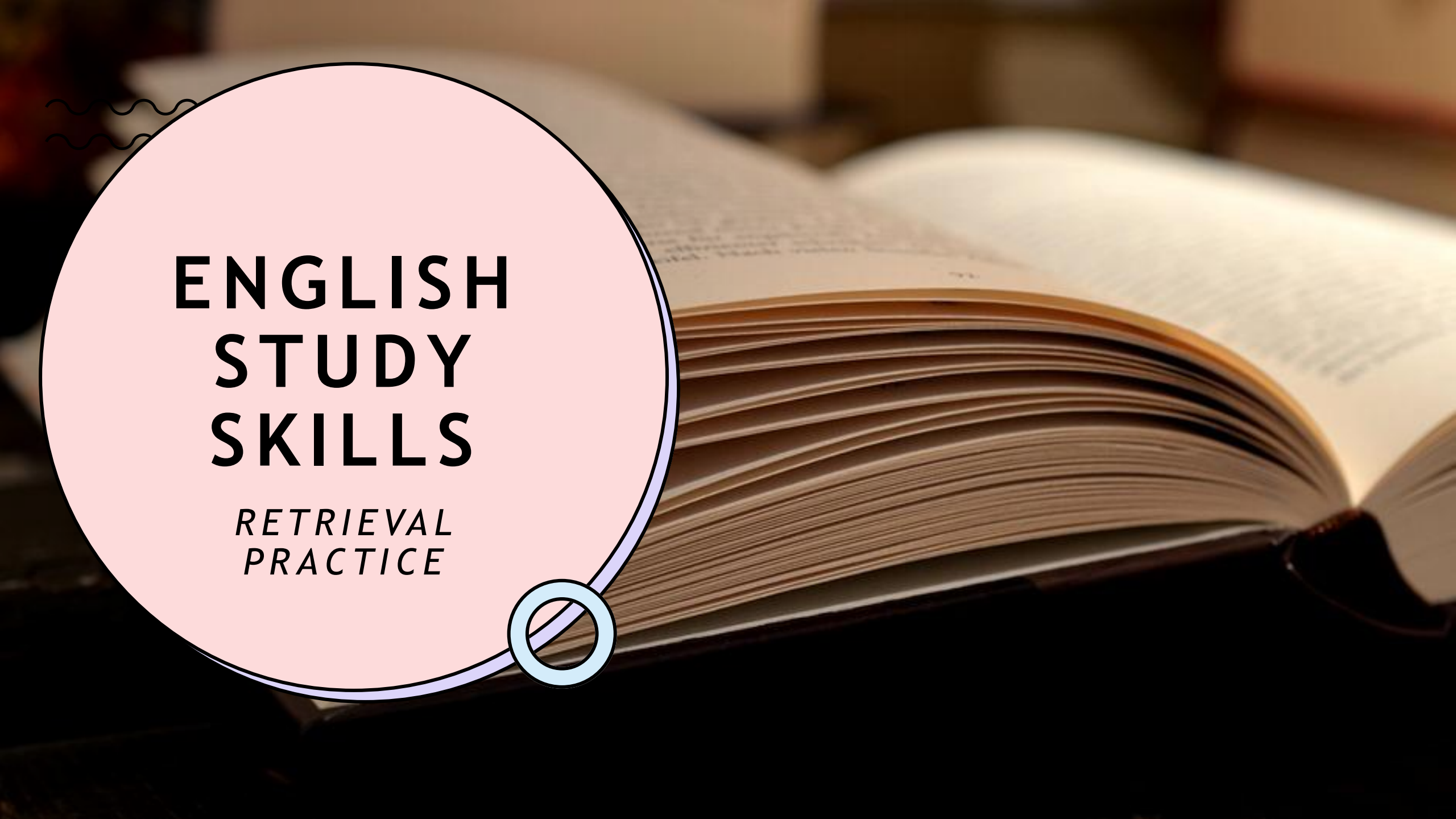


ENGLISH STUDY SKILLS

RETRIEVAL PRACTICE

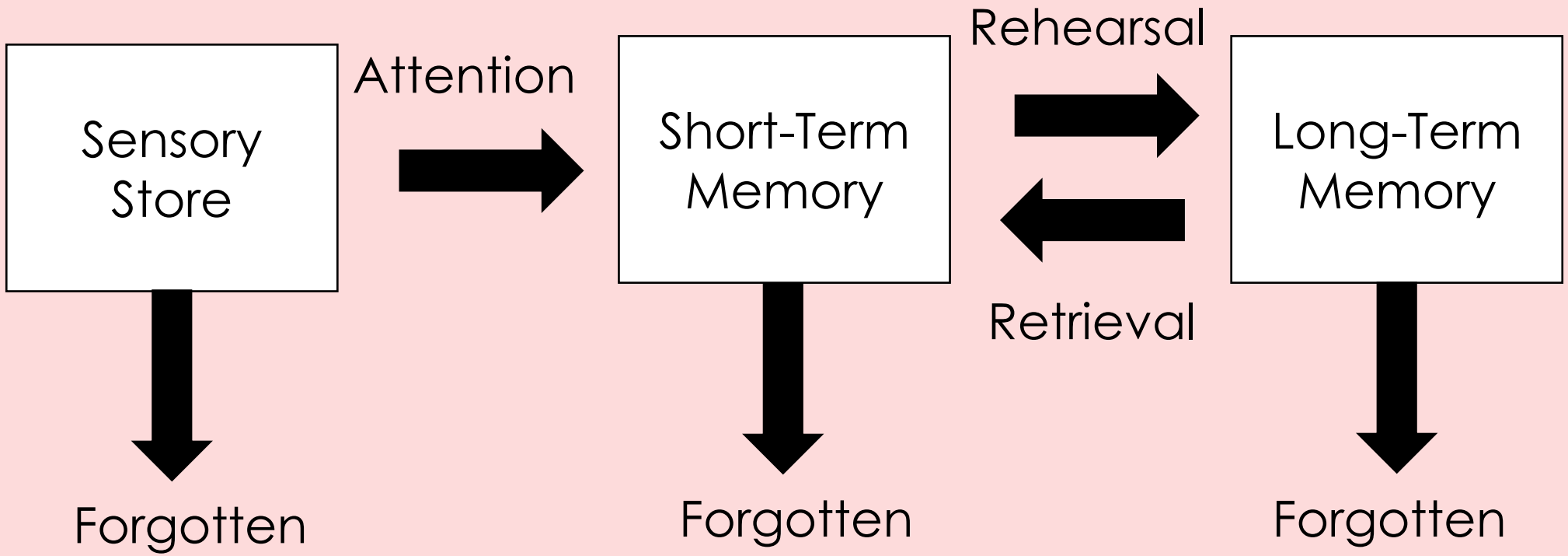
"Retrieval practice refers to the act of recalling learned information from memory (with no or little support) and every time that information is retrieved, or an answer generated, it changes that original memory to make it stronger."

What is Retrieval Practice?

Retrieval practice is a revision strategy that is referred to extensively here at Marr College.

But what exactly is retrieval practice and why is it so useful?

THE SCIENCE!

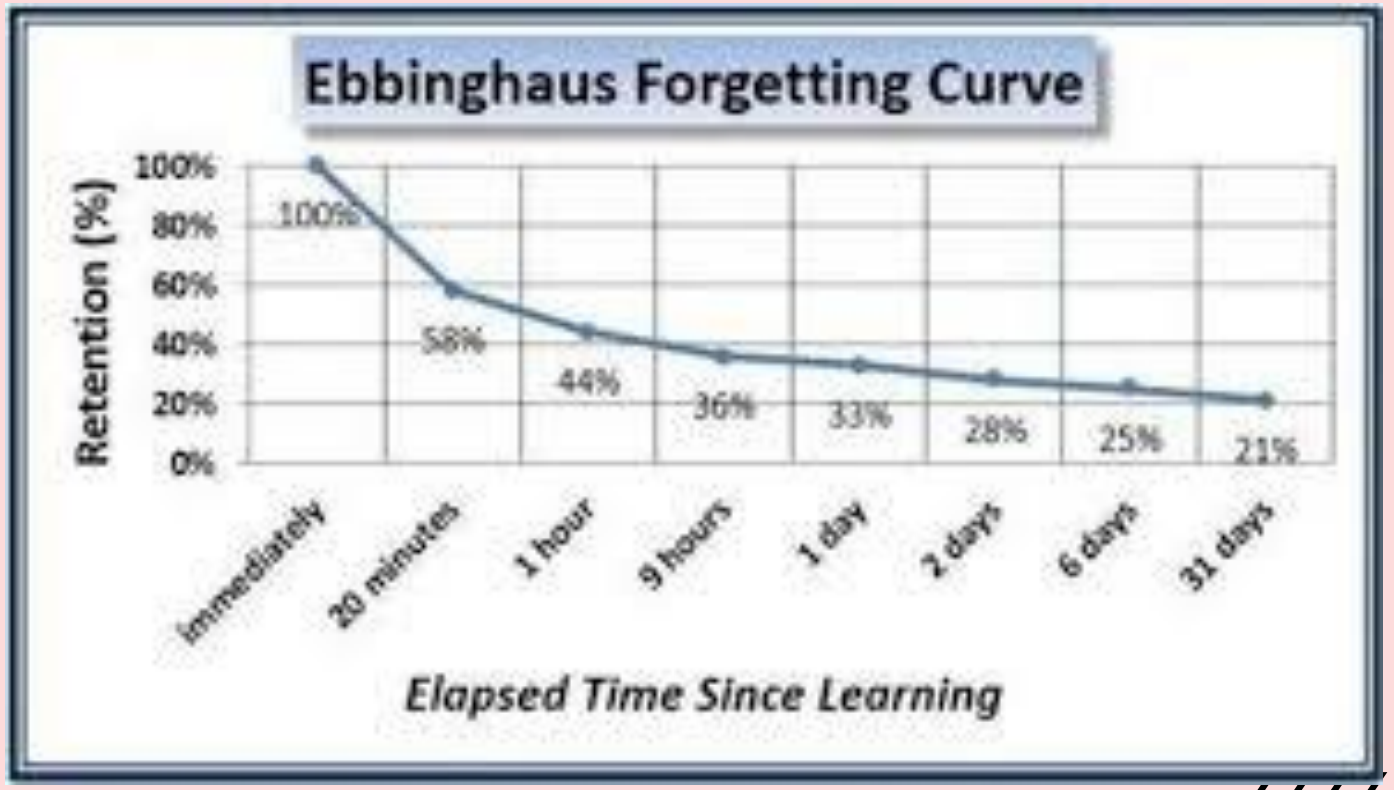

Sensory Store
Attention
Short-Term Memory
Rehearsal
Retrieval
Long-Term Memory
Forgotten
Forgotten
Forgotten

WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT REVISION?

This graph indicates the percentage retention of learning without rehearsal.

Notice that the findings claim an initially rapid rate of forgetting.

Some studies have found that information that has not been rehearsed can be lost within 18-30 seconds!

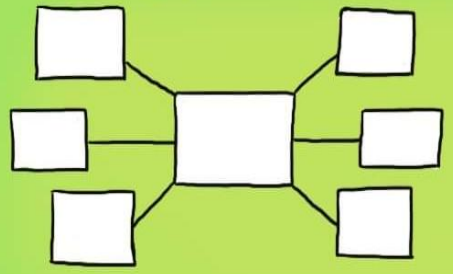


Retrieval Practice Examples

- Exit Tickets
- Starter quizzes
- Multiple choice quizzes
- Short answer tests
- Free write
- Think, pair, share
- Ranking & sorting
- Challenge grids

BRAIN DUMP

Write, draw a picture, create a mind-map on everything you know about a topic.



Give yourself a time limit, say 3 minutes, then have a look at your books & add a few things you forgot.

QUIZZING

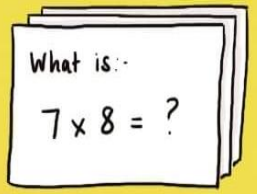
Create practice questions on a topic. Swap your questions with a partner & answer.

Question - What is a metaphor?

- ☐ A comparison using 'like, as, than'.
- ☐ A comparison where one thing is another.
- ☐ A comparison with a human attribute.

FLASHCARDS

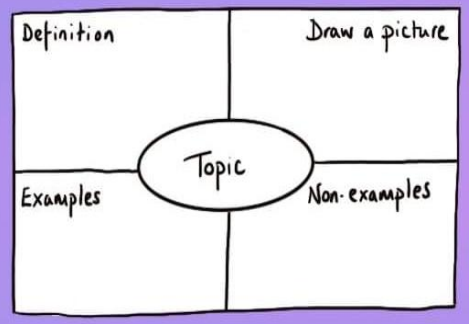
Create your own flashcards, question on one side answer on the other. Can you make links between the cards?



You need to repeat the Q&A process for flashcards you fail on more frequently & less frequently for those you answer correctly.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

Complete a knowledge organiser template for key information about a topic.



You can use knowledge organisers to learn new vocab & make links in between subjects or ideas.

Tips!

- Flashcards are the most popular for learning quotations and their analysis!
- **Brain dumps** are excellent for identifying gaps in knowledge.

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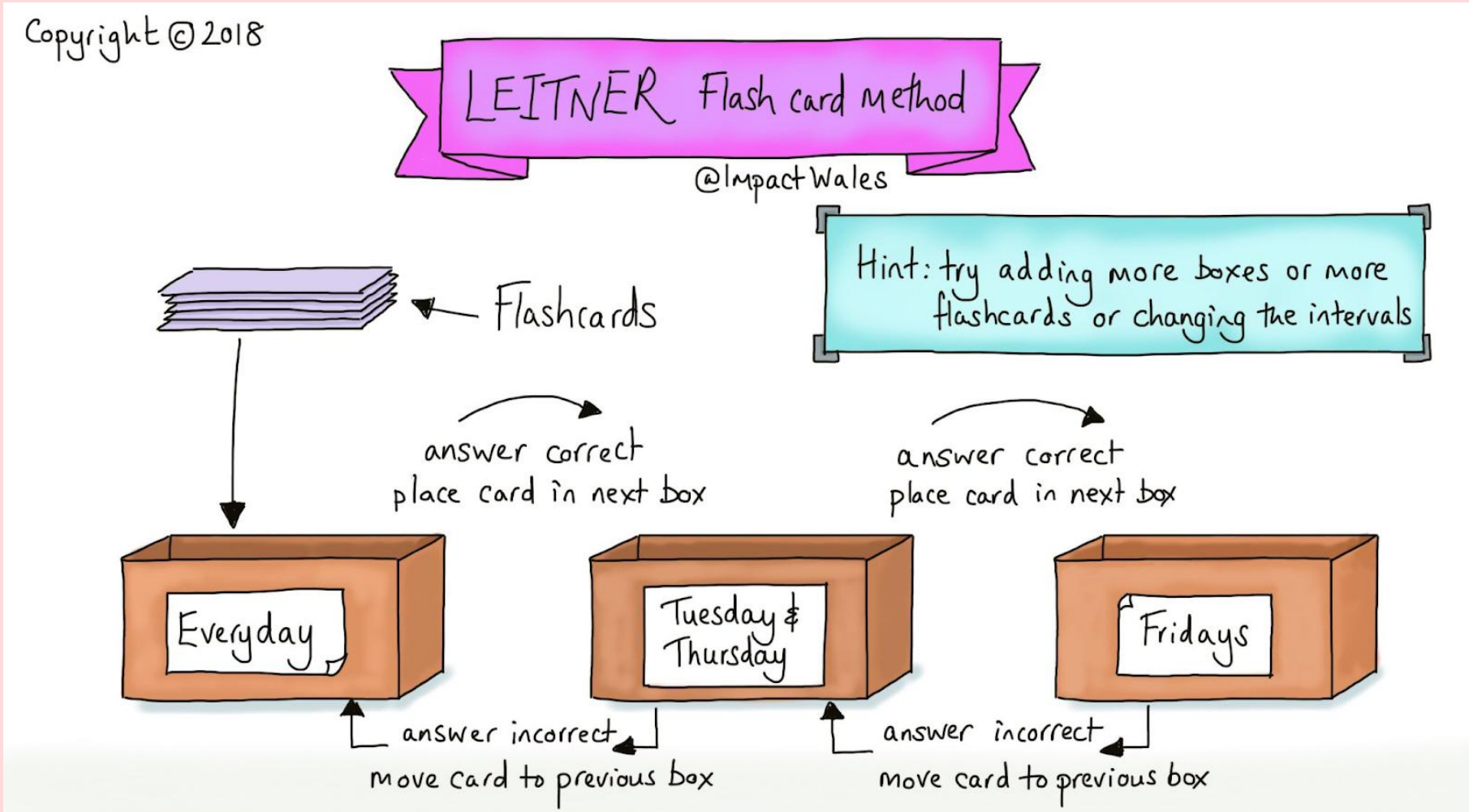

An effective use of flashcards to prompt & recall learning using spaced practice proposed by Leitner in the 1970s. It focuses on the proficiency of recall of the learner. Information which is easily recalled has a longer time lapse before the next recall opportunity.

THE LEITNER SYSTEM

Top tips!

- Don't cheat! Write your answers down before you check!
- If once a week becomes easy, you can add a box!

More techniques!

Yesterday we looked at a small handful of retrieval strategies. The video, right, discusses these strategies in more detail while describing some more!