## Spies and Espionage Memory Skills

It is vital for spies to have clear and efficient recall of facts because there can be times when it is not safe to write things down and memorising information is the only secure option. In addition, a spy with a good memory can connect current situations with their knowledge of the past and recall effective techniques that can be applied in various scenarios. Memorising information is a skill which can be learned and practised. Below are 10 selections of 10 objects for you to practise with.

1. Cut out the Memory Tray Sheets and the envelopes provided. Fold up the envelopes and finish them by sticking the tabs down. Find a space on your project and stick the envelopes down side by side. Put all of the cut out Memory Tray Sheets into envelope 1.
2. Take a Memory Tray Sheet at random from envelope 1 and study it for 1 minute exactly, trying to remember each of the objects on it. When the minute is up, place the sheet in envelope 2 and allow yourself 1 minute to write
 down as many objects as you can remember from the sheet. Stop after 1 minute or if you can name all 10 before the minute is up, note down the time that you took to finish. Check your objects against those on the sheet in envelope 2 then record your score in the table below. Cut the record sheet out and stick it in your project or keep it in order to track your improving memory skills. Keep a note of any objects you couldn't remember to see if a pattern emerges.
3. Once you have become proficient with 10 objects in a minute you may wish to choose two Memory Tray Sheets and allow yourself 90 seconds or 2 minutes to memorise the images.
4. You may be interested in developing your technique - there are plenty of memory masters that are happy to share the secrets of their success who can be researched on the Internet. Experiment with creating mini stories to connect objects together to make them more memorable. (E.g. instead of just trying to remember 'hamster' and 'crown' you could picture a hamster being crowned king instead. You could then link additional objects to this scene.)





| Attempt Number | Sheet Number | Number of correct objects/Time | Objects Missed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| e.g. 1 | 8 | 7 | gloves, pear, guitar |
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