**Class Activities**

Chapter 7: Memory Errors

**Activity #1: Eyewitness Testimony**

For this assignment, students are asked to watch a series of videos. This is a BBC series on Eyewitness Testimony. You can show the students all three videos and ask them to pay close attention to the scenes.

* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_QbTX2qS10>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZhcp6dOKds>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVHWn3m2PDE>

Students are asked to guess who the perpetrator was. Usually only 1-2 students in the class identify the perpetrator correctly. This can be an eye-opening example of eyewitness memory and its errors.

**Activity #2: Retrieval Errors**

You may introduce this exercise by noting that most memory errors are due to the inability to retrieve information.Tell students that they will be asked to recall information that might not be completely obvious. Ask them to write down the words that are defined by the examples.

Examples:

* An absolute ruler, a tyrant.
* A great circle of the earth passing through the geographic poles and any given point on the earth's surface.
* Shedding leaves each year, as opposed to evergreen.
* A person appointed to act as a substitute for another.
* Five offspring born at a single birth.
* A special quality of leadership that captures the popular imagination and inspires unswerving allegiance.

Correct results:

* + - despot
    - meridian
    - deciduous
    - surrogate
    - quintuplets
    - charisma

After the presentation of all definitions, ask students to provide you with the correct answers. Here you can discuss what affects memory retrieval errors, and how easily things can be forgotten.

**Activity #3: DRM Procedure: Implanting False Memories**

For this assignment, the entire class will participate. Tell the class to close their eyes and focus on the words you will present. The following words are presented at a rate of 1 per 3 seconds:

* REST
* BED
* NAP
* PEACE
* DROWSY
* BLANKET
* DOZE
* TIRED
* AWAKE
* SNOOZE
* YAWN
* SLUMBER
* SNORE
* WAKE
* DREAM

Subsequently, ask all of them to recall the words on a paper and write the words on the board. Some students will falsely recall the word “SLEEP.”