

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer Key: Wrangle Your Brain: A 2nd Grade Memory & Cognition Quiz

Students identify how they store sensory details and practice simple problem-solving strategies using everyday classroom scenarios and mental shortcuts.

1. When you use a catchy song to remember the order of the planets, what is your brain doing?

Answer: B) Encoding or 'labeling' the information

Encoding is the first step of memory where your brain changes information into a form it can keep, like a song or a picture.

2. True or False: Your brain stores your first day of school memories in your long-term memory.

Answer: A) True

Long-term memory is like a big attic in your head that stores important events from a long time ago.

3. When you look at a cloud and decide it looks like a rabbit, you are using your ___ to think.

Answer: C) Imagination

Imagination is a cognitive process that lets you think of private pictures or ideas in your mind.

4. You see a dark cloud and grab an umbrella. What type of thinking are you using?

Answer: C) Reasoning

Reasoning is when you use what you know (clouds mean rain) to make a smart choice (take an umbrella).

5. If you try three different keys to open a treasure chest, you are using ___ and error.

Answer: B) Trial

'Trial and error' is a problem-solving way where you keep trying different things until one works.

6. True or False: Retrieval is the word for when you forget something forever.

Answer: B) False

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Retrieval actually means finding and 'getting back' a memory that you have stored.

7. Which of these is an example of 'short-term' memory?

Answer: A) Remembering a phone number for 10 seconds

Short-term memory only holds onto things for a very brief time before they disappear or move to long-term memory.

8. A ___ is a 'mental shortcut' or a simple rule you use to solve a problem quickly.

Answer: B) Heuristic

Heuristics (like 'always look both ways') help our brains make decisions without having to rethink everything every time.

9. True or False: Focusing on your teacher's voice helps your brain encode the lesson.

Answer: A) True

Paying attention is the most important part of getting information into your memory system.

10. If you organize your LEGO bricks by color to find a red one faster, you are using:

Answer: B) A problem-solving strategy

Organizing or categorizing items is a smart way to help your brain process and find things later.