising money for the NHS in his garden, [Dudley](#), James Bond, [Roger Moore](#), [Patrick Moore](#) and the Sky at Night or a real moor, [Ilkley](#) (add in the song if you know it) or [Dartmoor](#) and place your loo in the middle of it and whoever you have chosen to represent Moor on it. Of course, if you have seen a mausoleums then you can picture that. There are many famous ones all over the world and the most famous near London would be The [Royal Mausoleum](#) at Frogmore in Windsor.

Hali - [Halle Berry](#) or the [Halle orchestra](#), [Haley's comet](#), or just hail (icy rain) which seemed a permanent feature of the Yorkshire moors where I spent much of my early adult life.

Pile everyone into a car and leaving the moors behind drive through a wood full of wonderful narcissus.

An interesting detail is that Herodotus the original compiler of things to see, was from the Greek city of Halicarnassus, which was then part of the Persian Empire (now [Bodrum, Turkey](#)).

6. [Colossus of Rhodes](#)

Ride into the kitchen on a horse (Rhodes) between a pair of COLOSSal legs. If you need any more help, fill the kitchen with columns and rhododendron plants.

7. [Lighthouse of Alexandria](#)

Look at the kitchen table and there is a beautiful lighthouse on it. To remember that it is Alexandria. Place anyone you know or anyone famous called Alex in the kitchen or an image you may have of [Alexander the Great](#). Maybe have '[Alexander's Ragtime Band](#)' playing in the background.

That was far more challenging than the shopping list, mostly because of the unfamiliar words, but you can see how you can break any word up to create a series of images which you then link together.

Many of my students need to learn speeches where every word must be remembered, and to help them I created a glossary of hundreds of words. I found that it is possible to come up with an image or images for any word, however strange, if you use your imagination. This also works for foreign words including Russian, Chinese, and Japanese and so I feel confident that whatever the word, you will be able to conjure up a picture for it.

Now to recall the 7 Wonders. I noticed that even though it took about 15 minutes to give you the information on the wonders, the journey only took 10 minutes, and I am sure that when you do it for yourself, it will take even less time. Someone who listened to this podcast said how helpful they found the background music and so, instead of asking you to pause the podcast I have left the dreamy music on for 10 minutes. If you don't like it – just skip forward.

Relax, close your eyes,

Repeat the journey starting in your bedroom. You should see images of all the Wonders as you make your way through your house.

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 also hope that you will find that these images will overlay those of the shopping list. For very long lists, and I mean long, over a thousand items, I have often used the same journey for lists of different subjects.

In the next episode I will cover the [7 New Wonders of the World](#) using a new technique. That of [linking](#).

If you would like a transcript of this episode, you can download it. I would also welcome any questions you may have, and I would love to know how you have got on with this challenging list. Also please let me have any suggestions for subjects you would like me to address later for memorization.

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 and now you know how astonishing humans were at creating these amazing artefacts without the benefit of modern technology.