

Table of Contents

Lesson 2: So! What the heck (一体何が) is an AudioGraphic Code and how do I create one?	3
The 7 Techniques	4
The 4 Steps	4
The 3 Important Rules	5
<i>AgC Creation Rule #1:</i>	5
<i>AgC Creation Rule #2:</i>	5
<i>AgC Creation Rule #3:</i>	5
Illustrations of the Techniques	5
Technique 1: IPA-AgC Similarity	5
1.01 Kitchen Gadgets 台所道具; 台所用器具 <i>Toka</i>	5
<i>Step 1: Visual Encoding: Selecting the Image</i>	5
<i>Step 2: Auditory Encoding: Embedding the Sound</i>	6
<i>Step 3: Kinesthetic Encoding: Making it All Move</i>	6
<i>Step 4: IPA Symbol Encoding: Getting to Really Know Your IPA Symbols</i>	6
1.02 Common Household Objects 家庭用品.....	8
1.03 Tropical Reptiles	9
1.04 Strange Sea Creatures.....	10
1.05 Wild Sheep from Central Asia 中央アジアからの野生の羊	10
1.06 People in the Media メディアで働く者	11
Technique 2: Creating a Collage: コラージュを作成します	13
2.01 Cute and Not-So-Cute Animals かわいい動物と (あんまり可愛くない動物).....	13
2.02 Artist's Equipment.....	13
2.03 Archaeological Relics	14
2.04 Musical Instruments.....	15
2.05 Toy Weapons 遊戯銃.....	16
Technique 3: Finding Your Inner Artist.....	17
3.01 Fruit.....	17
3.02 Special Purpose Containers	18
3.03 Instruments for Measurement 測定器.....	19
3.04 Nuts and Map Symbols ナッツや地図記号 <i>Acorn</i> ドングリ	20
3.05 Wise Birds 博学の、博識な、賢そうな鳥.....	21
3.06 Apparatus for Seeing	22

Technique 4 (テクニック 4 no 実例): Image Transformation (画像変換).....	23
4.01 Listening Equipment リスニング機器	24
Technique 5: Image Rotation: 画像回転.....	25
5.01 Safety Devices 安全装置 <i>Airbag</i> エアバッグ.....	25
Technique 6: Manipulating Your Image.....	26
6.01 Fertilizer Paraphernalia	27
Technique 7: The Cosmos Technique コスモス; 時空と宇宙.....	29
The Activation (or Recall) Procedure: vowels and diphthongs.....	30
Exercise 1	32
Exercise 2.....	33
Exercise 3.....	34

Encoding AgCs: Part 1

Lesson 2: So! What the heck is an AudioGraphic Code and how do I create one?

Some Background: The Underlying Idea

Long before Thomas Bradwardine succumbed to the Black Death in 1349, he had proposed a number of techniques on how to memorize, recall, and then recombine Latin words. These techniques formed part of the body of work known as the “art of memory.”

The memorization techniques developed by this English mathematician, theologian, and scholastic philosopher were so simple and effective that it’s incomprehensible to us, more than seven hundred years later, that the mnemonic principles underlying them aren’t in the curriculum of every foreign language department of every school on the planet.

A major component of the Bradwardine system involves the creation of a storehouse of ready-made images that represent the sounds of each syllable. These images are visual representations that embody the essence of the most elementary memorizable units of sound.

These images, which can be symbolic representations of English or Japanese words, should be readily at your command. Ideally, they’d be constructed and stored away by rote, while an automatic, multi-directional stimulus and response mechanism are established with as many senses as possible, particularly the visual, auditory, and kinesthetic.

By creating such a database of preformed images, henceforth referred to as AudioGraphic Codes (AgCs) whenever you need to memorize and subsequently recall words or formulaic expressions,¹ you’ll be able to do so easily. All that is required is the initial effort. The next two lessons are dedicated to constructing the foundation of this database.

The first lesson introduces you to a memorization procedure that uses various creative visualization techniques to learn the sounds and symbols of the twelve vowels and eight diphthongs. Go through these exercises even if you already know the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) symbols since the mere act of visualizing is as important as knowing the symbols themselves. Later, the IPA symbols can be utilized or discarded as appropriate.

¹ In a later lesson, I show how to use this database to remember Latin, German, and French words and phrases that have been incorporated into English; once your paradigm has been established, it is easy to create additional language-specific databases.

The Encoding (or Memorization) Procedure

Four steps in seven principal techniques

There are seven principal techniques in the memorization procedure.

The 7 Techniques

- (1) IPA-AgC Similarity Technique: This is the easiest and most fundamental technique. It takes advantage of the fact that the AgCs have a similar appearance to the IPA symbols.
- (2) Collage Technique: Combines two or more elements
- (3) Artist Technique: Finding the artist within you
- (4) Image Transformation Technique: Transforming a plain image
- (5) Image Rotation Technique: Rotating your image
- (6) Mental Manipulation Technique: Unleashing your inner magician
- (7) The Cosmos Technique: A journey into the universe of your mind

The 4 Steps

There are four steps for each of the seven principal techniques. You must apply your will and imagination in each step of the visualization process:

- Step 1. Visual Encoding: Selecting the Image
- Step 2. Auditory Encoding: Embedding the Sound
- Step 3. Kinesthetic Encoding: Making It All Move
- Step 4. IPA Symbol Encoding: Getting to Really Know Your IPA Symbols

Further details about these steps can be found below. As you carry them out, you'll see how visualization helps you develop concentration and attention. You'll also realize how it's one of the keys to understanding and memory. As you progress, you'll become more aware that from a neurological perspective, your brain remembers most efficiently whilst grabbing visual images.

At first, you'll go through each step one at a time. But gradually they will merge into one step: you will become a Shūfǎ Master who creates an astounding piece of calligraphy with one stroke of his brush.

Ultimately, your AgCs will be easily, quickly, and automatically recognized. By always associating your image (and *only* this image) with the sound of a syllable, you won't have to think about it.

Before we see how Technique 1 works, there are three important rules to remember governing AgC creation when using any of the seven techniques. The rules are neither mutually exclusive nor comprehensive. You'll most likely either invent or discover more. And you are encouraged to do so. Use anything and everything laid at the door of your imagination.

The 3 Important Rules

AgC Creation Rule #1:

“Make the AgC as unique as possible and make every effort not to change it.”

AgC Creation Rule #2:

“Do not superimpose anything onto the AgC except a symbol representing the pronunciation.”

AgC Creation Rule #3:

“Avoid the use of an image created from a Japanese word unless you can automatically associate it with the correct pronunciation.”

Illustrations of the Techniques

Technique 1: IPA-AgC Similarity

The fundamental technique where the AgC has a similar appearance to the IPA symbol itself

1.01 Kitchen Gadgets 台所道具; 台所用器具 Toka

e

Here you use a single image where the shape of the IPA symbol or letter to be memorized seamlessly blends in with its shape and contours.

Step 1: Visual Encoding: Selecting the Image

Beginning with the sound “e”, the IPA symbol that is identical to the Roman letter “e”, the first thing we need to do is create our AgC and focus on it. Here are a few possibilities.



In the middle are a couple of delicious-looking Edo period *ebi* from a detail of the 絵 by Hiroshige; to the left and right we have a pair of unusually designed [egg cups](#).

Any of the images above could provide a perfectly memorable AgC for our first example; each begins with the sound we wish to encode and lends itself perfectly to the symbol contours. For the purposes of illustration, let's choose the eggcup on the left.

Step 2: Auditory Encoding: Embedding the Sound

Now throw out the other two images and gaze on the image on the left for four to seven seconds. While concentrating your focus on the image, continue to mentally repeat the sound of the first letter “e” of “eggcup”, ignoring the rest of the word. Make it like a mantra.



Close your eyes. You should be able to recall both visual and audio impressions. Do that now!

Step 3: Kinesthetic Encoding: Making it All Move

While visualizing the eggcup and holding it in your mind, mentally trace its shape as if you were sketching it.² This so-called **Mental Tracing** or **Mind Drawing** activates you kinesthetically, as does repeating a word many times: silently, by sub-vocalizing, or by shouting it out loud. That “e” sound should effortlessly and synaesthetically fuse with its symbol.

Congratulations! Using your visual, auditory, and kinesthetic encoders, you've just created your first AgC, hardwiring it into your brain by locking it onto one infinitesimal point of one of your trillions of neurons.

The next step is recommended even for those who know their IPA symbols. You can always benefit from more creative visualization practice, and it's important for directing attention and focus.

Step 4: IPA Symbol Encoding: Getting to Really Know Your IPA Symbols

Once you're satisfied with the quality of the image *from your imagination* and have no difficulty retaining and retrieving it from your short-term memory, proceed to the next step, which explains how to encode a symbol.

² If you're someone who visualizes better with your eyes open, then feel free to do this. Project the image onto a wall or screen some distance from where you're sitting. [Go here for one way to do this!](#)³ イグルー; 医、胃

Method 1: With this method, you're engraving the IPA symbol onto the image. Close your eyes, visualize the eggcup, and superimpose the IPA symbol on it.



Notice how it blends in with the background and some of the egg's contours at the same time? Try using **Mind Drawing**, carefully noting where the writing begins at nine and ends at five o'clock.

Practice shifting your focus from a position where the symbol is in focus and the eggcup is blurry and vice versa. This isn't as easy as it sounds, but it's important for directing attention and focus. Repeat this two or three times.


Method 2: Before I show you the second method, let me digress. One of the best movies to come out of Hollywood in the first decade of this century was *Minority Report*.


Early in the story, we meet John Anderton, head of a special police department called "pre-crime". He is standing in front of a number of semispherical screens collectively referred to as a holosphere where various scenes are playing out before him: pictorial representations from potential crimes committed in the future. Using multiple sensors on his fingers, he grabs, drags and drops, swishes and swipes, enlarges, rewinds, and plays the scenes at different speeds.

There will be those among you that already do a version of this endless times each day with your smartphones. Here I want you to perform a simpler version . . . *with your minds!*

Try playing with your eggcup and IPA in a similar fashion.



Close your eyes and imagine the picture above on a giant cinema screen. You're in the front row. With your eyes closed, use the muscles in each eye to shift the focus of your attention. Zoom in on the IPA symbol in the middle. Lock onto it, enlarge it, and then drag it across to the eggcup on the right. Fix it there. Zoom in on the IPA symbol superimposed on the eggcup on the left and drag it into the empty space in the middle. Squash it until it looks like  and then elongate it

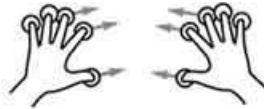
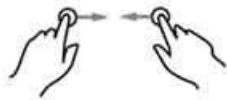
vertically so it looks like .

one-finger drag



single hand drag
(requires 4+ fingers per hand)

two finger zoom out



two hand zoom out

two finger zoom in



two hand zoom in

two finger rotate



two hand rotate

Seek

Grab

Lock

Zoom in

Enlarge

Drag

Drop

Zoom out

Now reverse this procedure. Also, imagine sound coming from a huge loudspeaker somewhere in the sky above. The sound is looped, getting progressively louder and then softer.



The reasons for these mental maneuverings will become clear as you read on. Being able to mentally manipulate images means that you *OWN* it.

Let's look at our second illustration Technique 1.

1.02 Common Household Objects 家庭用品

In this example you meet a phonetic symbol that doesn't look like a letter in the alphabet. There are a few of these you'll need familiarize yourself with.

What's the sound common to the first syllables of the words represented by the following images?



underpass



umbrella



udder



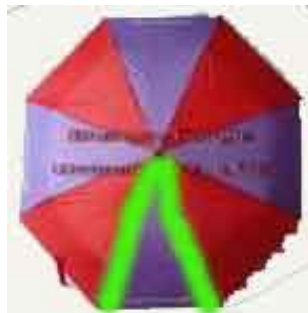
UGG boots

The answer is



Each of the images above could be an AgC, but let's choose the umbrella, as the IPA symbol, which you'll see from the picture below, can be easily embedded.

Umbrella



Go through the steps in the memorization procedure to hardwire this image and sound into your brain.

1.03 Tropical Reptiles



In this third example, we take the sound of the first syllable of the word iguana.³ Look how easily the IPA symbol can be placed on the drooping beard-like appendage under its “chin”.

³イグルー; 医、胃



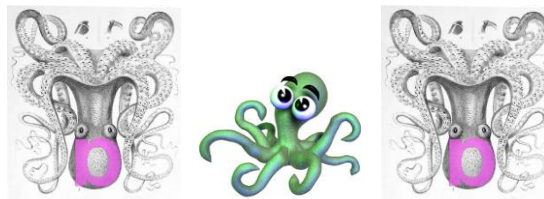
Since the look of a tropical lizard is quite remarkable, it provides a highly effective AgC. Go through whichever steps in the memorization procedure necessary to hardwire this image and sound into your brain.

1.04 Strange Sea Creatures

ɒ

In this fourth example, it's easy to affix the IPA symbol “ɒ” onto the head of an octopus because they're approximately the same shape.⁴

Octopus



Go through the memorization procedure to hardwire this image and sound into your brain.

ɒ **ɔ**

Notice that the American equivalent of **ɒ** is **ɔ**. Either is embedded with equal ease.

1.05 Wild Sheep from Central Asia 中央アジアからの野生の羊

ʊ

In our fifth example, we focus on the urial's (ウリアル) head and embed the symbol informally known as the “horseshoe u”. As you see, it seamlessly blends in with either of the following images. Suggested Japanese AgCs are here.⁵

⁴ 雄、尾、織

⁵ 兎、鵜、卵、and maybe also utau--ie sing.uu ウナギ、撃つ、宇、卵、鵜、鳥、兎、雨



Go through the memorization steps required to fix this in your mind.

1.06 People in the Media メディアで働く者 Announcer^{6*}

< ɵ >

In this sixth example, you're in for a treat. The IPA symbol looks like an "e" upside down and horizontally flipped.

Derived from the German schwa, this is an unstressed and toneless neutral vowel sound that can be found at the beginning, end, and middle of many words; it means "a neutral vowel quality" or literally "emptiness".

Before we get into the serious stuff of creating an AgC for it, here are three questions for you!

Q1) What's the most common sound in the English language?

Q2) Does it exist in Japanese?⁷

Q3) How many ways is katakana used to render this sound?

Think before you check the answers below.

A1) The most common sound in the English language is the schwa.

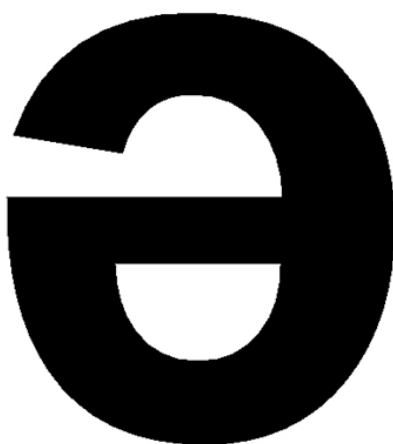
A2) No, and you'll obviously know this from the answer to question one. You have "ア", "イ", "ウ", "エ", and "オ", but you don't have the schwa. I call it the "sixth sound". Like the sixth taste and the sixth sense, it's quite an exotic and elusive creature.

A3) I don't know how many ways katakana renders this sound into English. The truth is, I've lost count.

Here is a larger version of it.

⁶ Be extra careful here. This sound is absent in Japanese, so it's more effective to employ an AgC for an English word in order for the process of memorization and recall to proceed smoothly.

⁷ Chinese



While such a symbol might adequately serve by itself as an AgC, for the process of memorization, an image is far superior.

Let's create one now.

How about an announcer?

The word begins and ends with “**Θ**”.



Either of the above would be perfect. Notice how seamlessly the symbol “**Θ**” can be embedded.

Announcer



Choose one, then **Mentally Trace** the symbol to further strengthen the neurological imprint. Start at three o'clock and move your eyes to nine o'clock. Then follow the curve down to six, back up to three, and then up and over to ten o'clock. Go through the memorization steps required to fix this AgC in your mind.

The 6 Remaining Techniques

There are six more distinct memorization techniques for the basic vowels and diphthongs. The mnemonic principles underlying them are the same, as will be the results.

⁸ Other possibilities (ensure that you employ the *ENGLISH* and NOT the *JAPANESE* pronunciation) are: アコーデ
イアン (or アコーディオン); アパート

Technique 2: Creating a Collage: コラージュを作成 します

Combining two or more elements

For the first illustration of Technique 2, we employ a collage that combines at least one image and one symbol.

2.01 Cute and Not-So-Cute Animals かわいい動物と (あんまり可愛くない動物)

Armadillo アルマジロ

ɑ:

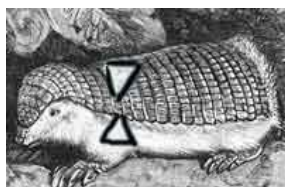
For this AgC, we borrow the first syllable of the word armadillo.



Embed the first part of the IPA symbol onto this image.



For the second part, which looks like a disjoined hourglass, embed as in the following:



After a little tweaking, the final product might be somewhat elongated horizontally to remind you of the slightly prolonged sound.



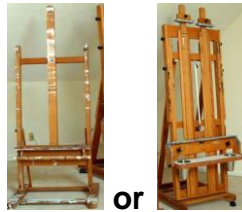
Work through the memorization steps needed to fix this in your mind. Mentally trace the contours of the armadillo's body and the embedded elements.

2.02 Artist's Equipment

Easel イーゼル

i:

In the second illustration of Technique 2, we use a common H-frame easel.⁹



Easel

We embed the following four-part symbol onto one of these.



The result should look something like this:



Work through the memorization steps needed to fix this in your mind.

2.03 Archaeological Relics

3:

In the third illustration of Technique 2, we encode the sound common to the following words:

first fur journey bird earn gerbil herb
まず 毛皮 旅 鳥 稼ぐ スナネズミ ハーブ

onto a simple Mayan funerary アーン (urn).



We can embed our IPA any way we wish.



Connect the IPA symbol with the AgC in your imagination by going through the memorization procedure.

2.04 Musical Instruments

3:

For our fourth illustration of Technique 2, I've chosen the following picture of an organ.¹⁰



You should affix the IPA symbol on it.

¹⁰ オーガン、オルガン



Go through the memorization procedure to hardwire the image, its sound, and the IPA symbol into your brain.

2.05 Toy Weapons 遊戯銃

*Uber Uzi¹¹ ユーバーウジ; *Water Cannon* 放水砲

u:

For our next AgC example, we use a weapon. In this case, however, the weapon is a harmless water submachine gun. We've borrowed the sound of its first syllable.

Uzi



We affix the phonetic symbol onto it in any way we choose.

u:

¹¹ ウーバーウジ; besides ウジ, you have, Ultraman, ウクレレ, and ウーパールーパー (axolotl)



Wherever you decide to place it, go through the essential memorization steps to ensure the image and the associated sound are impossible to forget.

Let's move onto some illustrations of Technique 3.

Technique 3: Finding Your Inner Artist

Finding the artist within you

All artists, whether great or ordinary, add symbols to their work. Consciously or unconsciously, they add parts of themselves, essentially becoming part of the work itself.

Picasso's ideas are obvious in many of his paintings, especially in one of his most famous works, *Guernica*.

In this technique, which may be the most difficult, you get to tap into the artist within. You'll harness the infinite powers of your imagination, adding parts of yourself and/or symbols. Think about your favorite painters, get into their heads, and imagine how they would use their imaginative powers to enhance their English skills.

This is the first illustration of Technique 3.

3.01 Fruit

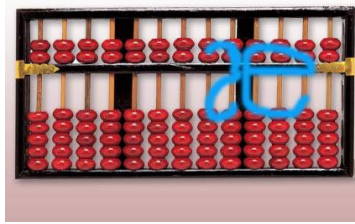


First, a little quiz. Thinking of the following in English, what do they have in common?

- 1) the brightest star in Centaurus and the first letter in the Greek alphabet;
- 2) a manual computing device consisting of a frame holding parallel rods strung with movable counters;
- 3) the Beatles' final 1969 studio LP;
- 4) an unexpected and undesirable event, especially one resulting in damage or harm; and
- 5) a firm, edible, usually rounded and shiny fruit with red or green skin and firm white flesh that is often used to make pies

Your clue, of course, is the phonetic symbol at the beginning of this section. The words: *Alpha Centauri*, *abacus*, *Abbey Road*, *accident*, and *apple* all begin with this sound.

Typewritten, the letter “(a)” closely resembles the phonetic symbol that it often represents. However, don’t let that lull you into a false sense of security, because you still need an AgC. If you’re keen on mathematics, then perhaps an abacus will work.



Lovers of Aboriginal art may find their AgC in a twisted, inverted, transmogrified version similar to the following:



Any image will do, so long as it remains a fixed and integral part of your AgC database, but the image of an apple below has the best chance of becoming the point of communication between the sound **æ** and the symbol itself.



To mentally draw the symbol, the most common route is to start at ten o’clock. From there, you loop upwards before heading down to six, where you create a loop towards the middle. Then shoot across to three, loop back to the middle, and do a final loop to four o’clock.



Go through the memorization procedure carefully.

3.02 Special Purpose Containers

Oil Can

ɔɪ

In this illustration of Technique 3, we introduce you to your first diphthong. For this sound, a word beginning with **ɔɪ**¹² would be a good start. How about an oil can? Choose one of the following and stare at it until it is fixed in your imagination as an AgC.

Oil Can



Alternatively, you might choose a completely different one. Embed the IPA symbol in whatever way feels best.



Then go through the memorization procedure.

3.03 Instruments for Measurement 測定器

Ohm Multimeter (オームメーター)

əʊ

In this example, we have a diphthong sound similar to the “ou” found in English.¹³ You find it in the words:

no, nose, know, goat, and home

among thousands of others.

Say these words now to get a feel for them.

Let's go with an English AgC once again.

¹² ウーッ、アーッ

¹³The “ou” is a somewhat prolonged version of “əʊ” and in Chinese form, “you”, i.e., “又” as transcribed by the Zhuyin character “ㄩ”.

Looking closely at the IPA symbol, we can see that it's made up of two symbols we've already met in Examples 1.05 and 1.06; this is a strange combination of symbols for the sound it represents. But let's get down to creating our AgC.

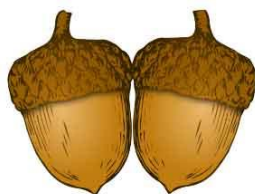


In your mind, bend, twist, expand, or rotate the image while going through the memorization procedure to encode the image and the symbols in your memory banks.

3.04 Nuts and Map Symbols ナッツや地図記号 Acorn¹⁴ ドングリ

eɪ

For this next illustration of Technique 3, we borrow the first sound from the English word acorn. Let's place two alongside each other like so.



Then you can easily and effortlessly embed the IPA symbol.



If you prefer symbols, you will see lots of these if you go walking along footpaths in England and Wales.



¹⁴ The Japanese is also: 英、栄、咏、嬰、盈、榮、エイリアン 2, apron; エインジェル angel

Choose whichever image you like and go through the memorization procedure.

3.05 Wise Birds 博学の、博識な、賢そうな鳥

Owl フクロウ

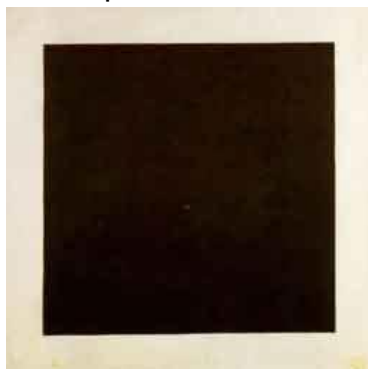
au

With binocular vision, the ability to turn their heads 135 degrees, and the ability to hear in three dimensions, owls are amazing creatures. Their most amazing ability, however, is seeing in the dark.

If you've been going through the various steps of the memorization procedure correctly, then you have probably realized that you share this ability with owls. In fact, while the average owl can see and hear the tiniest object hundreds of meters away, your range of perception is far more comprehensive and all encompassing.

So let's try the Darkness Focus Exercise.

Empty your mind of all thoughts, emotions, and images; close your eyes, and imagine that you're immersed in complete darkness.



Black Square by Kazimir Malevich

カジミール・セヴェリーノヴィチ：黒い正方形

Let your conscious mind be dissolved by the darkness. Allow it to become a symbol of total and utter meaningless and nothingness. It's important that you experience total darkness. If you're having trouble and some light is entering your eyes, cup your hands and cover your eyes.

While in this state, focus on a distant point in the infinite depths. Remain in the darkness for about six seconds. Then open your eyes.

The second time you enter the darkness, it will be different as you will take an image with you.

Making sure that you're relaxed and in a comfortable position, take some slow, deep breaths. As you close your eyes, focus on the darkness, and then superimpose this picture of a pair of owls onto it.



Ensure that the image is as clear and detailed as possible. Hold it in one position in the foreground for a few moments and then imagine it fading slowly and disappearing into infinity. Bring it back to the foreground and picture every detail.

By completing the above exercise, you're proving that your powers of creative visualization are extraordinary.



It may not be necessary to go through the memorization procedure but do so anyway.

3.06 Apparatus for Seeing

Eye

ai

Can you pronounce the word above?

In English,¹⁵ it can mean, among other things, 1) the organ with which we see, 2) the first person pronoun, and 3) yes, i.e. aye, in some regional English dialects.

In a slight deviation from the strict methodology of the AgC creation system, we're going to take one meaning from each of Japanese and English choices, perhaps those that are most visually striking. Then we'll fuse them into one image, and create a bilingual visual pun.

¹⁵ In Chinese, depending on the tone, it can, confusingly, signify a disapproving exclamation, the equivalent of "wow" in English.

Eye 愛



Let's now insert the IPA symbol.



Comprised of two characters you've already seen before, it should be easy to creatively imagine. Go through the memorization procedure in a similar fashion as you did for the "owl" AgC.

In the next technique, you'll take your visualization skills up into another dimension.

Technique 4 Image Transformation

Transforming a plain image into a more memorable one

As you might expect, the IPA symbol does not always seamlessly merge with an image, whether it's one you mentally created or one you've found and decided to use. Fortunately, there is a solution. Through careful practice with a technique called Image Transformation, you can take any image and change it by elongating it horizontally or vertically, like the effect of looking at yourself through funhouse mirrors in amusement parks.



In fact, any kind of transformation (or deformation) is possible, provided the original image is recognizable so that the link between the IPA symbol, the image in your mind, and the corresponding sound will be retained.

4.01 Listening Equipment

Earphone イヤホン

Iə

In this illustration of Technique 4, let's consider an ear as it normally looks.



Close your eyes and imagine the normal-looking ear. Then mentally stretch it



vertically.

Hold it there for a few seconds. Then let it spring back. Repeat this procedure two or three times. Returning to the normal ear, close your eyes and stretch the ear horizontally, as seen in the following picture.



Returning again to the normal ear, alternate from vertical to horizontal elongation, switching from left to right and from normal to upside down views.



This ear is now putty in your imaginary hands. Once you've done this a few times, hold the horizontal elongation in your mind and mentally draw the IPA symbol on it.

Earphone



Iə

You've now reached the really exciting stage where you can see a slightly horizontal elongation of the original ear irrevocably linked with the IPA symbol. This is a simple example of an AgC transformed so that the contours readily lend themselves to affixing the symbol.

Remind yourself of the sound by pronouncing it repeatedly aloud:

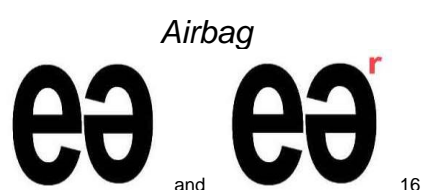
Iə Iə Iə Iə Iə Iə

Inextricably link the image, the IPA symbol, and the sound. Feel free to choose another image to memorize the sound **i...ə** if you really dislike the ear.

Go through the memorization procedure.

Technique 5: Image Rotation: 画像回転

Rotate your image to make it more memorable



In this technique, you're introduced to Image Rotation. Read here¹⁷ to find out why being able to employ this technique is extremely useful with more advanced memorization strategies.

5.01 Safety Devices 安全装置 Airbag エアバッグ

¹⁶ Some Americans, as well as Scots, produce a trilled "r" sound at the end of some words. It's a bit like the final "r" sound in Mandarin.

¹⁷ As the term implies, this involves rotating the image in your imagination so that you can see the same object from various perspectives. Then choose a point on which to affix the IPA symbol. It's very useful when you want to affix other information related to what you need to memorize; there will be more on this in the Cosmos Technique as well as later lessons.

The information to be memorized can be virtually anything. Imagine that you wanted to memorize the four different ways of spelling a sound. If you've studied English for a while, then you will know that English spelling rules are wilder than a yellow-headed day gecko. For the sound "**eə**", you have the following spelling possibilities: "air" as in **airbag** or **airplane** or **hair**, "ear" as in **bear**, "are" in **rare**, and ". . .eir" in **heirloom**. See the free video at:



eeə

Look at the car above for a few seconds, imagining the white blob on the left side of the windscreen to be an airbag. This is your AgC, but we are going to slowly rotate the car 90 degrees to the right on a horizontal plane. You should now be able to see the upper torso and head of a crash dummy and the inflated airbag.



Zoom in on this image and embed the IPA symbol representing this dipthong.



Work through the memorization procedure to encode this AgC directly onto your brain.

Technique 6: Manipulating Your Image

Unleashing your inner magician

In this technique, you get to leave your inhibitions behind. You may or may not believe in a person's psychic ability to affect matter with his mind. You may be skeptical of people's claims that they have levitated chairs or mentally bent spoons. However, I like to keep an open mind.



椅子浮上 (chair levitation)



スプーン曲げ (spoon bending)

Then, there are the many cultural characters and mythological beings reputedly with the ability to shapeshift; for example, in Greco-Roman mythology, we



have the goddess Minerva turning Arachne into a spider

Whether you believe in these abilities or that such creatures exist is not important. The point here concerns the formidable power of the imagination.

With this technique, we're not going to get involved in anything as dramatic or exciting as the supernatural events above. Instead, we'll take a bag of organic matter used in agriculture and manipulate it so that it becomes our very own, uniquely special, AgC.

6.01 Fertilizer Paraphernalia

Manure Bag 肥料袋

ʊə

This is the second technique using an AgC to represent a sound that is not at the beginning of a word because in English, the sound isn't used to start words.

We have:

manure	lure	cure	pure	mural
mənʊə	lʊə	kjʊə	pjʊə	'mjʊərəl
肥料	ルアー	治癒	純粹な	壁画

Nonetheless, it's a good idea to create an AgC for it anyway. I chose the following picture of a bag of manure, a common sight on an ecologically aware farm.



Here is the same bag of manure inverted.



Here is a picture of those two bags conjoined.



Now, look at the picture above with the IPA embedded.



Manure Bag

ʊə

This is another extremely useful technique when creating an aspect whereby two components of an IPA can seamlessly blend into a newly formed image.

How memorable are two bags of manure? If you have ever worked on a pig farm, then you'll know that manure is quite unforgettable.

Manure



Regardless of your state of mind, the smell of manure is immediately recognizable to your olfactory organ. Smell some once and you'll never forget it.

Therefore, activate your olfactory encoding system as well as your auditory, visual, and kinesthetic systems as you go through the memorization procedure to commit the above AgC to memory.

An interesting adjunct to this technique is a creative visualization exercise where you convert your image into a symbol. You can do this for all of the preceding techniques and those that follow. This is very useful when you wish to simplify either 1) the process of mentally creating an AgC or 2) the AgC itself.

Create a crude rendering of your AgC, transform it into a symbol, mentally write out the IPA symbol, and then go through the memorization procedure.



In your practice of the next technique, there is no IPA symbol to learn. Your only "task" is to explore the infinite possibilities that lie in the deepest reaches of your imagination.

Enjoy . . .

. . . what is in some ways . . .

. . . the greatest technique of all.

Technique 7: The Cosmos Technique **A journey** **into the universe of your mind** あなた **たの心の宇宙への旅**

Some of you may have seen the brilliant TV series called *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*. In it, the viewer is transported from the furthest reaches of the virtually unimaginable universe, both known and unknown, to the deepest recesses of the equally unfathomable human brain.

In one episode, we see a miniaturized Carl Sagan discussing the various functions of the brain in relation to human intelligence as he stands in front of, and then proceeds to walk around inside a brain like the average person takes a walk through the park.



What a wonderful way to learn: physically entering whatever it is you want to know about.

As you continue with your visualization of all the remaining AgCs (and in your practice of the preceding ones), you should incorporate a little of the *Cosmos Technique* in each one.

Using whatever method you're most comfortable with – deep breathing, meditation, or self-hypnosis – go into a deep, relaxed state.

Then, using a trick commonly employed in NLP (neuro-linguistic programming), mentally shrink (or enlarge) your body and teleport yourself into a number of positions, allowing yourself to view an image from various perspectives.

Experience a different kind of tea ceremony as you enter and explore the interior of one of the following Victorian-era teapots.



Ruminate on the herbivorous nature of cattle as you enter the stomach of a Hereford bull.



You're approaching the end of Lesson 2, so let's do a quick review of our first twenty AgCs: the vowels.

REVIEW 1

Bring to mind, large, full-colour three-dimensional images that represent the following words. Use the fade-in, fade-out method to see the IPA symbol embedded within. Try to see the image, see the IPA symbol, and hear the sound at the same time. If you can't achieve this, repeat the memorization or encoding procedure again.

Try it now.

**eggcup, umbrella, iguana, octopus,
urial, announcer, armadillo, apple,
easel, urn, organ, and uzi.**

エッグカップ、傘、イグアナ、タコ、
ウリアル、アナウンサー、アルマジロ、リンゴ、
イーゼル、壺、オルガン、ウジ。

**ohm multimeter, earphone, oil can,
eye, manure bag, airbag, owl, and acorn.**

オームのマルチメータ、イヤホン、オイル缶、
目、肥料のバッグ、エアバッグ、フクロウ、ドングリ。

Before you go on to your first exercise, in which you consolidate what you've learnt so far, I'd like to make a crucial point about the mental creation of your AgCs and the activation or recall procedure.

The Activation (or Recall) Procedure: vowels and diphthongs

Hearing and recognizing all of the individual sounds in words as they're spoken at natural speed is one of the most difficult obstacles for an English language learner. The first crucial step in remembering and learning them is being able to accurately reproduce them.

If you've ever played a musical instrument or sung in a choir, then you know that the first step to creating music is to know what each individual note sounds like. Speaking English is very similar.

Don't underestimate the value of these simple exercises. Each part should only take you a few minutes but you should continue them until you attain the fastest three-way recognition possible.

NOTE:

There are three exercises.

- 1) From visual to kinesthetic and auditory
- 2) From kinesthetic (IPA) to visual and auditory
- 3) From auditory to visual and kinesthetic

Each contains three steps presented sequentially. This is only a guide and is intended for illustrative purposes. Your goal should be simultaneous activation and synchronization of three modalities or senses. This is essential for memorization.

You'll notice that compared with the images and IPA symbols from Lesson 2, some or all are:

- 1) different,
- 2) in black and white, and/or
- 3) slightly out of proportion.

This is deliberate and intended to encourage you to start using your powers of visualization.

Once you're done, you'll have completed the second phase of Memorization Mastery in English, i.e., the creation of AgCs for the vowel and diphthong sounds.

Click here (<http://holo-meme.com/vip>) for the exercises or, if you wish to go through your own recall session, download the files below and transfer them onto your favorite media player.

[images](#) [IPA symbols](#) [sounds](#)

Exercise 1

From visual to kinesthetic and auditory

Quickly scan the images below. Actively look at each one, i.e., creatively visualize it, and

- 1) mentally trace the image (AgC) until the corresponding IPA symbol appears;
- 2) mentally trace the IPA symbol until the sound materializes; and
- 3) reproduce the corresponding sound (vocally or sub-vocally).

Roll over to see the IPA symbol and click (or tap) for the sound to verify.

3) rollover to see IPA symbol and click (or tap) for the sound to verify.



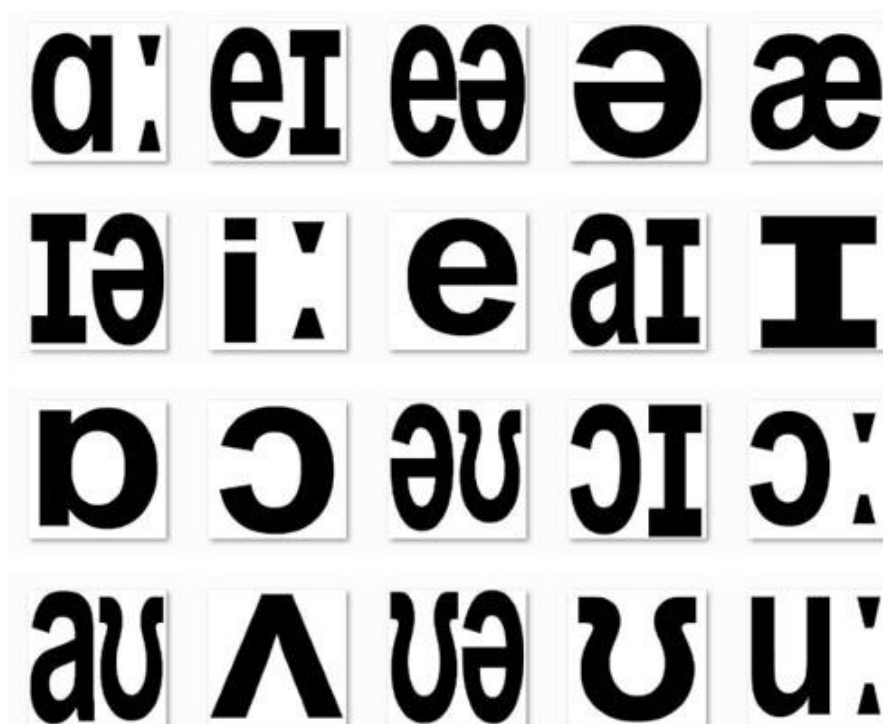
Exercise 2

From kinesthetic (IPA) to auditory and visual

Quickly scan the IPA symbols below. Actively look at each one, i.e., creatively visualize it, and

- 1) mentally trace the IPA symbol until the corresponding image appears;
- 2) creatively visualize (or mentally trace) the image until the sound materializes; and
- 3) reproduce the corresponding sound (vocally or sub-vocally).

Roll over the image and click (or tap) to verify.



e ʌ ɪ ɒ ʊ ə ɑ: æ i: ɜ: ɔ: u:
əʊ ɪə ɔɪ aɪ ʊə eə aʊ eɪ
Lucida Sans Unicode

e ʌ ɪ ɒ ʊ ə ɑ: æ i: ɜ: ɔ: u:
əʊ ɪə ɔɪ aɪ ʊə eə aʊ eɪ
Arial

Exercise 3

From auditory to visual (AgC) and kinesthetic (IPA)

Roll over the following icons and listen to the sound. Upon hearing it,

- 1) try to reproduce it (vocally or sub-vocally);
- 2) creatively visualize and mentally trace out the AgCs; and
- 3) creatively visualize and mentally trace out the IPA symbols.

Click the icon to verify.



This is the end of Lesson 2. In it, you've learnt some ways to create an AgC. You've not yet begun to realize their full importance in the memorization of any word in English – this will come in Lesson 4.

What you've done is learn how to simultaneously create and manipulate visual, auditory, and kinesthetic connections between the most fundamental elements of what you need to remember: a key skill in the Holo-MeME System.

In later modules, in greater depth and detail, you'll learn more elaborate techniques that will enable you to directly and accurately encode and store anything in your brain's neural circuitry – in any language!

I trust that you're looking forward to the next exciting lesson, where you'll learn more ways to create AgCs for the all-important twenty-four IPA symbols for the consonants.

**MAKE SURE YOU COMPLETE THE ABOVE
EXERCISES BEFORE MOVING ON.**