

VOCABULARY

Memory Cards

Highlight



Term

Image

front of card



Term

Mortify- strongly embarrassed

Simple definition

Example

I was mortified when the bird made a mess on my head.

Translation



V: mortify
N: mortification
ADJ: mortified

Word forms

back of card

VOCABULARY



Do you
know
these
words?



Words to live by . . .

Here are some ideas to help you boost your word power. Use these easy steps, and you'll remember words faster and easier than ever before. Good luck!

1. **Making** the cards will help you remember the terms. The time and effort it takes to make the card is half of your study time or more!
2. **Simplify** the information. You don't need a full color picture to remember one word. Keep your information simple and easy to read.
3. **Write** a journal or emails to your friends and **use** the new words there. If it is an unusual word, make a story about it or think of situations when you need that word.
4. **Review** the terms you have studied. You might remember the word "amble" today, but what about six months from now? Go back to your words again and again.
5. **Use the terms in conversation.** You don't need to use lots of technical words but **choose new words to use each day** and you will find them easier to remember.
6. **Group** the words into categories: Words for: work, play, or travel. Group them as synonyms & antonyms, grammar forms such as adjectives, nouns, verbs or whatever you like.
7. **Personalize** the cards. Remember the card for Mortify? I really saw that happen. It's a strong memory so it's easy for me to connect the word and the story.
8. **Share** them! There are too many words out there for you to get them all. So share your cards and study with a friend! It's great to get fresh ideas and more fun!
9. **Explain** the meanings of the words to other people you know. Teaching someone else the words you have recently learned can help you remember them more clearly.
10. **Mnemonics** are memory tricks to help you remember words and their meanings. There are thousands of mnemonics so ask your teacher to help you make some.

To the teacher,

WOW! That second page is really wordy don't you think?

When teaching, I think the instructions should always be easier than the actual activity, but sometimes the ideas we give our students are important for them to understand study techniques. This was a case where I wanted to get those ideas down on paper to share with students but also with you.

If you share the ideas above, you might want to do it in one of several different ways:

I. Discuss: have the students make the cards in a simple activity or introduce some of your own. Tell the students you think it might be a good way for them to study vocabulary. Have them discuss the pros and cons of doing this.

II. Student Teachers: Some of my students practiced explaining skills by teaching the meanings of the words through examples to their classmates. Each day they made several cards and the next day taught the words to their friends. As a class they shared the cards and used those words in conversation that day allowing me to offer correction where needed.

III. Go slow: There's no need to suddenly throw all this information at your students all at once. I used these cards in a wide range of classes, some for conversation, others in vocabulary focussed lessons. Try introducing one or two of these ideas over time, then give them the list later on. Just the last one, mnemonics could be used to great effect.

IV. Be consistent: I mentioned above that my students practiced explanation techniques by teaching the terms to their classmates. The first time we did that on a Monday they did a pretty good job. DON'T STOP THERE. By Friday they were doing much better. Well, you don't need me to tell you that practice makes perfect.

V. Be creative: Hey! You're making pictures! Have fun with it! This is your chance to let your creative side loose and let your students have fun while learning! It goes a long way towards great motivation!