

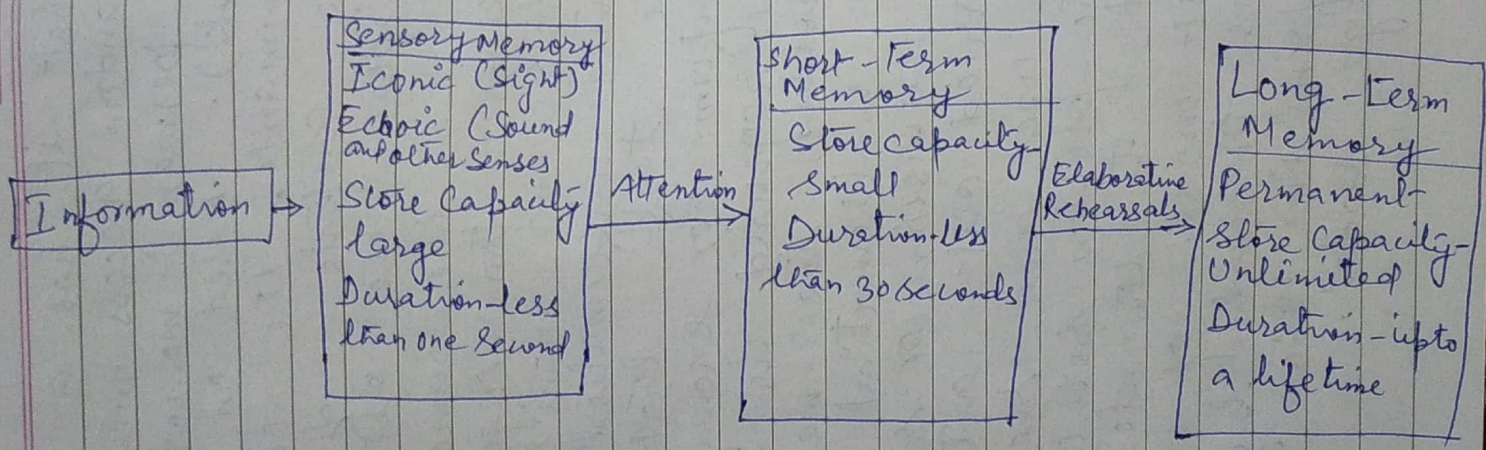
Memory Processes:

The Stage Model

Initially, it was thought that memory is the capacity to store all information that we have acquired through learning and experience. It was seen as a vast storehouse where all information that we knew was kept so that we could retrieve and use it as and when needed. But with the advent of the computer, human memory came to be seen as a system that processes information in the same way as a computer does. Both register, store, and manipulate large amount of information and act on the basis of the outcome of such manipulations. If we have worked on a computer then we would know

that it has a temporary memory (random access memory or RAM) and a permanent memory (e.g., a hard disk). Based on the programme commands, the computer manipulates the contents of its memories and displays the output on the screen.

In the same way human beings too register information, store and manipulate the stored information depending on the task that they need to perform. For example, when we are required to solve a mathematical problem, the memory relating to mathematical operations, such as division or subtraction are carried out, actuated and put to use, and receive the output (the problem solution). This analogy led to the development of the first model of memory, which was proposed by Atkinson and Shiffrin in 1968. It is known as Stage Model.



The Stage Model of Memory