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Posted by Florida - 2008/05/09 07:37

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Posted by Olly Mensch - 2008/05/09 07:37

Rita - at age 90 (ugh!!) I do not suffer from the symptoms you described, BUT - my problem is that, frequently, when looking for a certain word, it escapes me; it is gone - until long after I need it!!! But, I console myself, by knowing this is merely a symptom of aging; of memory deterioration, and that - should it be the precursor of Alzheimer, it will, nevertheless, take a few years (???) until the real thing descends on me - and, surely, by that time, I will be gone. I hope my theory is based on facts, and not delusion and false hope, but that is what I have read. I subscribe to the magazine The Scientific American Mind - which is super-excellent, in an effort to stay with it and get some rational explanations for many issues of aging and other phenomena. BUT - though I enjoy it enormously - it does nothing for my instant recall of certain words, which escape me. (besides, my eyesight is giving me enormous problems, which cannot be helped, since they are merely old eyes) I KNOW how common that is, for old folks, but knowing it, is no consolation, is it?! Sometimes, it can be a common word - - pfffffft - = it is gone!! I do not experience what you described, simply because I am by nature a fairly well organized person (almost compulsively), which, in this case, is very helpful. My keys are always placed in the same location; I could not miss them, if I tried. And the same for almost all else. There is something compulsive and mechanical about all this - but, I don't care - since it prevents me from losing all kinds of things, and becoming confused. I could not become confused if I tried. though I am reluctant to make such predictions. I am old enough NOT to worry about temporary language glitches, and, since what you described is also typical of the aging process, I am sure you do not go into a deep depression about it, and it obviously has not diminished all your other excellent capacities - though, apparently, it did have a destructive effect upon your political choices.....:-) that is truly regrettable, but not as bad as, for instance, in my case, where eventually I might forget what the names are - what they mean - and who the heck they are..... . Seriously - so far, I cannot complain too much, though I really try!!! Olly

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Posted by Olly Mensch - 2008/05/09 07:37

Rita - your post regarding your granddaughter having been diagnosed with attention deficit disorder, seemed to cast doubt on the methods of both diagnosis and treatment. You wrote that you felt it is just a crock . , I feel that is a bit judgmental without having all the facts. The fee, however, sounds out of this world!!! My question is whether whatever treatment she received there, was helpful, and was she able to rid herself of this condition, provided she has it in the first place. Attention Deficit Disorder is a slippery term, and I, like you, am not 100% convinced of its validity - - but I would like to think that, before giving it recognition and authenticity, professionals may have undertaken brain scans, and other professional means of observing what is going on in the brains of such children, which produce that diagnosis, and to see if this diagnosis is, indeed, valid. It is one of those slippery mental health issues which have yet to be firmly authenticated, I believe. But then, outside of reading what your granddaughter enjoys, and having the patience to do so, surely she must show other symptoms that led her teachers, parents, and professionals to feel that she does, indeed, have attention deficit disorder. dDid they also suggest drugs??? Often, that is the only means , but, in my view, not a particularly desirable one, for one so young. Olly

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conspicuous increase in forgetfulness, as long as I remember to keep doing it, that is. :^) Crux of the problem. We have started to have the occasional conversation which starts Remember I told you, you forgot.... - as if one couldn't also forget serially, with as much ease as one forgot the first time. Personally I'm counting on minicomputers to help pick up our marbles when we start losing them. I keep a running grocery list attached to my frij with a magnet. ...doesn't everybody? I did manage to do my taxes in time. I finished the forms about 7:00 AM on April 15, but I'd already calculated the Federal Tax, which is by far the worst part, a week earlier. It would be nice to forget to do taxes, and it would be nice to have a keeper to keep me from wandering away, I guess. :^) Read a lovely story once, in which good people were rewarded for a well-spent life. They were moved backward mentally through the stages of childhood and then infancy while being lovingly cared for, with the process taking the same amount of time that growth had.

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can be tough on 8-9 year olds who just think they found a bigger playground, so that should be done in a organized manner. Sometimes they go out with a bang. ... lightning struck the clock tower, causing a piece of granite weighing several hundred pounds to fall into the second-floor lecture hall. A 1-ton chunk of rock destroyed the building's heating and cooling system. <http://www.phlf.org/2007/12/19/north-side-library-debate-at-historic-...nsion/>
<http://carnegielibrary.org/research/pittsburgh/carnegie/mrac2b.html> The Pittsburgh library was not, however, to become the first municipally owned and operated Carnegie Library. That distinction went to the then independent City of Allegheny, now Pittsburgh's North Side. It was legally empowered to accept Mr. Carnegie's offer of May 29, 1886, at once, and work on the building began September 12, 1887. It was formally opened February 20, 1890, and was known as the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny. Its cost was \$300,000, and in March 14, 1901, alterations for an enlarged reference room were completed at an additional cost of \$25,000.

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The comparisons are obvious, I hope. Elaine
http://news.yahoo.com/s/livescience/20080416/sc_livescience/menmorefo... Men More Forgetful Than Women
Jeanna Bryner, LiveScience Staff Writer LiveScience.com 2 hours, 17 minutes ago Men are more likely than women to have problems with memory and other thinking skills, symptoms considered to be an early stage of dementia, research suggests. The new study, to be presented at an annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology in Chicago this week, expands the field of research on aging and memory into a touchy arena - cognitive differences among men and women. Forgetfulness linked with aging, or just a frenzied day, is normal. Say, you misplace your car keys or wallet, or you can't remember where you parked the car. Red flags should pop up when you start forgetting things you normally remember, and on a routine basis, such as weekly appointments, doctors say. These are signs of so-called mild cognitive impairment (MCI), which can lead to dementia. People with mild cognitive impairment are three to four times more likely than others to develop Alzheimer's disease, according to the Mayo Clinic. Considered the most common form of dementia, Alzheimer's is a neurological disorder that affects your ability to think, speak, reason, remember and move. The recent findings come from a study of nearly 2,000 residents of Olmsted County, Minn., who ranged in age from 70 to 89. Dr. Rosebud Roberts of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and her colleagues followed the participants beginning in the fall of 2004, collecting new data every 12 to 15 months. Overall, 74 percent of the participants had normal mental function; about 16 percent had MCI; and 10 percent had full-on dementia. Men were one-and-a-half times more likely to have mild cognitive impairment than women. The prevalence in men increased from 12 percent in men ages 70 to 74 up to 40 percent in the oldest age group, ages 85 to 89. This was an unexpected finding, Roberts said during a press briefing, referring to the difference between men and women. The finding remained the same regardless of a man's education or marital status. Are we busily trying to mold people to an artificial concept of development rather than maintaining a culture in which people live, however, they are developing as learners? Perhaps we need every thirty-third classroom or school to be library centered and aimed at getting children who dig into things on their own. School is very boring compared to libraries. Bus passes are a great thing. Learning about closed stack libraries the hard way can be tough on 8-9 year olds who just think they found a bigger playground, so that should be done in a organized manner. Sometimes they go out with a bang. ... lightning struck the clock tower, causing a piece of granite weighing several hundred pounds to fall into the second-floor lecture hall. A 1-ton chunk of rock destroyed the building's heating and cooling system. <http://www.phlf.org/2007/12/19/north-side-library-debate-at-historic-...nsion/>
<http://carnegielibrary.org/research/pittsburgh/carnegie/mrac2b.html> The Pittsburgh library was not, however, to become the first municipally owned and operated Carnegie Library. That distinction went to the then independent City of Allegheny, now Pittsburgh's North Side. It was legally empowered to accept Mr. Carnegie's offer of May 29, 1886, at once, and work on the building began September 12, 1887. It was formally opened February 20, 1890, and was known as the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny. Its cost was \$300,000, and in March 14, 1901, alterations for an enlarged reference room were completed at an additional cost of \$25,000.

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Posted by Florida - 2008/05/09 07:37

I am getting to be that age though, so I'm on the lookout for any conspicuous increase in forgetfulness, as long as I

remember to keep doing it, that is. But why be uncertain? You need to invent a dosimeter like the one for workers exposed to radiation, one that shows memory- deficit level.

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Posted by Rumpelstiltskin - 2008/05/09 07:37

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