



How To Memorize (DeMolay Memorization Method)



Initially let us establish an unchangeable rule: ALL ritualistic work is to be memorized, and it is the duty of every Officer or Degree team member to learn his part. There are no acceptable exceptions.

There are as many ways to memorize as there are individuals to learn the Ritual. We will present here a way that is organized, systematic, easy and effective. It is a method that has worked well for all who have tried it. First, let us put to rest any lame excuse that there are people who cannot memorize. The following method has been used successfully by Brethren of all intellectual levels and by some with learning difficulties and handicaps. Motivation and determination married to a systematic approach produces amazing results.

Preliminary Steps to Memorization:

Read through your part several times before attempting to memorize it. On the second reading stop at every word that is unfamiliar to you either because of its meaning or pronunciation. Look it up in a dictionary. To perform our ritualistic work well, we must understand what we are saying. There is no other way for us to impart the meaning of what is written.

Once this understanding is achieved, read through the part, paying particular attention to the punctuation. Periods, commas, semi-colons, dashes and other punctuation marks are signposts that direct us to our destination: Proper Interpretation and Presentation.

Now you are ready to begin memorizing. Here's how:

1. Start with the first few words or phrases of the first sentence and repeat it to yourself several times. Then add the remainder of the first full sentence, or, if the sentence is quite long, add another phrase to the preceding one(s) until the complete sentence is completed. Now repeat the sentence aloud five times perfectly in succession. When this has been accomplished, move on to the next sentence and repeat the process.
2. When the second sentence has been said aloud five times perfectly in succession go back and add the first sentence to it and repeat both aloud five times perfectly in succession. Repeat this process of memorization, addition and review until the entire part has been completed.

Once the ritualistic work has been learned in this fashion and the entire part has been repeated aloud five times perfectly in succession it will remain in your conscious and subconscious memory forever!