

**Rote Learning**

**Point of This Assignment:** To identify what rote learning is, and knowing when it is most helpful to facilitate learning.

Rote Learning is a learning style where you learn to do something by repetition (doing it over and over again). The phrase “practice makes perfect” refers to rote learning. It is particularly helpful in learning any skills-based activity. Rote learning can be used in many different ways in formal learning: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rote\\_learning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rote_learning)

- Memorizing (facts, theories, formulas, vocabulary, numbers, etc.)
- Developing a skill (reading, writing, public speaking, critical thinking, computer software, driving, etc.)
- Skills-based drills (math, typing, a sport, playing a musical instrument, etc.)

The purpose of using rote learning is to help you get so good at doing something that it becomes an automatic response that does not require any thought to do. The more you practice a skill, the better you will become at it. (See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjUwT8sx9TA>)

**Application:**

**1. Prior Rote Learning Experiences:**

Think of a time in your past where you were expected to learn something (probably a skill), and the teacher used rote learning as a way for you to develop your skill in that area.

What was the skill to be learned (typing, spelling, math, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

How did the teacher have you practice that skill? What were you supposed to do?

How long did you spend practicing that skill? Did you spend more time than other students at your level? Why or Why Not?

How good at it did you get? Why?

**2. Current Rote Learning Opportunity:**

Identify a skill, knowledge base, or something else you currently need learn (from another class, your job, or personal life, etc.).

Rote Learning

What is the skill or knowledge base you need to learn? (typing, spelling, math, etc.)

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How proficient do you want to become at that skill? (poor, average, good, excellent)

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How personally committed are you to learning at that skill? (poor, average, good, excellent)

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Identify how you can use rote learning to develop that skill? (i.e. How can you practice it over and over again?)

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Make a commitment: When and where, and how long will you spend practicing that skill to develop to your desired level of proficiency?

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What else can you do to ensure your success at learning that skill?

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**Test your understanding:**

**What is the main point of this assignment?**

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**Why were you expected to do this exercise?**

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**What type of person would need to do this exercise?**

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**How well do you fit the profile of the person for whom this assignment was created?**

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**Reflection:** *(Write down your response after completing this assignment.)*

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