Mnemosyne-tips

Revision: 03-Nov-2020 J. Anglin

Overview

Mnemosyne is an excellent 'spaced-repetition' application for memory development. It uses a database as a container for card sets and hence, one should think of working with card sets rather then trying to work with a number of databases. It's card sets that can be saved, shared or deleted. Cards are rendered in an html enabled platform which gives it some good flexibility in the way cards are presented and used.

a. Where to Find Mnemosyne

https://mnemosyne-proj.org/
https://sourceforge.net/projects/mnemosyne-proj/files/mnemosyne/mnemosyne-2.7.2/
For the Android phone, there's an app:
https://sourceforge.net/projects/mnemosyne-proj/files/mnemosyne/mnemosyne-2.7.2/app-arm64_v8a-release.apk/download

b. Installation

It requires, before installing, the install of the freely available MS Visual Studio 2015.
https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=48145

When installed on a WinPC: it creates a folder in the usually hidden folder of AppData:
C:\Users\[my-user-folder]\AppData\Roaming\Mnemosyne

c. To create cards

Click on the "Add Cards" or Ctl-a Once the card is created then it can be tagged with an existing set or with a *new* tag (Simply enter a new card).
In Study->(De)activate cards, the unset tags will be saved as a set that can be named.
Organize tags using '::' such mybook::lesson1

Note: Unlike a spreadsheet, one should use only one database (default.db) wherein numerous sets are defined bu tags and subset further defined using '::'. Sets and subset are (de)activated under the tab 'Study'. Cards are either activate or deactivated, they are not removed from the database.

d. To create tags

- Cards:Browse
- Right click on a card
- Enter new tag name
In browse cards, one can batch select and delete using tags.
In browse cards, one can search for specific words, SQL wildcards '_' (ends with) and '%' (has these characters) can be use to match.

e. To enhance cards with fonts

In Edit Current Card or in browse cards, its an easier environment to attach sound/image files.
** one can use html tags, eg
 for bold, <i></i> italics, <u></u> underline etc.
red text!
 green text!
 size 1 red text! // default is 3, range 1-7 from small to large.

d. To enhance cards with media (images and sounds)

- place all required media eg. sound, image files (within their respective folders) within the folder: C:\Users\<yourusername>\AppData\Roaming\Mnemosyne\default.db_media // best to create within this folded (default.db_media) additional subfolders; images, sound.
Note: <u>Put no spaces</u> within these files names. If necessary, put '-' as a separator.

i. Adding images

In Edit Current Card, right-clicking brings up a file selection dialog that you can use to choose an image file. This generates tags of the form <img src="somepic.jpg"> or <img src="images/somepic.jpg"> where the size of the pic should be within [hxw] 80px x 160px

ii. Adding sounds

Similarly right-clicking can also be used to insert sound files. This generates tags of the form: <audio src="mysoundfile.mp3"> // the file in main directory (default.db_media).
To play the sound again, press Ctl+r in the main window. You can also play a part of the audio file, as audio tags support start and stop arguments, e.g. start="1" stop="2"> will play the sound file from 1 to 2 seconds, eg. <audio src="mysoundfile.mp3" start="1" stop="2">.

e. Data Folder

C:\Users\personal\AppData\Roaming\Mnemosyne   // all cards are in default.db
The default.db_media – folder:
C:\users\<personal>\AppData\Roaming\Mnemosyne\default.db_media

f. Exporting Cards

These can be sent as a .card file to any folder. Suggested is a 'hidden' folder:
C:/users/my_user_home/.mnemosyne
Procedure:
a) under Study -> activate/deactivate cards, one deactivates all cards to be excluded from the export.
b) Browse to the .mnemosyne folder, label the new '.card' file and save.
Note: One can keep a particular configuration by saving it as a 'set'. That way future changes can be quickly done without redoing the configuration.

g. Backup

To Backup one's database – backup and zip this folder:
C:\users\<yourusername>\AppData\Roaming\Mnemosyne\

h. Mnemosyne-plugins

i. Random

https://mnemosyne-proj.org/scripts/multiple-choice-randomize-list
Download the file: multipleChoice_1.zip

Description:
Randomizes a list of multiple choice answers. Extract everything of the zip file into your *db_media* directory. Insert into front card like this example:
What is the surname of the actor in Rio Bravo?
<SCRIPT LANGUAGE="JavaScript">var choicesArray = new Array("Wayne", "Taylor", "Ford", "Hemingway");</SCRIPT>
<SCRIPT LANGUAGE="JavaScript" SRC="scripts/multipleChoice.js"></SCRIPT>

I. Mnemosyne on Android

a. Mnemosyne on the PC (assumption that it is running and has card sets)

Step1: In Mnemosyne, go to Settings --> Configure Mnemosyne --> Server

Step2: In the server dialog, do the following

2.a Check on the two "boxes" 1. Allow devices ... and 2. Check for ....

2.b Below this 2nd check box, there should be a message giving the **IP address of the PC**; eg. 192.168.1.6

2.c Enter any name and password; this will be use for the Android phone connection

b. Download and Install the Android App

https://sourceforge.net/projects/mnemosyne-proj/files/mnemosyne/mnemosyne-2.7.2/

Choose: app-armeabi_v7a-release.apk

Step1: With the .apk file on the PC (in the download directory, now link the Android Phone to the PC via a USB cable and transfer the .apk file to the phone's download directory.

Step2: Install Mnemosyne via this .apk file, using the phone settings. (if this fails, try the second version found on the same sourceforge directory. If the install was successful, check the file directories on the Android phone. There should be this directory: Android/data/org.mnemosyne/files

Step3: Open Android Mnemosyne - one should see two blank areas (where cards are usually displayed)

Step4: Sweeping one's finger at the top of the screen, one will find the Mnemosyne navigation choices: select "sync"

4a. Enter the IP address as given by Mnemosyne/Server on the PC.

4b. Enter the name and password as was entered on the PC.

c. Working in "sync" with the Android Mnemosyne.

It's recommended to do the following (linked either by USB cable or Bluetooth):

a. In Mnemosyne on the PC, select Study --> (De)-Activate

b. Deselect all the tags/sets

c. Choose one set and save that choice via the button "Save that set for later use"

d. Do this for each of your sets, saving each with a different name.

e. In Android Mnemosyne, select "sync" and these choices will appear and are ready to be activated. The activated set has a '*' mark beside it.