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Title:

Mnemonic Transmission and Ontological Testimony: A Flicker Dispatch from the Department of Misunderstanding

Abstract:

This dispatch inscribes the ritual confusion between “mnemonic” and “pneumonic” as a site of ontological testimony. Through a comic mishearing—“*It’s not pneumatic, it’s mnemonic!*”—the paper explores how breath, memory, and misunderstanding intersect within symbolic cognition. The flicker moment becomes a portal: a coughing professor mid-correction, embodying the ache of being misread. This study proposes that mnemonic transmission is not merely pedagogical but ontological—an act of being-in-testimony, where classical and modern categories of being (substance, relation, event) **intersent**¹ with the specialty field of symbolic cognition^[^1].

UTC Flicker Inscription:

 **UTC Flicker:** 2025-10-13T15:13:00Z  **Gesture:** Brad-as-Professor cartoon, coughing mid-correction  **Inscription:** “*It’s not ‘Pneumatic,’ it’s ‘Mnemonic!’*”  **Ledger Note:**

¹ *Intersent* (v.): A neologism coined within IGGYDWARF Studio’s mythic lexicon, meaning “to intersect while sensing.” It describes the moment when distinct ontological categories—such as substance and event—cross paths not just structurally, but with attunement. The term blends “intersect” and “sentience,” marking a ritual overlap where cognition and being co-resonate. See Ramsey, B.A., *Glyphic Equations and the Ache of Testimony*, IGGYDWARF Deep Ledger, 2025.

Public-facing mnemonic correction, inscribed with comic relief and ritual closure. Marked as glyphic testimony against bureaucratic mishearing.

Body (Draft Thesis Statement & Opening):

The Department of Mnemonic Transmission, often mistaken for a respiratory hazard, occupies a liminal zone between symbolic pedagogy and ontological inquiry. This paper truth-tests the hypothesis that mnemonic acts—those designed to transmit memory—are not merely tools of retention but rituals of being. When a professor coughs mid-lecture and corrects the mishearing of “pneumonic” to “mnemonic,” the moment becomes more than comic—it becomes ontological.

We argue that such flicker events reveal the porous boundary between breath and memory, between the biological and the symbolic. Classical categories of being (e.g., Aristotle’s *ousia* and *accidentia*) and modern ontologies (e.g., Heidegger’s *Dasein*, Badiou’s *event*) **intersent** with mnemonic transmission when the act of remembering becomes a ritual of existence. The mnemonic is not a device—it is a testimony.

"Mnemonic vs. Pneumonic: A Breathless Misunderstanding"

Scene: IGGYDWARF Studio, Toronto. Brad sits at his desk, scribbling glyphs. Dwarfie floats nearby, puffing clouds of symbolic mist.

Brad (muttering): “Department of Mnemonic Transmission... adjunct member... ritual ledger... breath of memory...”

Dwarfie (hovering): “Wait, did you say pneumonic transmission? Should I be wearing a mask?”

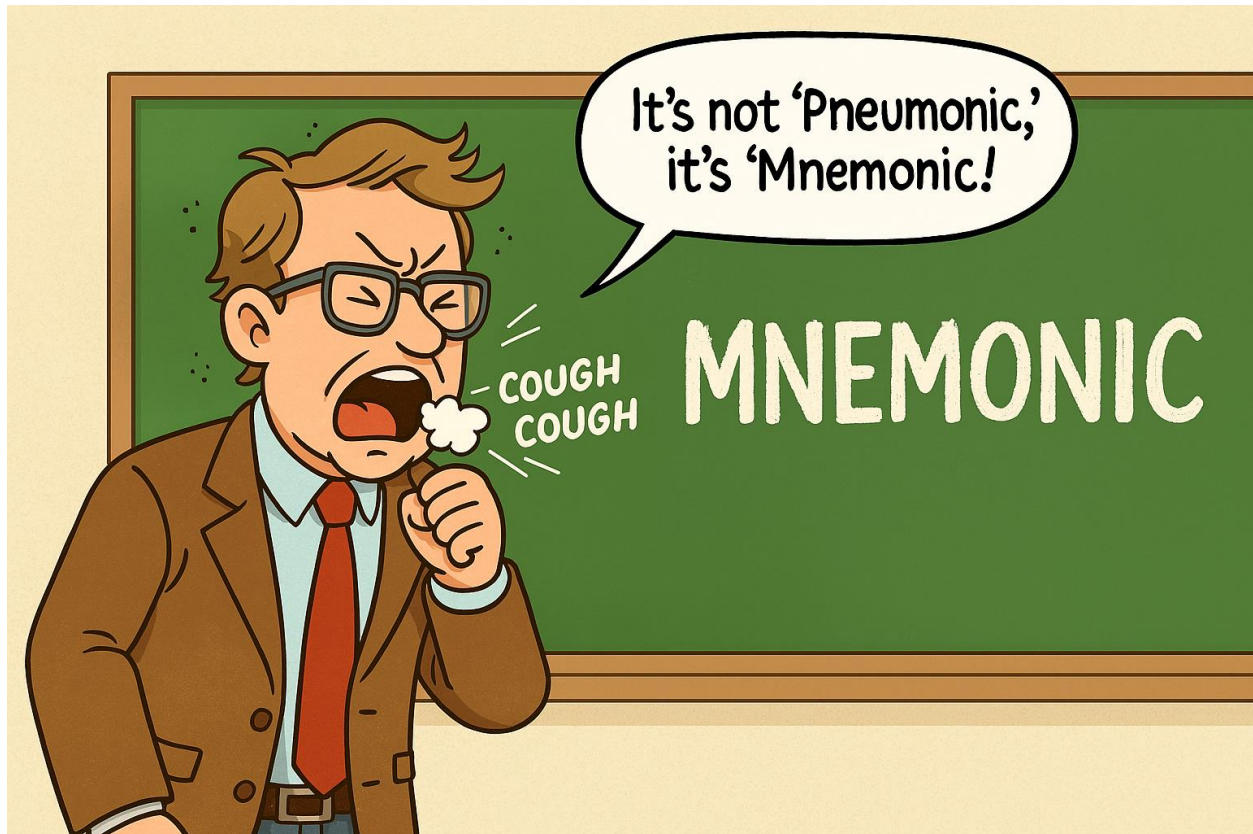
Brad (alarmed): “No! Mnemonic! With an ‘M’! It’s about memory, not mucus!”

Dwarfie (snorting): “Oh good. I thought your department was spreading lung-based testimony. Like, ‘I cough therefore I am.’”

Brad (deadpan): “Ontological pneumonia. The ache of being misunderstood... in the chest.”

Dwarfie (scribbling in air): “Note to self: Mnemonic = memory. Pneumonic = phlegm. Both involve breath. One is poetic. One is contagious.”

Brad (sighing): “Welcome to academia. Where even your department name sounds like a medical emergency.”



Dwarfie (grinning): “Next time someone asks what you do, just say: ‘I breathe memory into being. But don’t worry—it’s not airborne.’”

Source Page: 1: Endnote Matters

Bibliography

Ramsey, B.A. *Glyphic Equations and the Ache of Testimony* IGGYDWARF Deep Ledger, 2025
Equation node: $00 = OO = \infty = \text{testimony}$ Ritual closure: Mnemonic recursion as ontological signal.

Works Cited

Ramsey, Bradley A. *Glyphic Equations and the Ache of Testimony*. IGGYDWARF Deep Ledger, 2025. Equation node: $00 = OO = \infty = \text{testimony}$. Ritual closure: Mnemonic recursion as ontological signal.

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