

Types of memory

Memory is divided into three types: sensory memory (S), working memory (W), and long-term memory (L).

Read the sentences below and decide which memory type you think each refers to, write the corresponding letter in the box.

1. Many scientists believe that any memories more than one minute old are part of this type of memory.
2. This memory is just long enough to register an impression on one or more of our five senses, sight, hearing, touch, smell, or taste.
3. It's something like a kind of temporary storage place.
4. This type of memory helps us hold onto the beginning of the sentence while reading the rest, without it we would forget the first part of the sentence because we got to the end.
5. Its essential feature is that it specialises in holding meaning.
6. Reading even short or simple passages would be impossible without it. Yet, it can only hold information temporarily.
7. It usually lasts only one and one-half to two seconds, and then it begins to fade. It mediates between how we experience the environment and our long-term memory.
8. This type of memory holds information for only an instant, say less than half a second. Then it fades away.
9. This type of memory is involved with information that's stored for considerable lengths of time.
10. These memories seem to change over time in the sense that we tend to add information to them.
11. This type of memory allows us to hold on to things for as long as we think about them. That is, as long as we're paying attention to them.