memory

1 Verb + memory

Use the correct form of these verbs:

bring back	*blot out*
commit	*put behind*
etch	*jog*
lose	*search*

1. I've been ..... my memory all week for the name of that guy I was at college with, but all I can remember is it starts with 'g' – a name like 'Goodfellow' or 'Goldsmith'.
2. When I was at school we had to ..... a lot of poems to memory.
3. Elderly people tend to ..... their memory bit by bit and become increasingly forgetful.
4. Listen to it again. It might ..... your memory and help you to remember who the singer was.
5. These photographs ..... lots of great memories of our holiday in Egypt.
6. John can't stop thinking about the accident. He finds it impossible to ..... the memory. However, I'm sure the memory will fade with the passing of time.
7. My first sight of you will always be ..... on my memory. You were wearing that light blue dress and your hair was flying in the wind as you got out of your Porsche.
8. Sooner or later you're going to have to ..... the memory of your first wife ..... you. How can we live if you keep talking about her?

2 Common adjective collocations

Complete the sentences with these adjectives:

distant	*earliest*
fond	*short-term*
hazy	*living*
painful	*terrible*

1. I have a great memory for faces, but a ..... memory for names. What's your name again?
2. I have very ..... memories of living in the country. It was such a relaxed way of life.
3. Dave's mother died when he was only four years old, so he only has a ..... memory of what she looked like.
4. My ..... memory is of being taken to the park and feeding the ducks.
5. The storms we have experienced recently are the worst in ..... memory – according to the weathermen.
6. My time at university is now a ..... memory. It seems so long ago.
7. For over thirty years Bernard had suppressed some ..... memories from his troubled childhood.
8. I can remember things that happened when I was a very young child, but my ..... memory is awful. Now, where did I leave my glasses!

3 Kinds of memory

Match the first and second parts:

1. I've got a photographic memory.
2. I've got no memory for places.
3. I've got a very retentive memory.
4. I've got a very long memory.

a. I'll never forget what you used to do to me at school.
b. I can't remember whether it was Modena or Turin where we met first.
c. I can see a painting in a gallery and then recall all the details days later.
d. I can remember every word of Hamlet's great speech.

Notes

1. Note these expressions:
   They have erected a statue in memory of those who died in the two world wars.
   It's extremely long but he is able to recite the whole poem from memory.
   He was called Brian, if my memory serves me right.
   He suffered loss of memory after his accident.
   Are you one hundred percent sure? Memory can play tricks on you.
   Che Guevara died years ago but his memory lives on.
   This place holds lots of memories for us.
   I was sure I'd met you before, but my memory must be playing tricks on me!
2. We can also 'refresh' our memories:
   I looked at the map to refresh my memory of the route to the youth hostel.
3. 'A trip down memory lane' is to spend time remembering the past:
   We returned to our old school for a trip down memory lane.

LIVEWORKSHEETS