

Memorization Assistance Tool

Version 1.1

By

Moose Ware Software

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About.....	3
Contact Information	3
Freeware.....	3
How does it work	3
ORIGINAL TEXT	3
TEXT REPLACED.....	3
MORE TEXT REPLACED	3
Installation.....	4
Menus.....	4
The “?” Menu.....	5
The File Menu.....	5
Sample Text Submenu	6
Open Submenu.....	7
Close Submenu	8
Exit menu	8
The Options Menu	9
An important note	9
Show All Text.....	9
Show Underlines.....	10
Show First Letter.....	11
Randomize	11
Use Random Placement	12
Show <i>n</i> of 10 Words	12
Show <i>n</i> of 10 Letters.....	12
Toolbar Icons	13
Typical Usage	14
Trouble Shooting	15

About

The **Memorization Assistance Tool** was created when my father-in-law asked for a computer program to help in memorize blocks of text better. After using the tool for a year he said the tool had helped him memorize text 40% faster than other methods he had tried.

Contact Information

If you have questions please email chad@mooseware.com. I will be happy to help you. Or please see the website www.mooseware.com for information about new versions of this software. I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to offer suggestions and please notify me if you have any problems.

Also if you have an idea for a small software tool please let me know, I might be interested in building it.

Freeware

This software is not for sale. It is free and can be used by anyone. Redistribution of this software must be done after receiving written consent from the author.

How does it work

The tool allows you to incrementally remove text. For example you might start out by removing 10% of the word and leaving the first letter of all removed words. Plus you might choose to replace each missing letter with an underline character. The following example shows the original text and a couple of examples of text being removed, or replaced.

ORIGINAL TEXT

“We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.”¹

TEXT REPLACED

“We believe in God, t__ Eternal Father, and in H__ Son, Jesus Christ, and i_ the Holy Ghost.”

MORE TEXT REPLACED

“We b_____ in G__, the E_____ Father, a__ in H__ Son, J_____ Christ, a__ in t__ Holy G_____.”

As you can see less and less of the text is displayed. This way you can progressively remove more and more text and help your brain create a pattern for the missing text. Eventually you will have memorized the whole thing.

¹ The Articles Of Faith Of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Installation

This product does not currently have an installation application. Simply copy it and the text files you wish to memorize to your Pocket PC. See the read me file for more details.

Menus

When the memorization tool starts you will see a screen that looks like Figure 1: Main Screen. You have three menus to choose from, File, Options, and “?”.

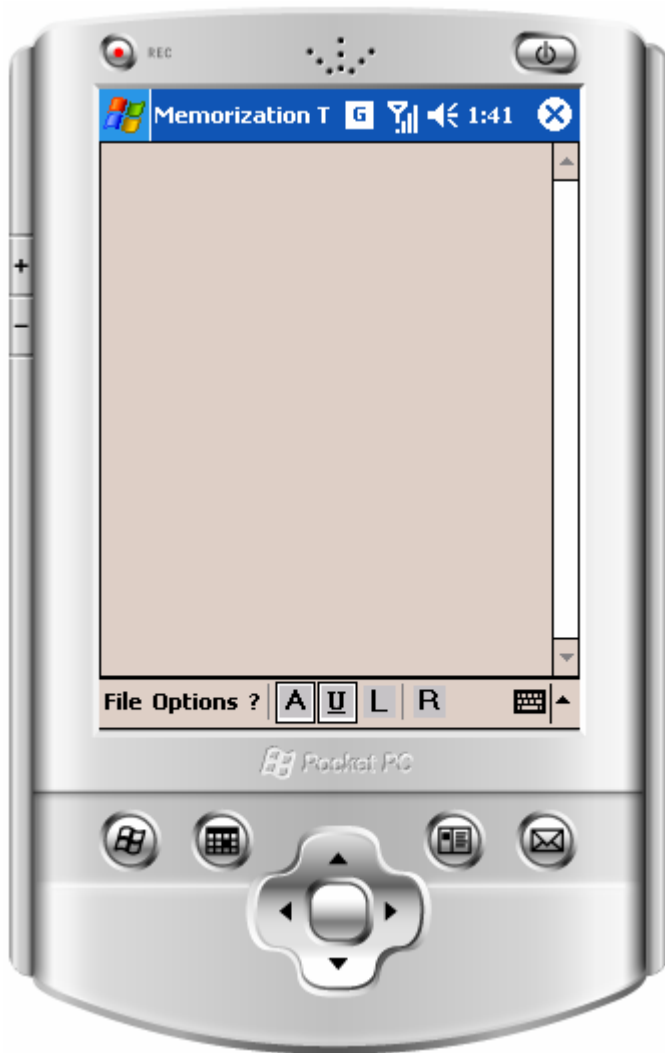


Figure 1: Main Screen

The “?” Menu

The “?” menu gives you access to the about box. The about box contains the version number and website URL for the software.

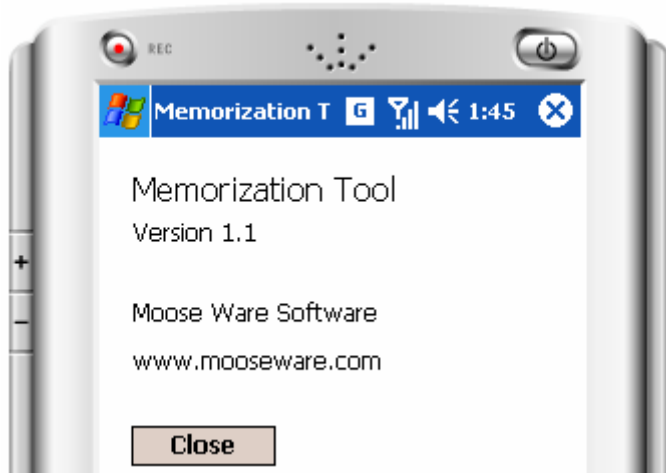


Figure 2: About Screen

The File Menu

The file menu has four active options, Sample Text, Open, Close, and Exit.

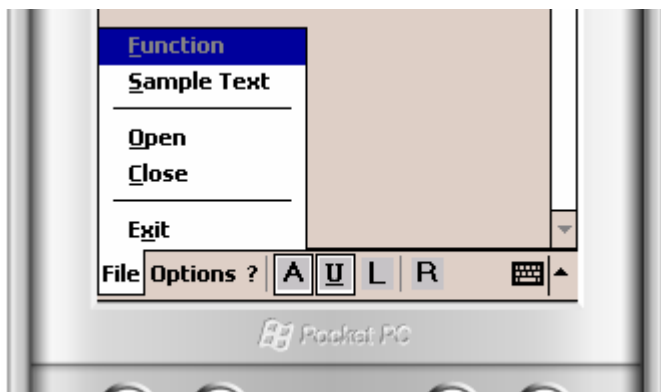


Figure 3: File Menu

Sample Text Submenu

The sample text submenu loads the sample text. After you select “Sample Text” your screen will look like Figure 4: Sample Text Loaded.

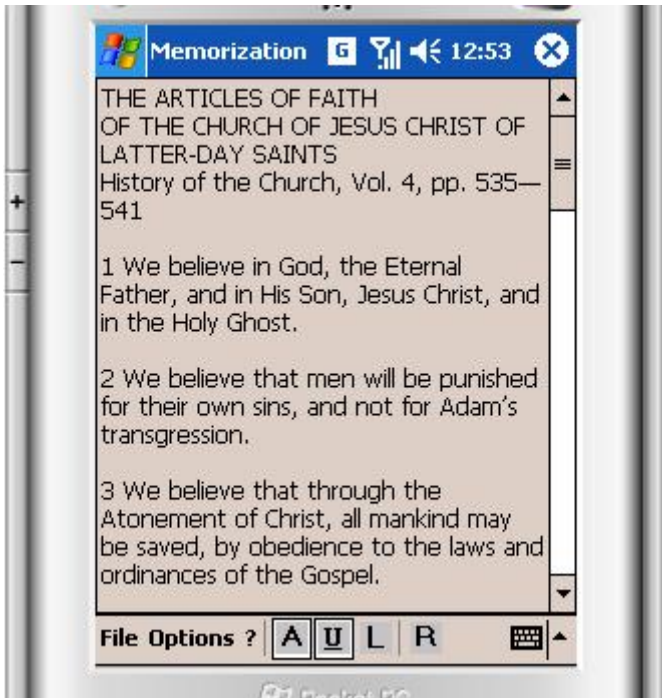


Figure 4: Sample Text Loaded

You can use the scroll bar on the right to view the whole file. We will be using this sample text through out the manual.

Open Submenu

When you select the open submenu you will see something similar to the screen in Figure 5: Open File Screen.

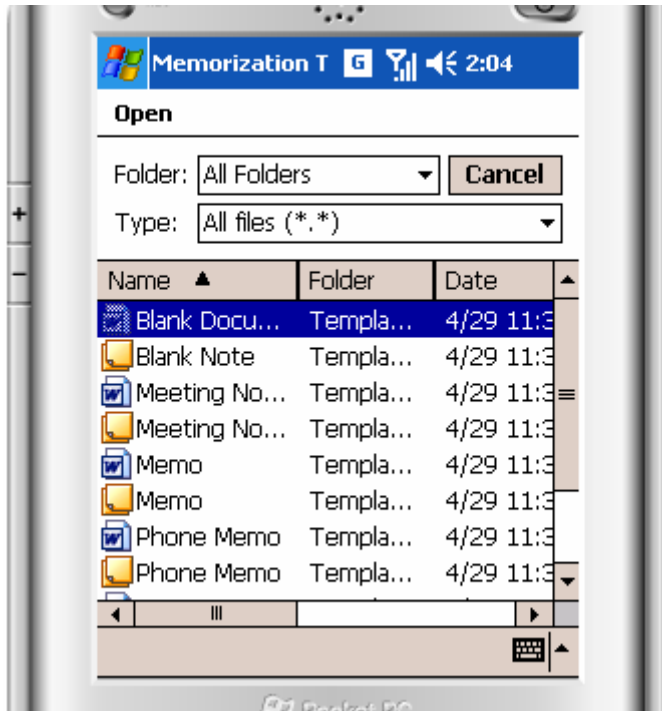


Figure 5: Open File Screen

To make this screen more useful switch the type from “All files (*.*)” to “txt files (*.txt).”

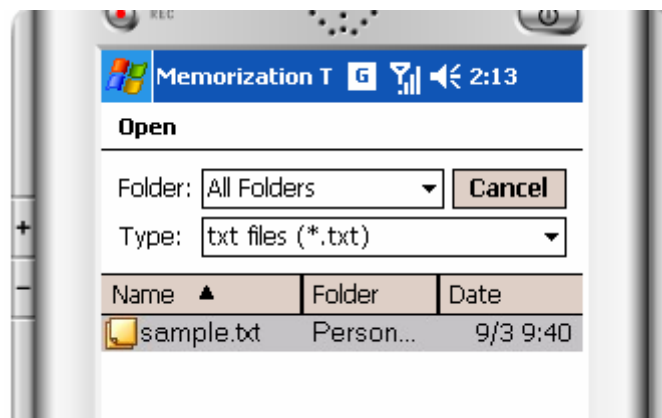


Figure 6: Show Text Files Only

You can then use the “Folder” to navigate to location of your text files. Click the file you wish to open and memorization tool will load it and display it with your current settings.

Close Submenu

The close submenu results in a blank screen exactly like the one shown when you first started the application. You don't need to use this menu item. The memorization tool never changes the file and there for it is safe to exit the application at any time.

Exit menu

The exit menu causes the memorization tool to shut off.

The Options Menu

The options menu contains the following choices, “Show All Text”, “Show Underlines”, “Show First Letter”, “Randomize”, “Use Random Placement”, “ Show *n* of 10 Words”, and “Show *n* of 10 Letters”

An important note

When using any of the option menu items if a block of text is highlighted the software will make sure that text is displayed on the screen. If none of the text is highlighted and an option is toggled on or off, then the software will display the text located at the top of the file. This can be annoying I know if you are in the middle of memorizing something and the changing a setting results in you losing your place. Please remember to highlight at least one letter before changing a setting if you don't want to loose your place.

Show All Text

If this item is checked, as shown in Figure 7: Show All Text is Checked, then none of the text is hidden. Selecting this menu item so that the check does not appear will result in some of the text being hidden as show in Figure 8: Show All Text Not Checked.



Figure 7: Show All Text is Checked

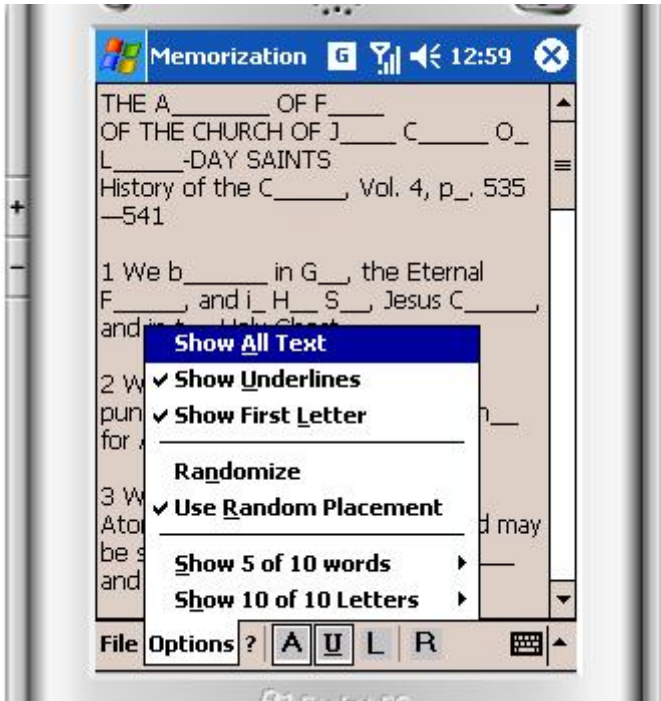


Figure 8: Show All Text Not Checked

Part of the text is has been replaced by underlines and half of those show the first letter.

If you can't remember a specific word, highlight the word, select show all text, and the software will restore all of the text and the same word will still be highlighted. Leave the word highlighted and toggle the show all text off and the text will once again display, as it was with the highlighted word visible on the screen.

Show Underlines

With the Show Underline Option checked you see text similar to Figure 8: Show All Text Not Checked. With it checked, an underline character replaces each hidden letter. With it uncheck each letter is replaced by a space. For an example see Figure 9: Show Underlines is turned off.

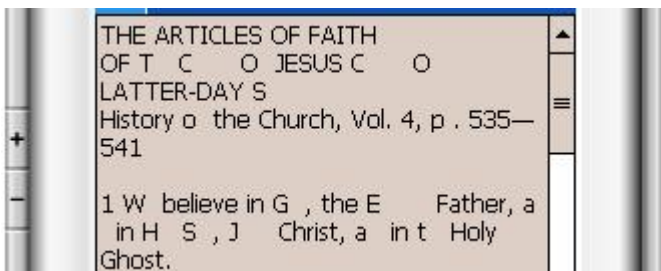


Figure 9: Show Underlines is turned off

Show First Letter

This feature shows the first letter of some percentage of the hidden words. In the following example I have Use Random Placement turned off, show underlines turned on, and show first letter turned on. I have it set to show 8 of 10 words and 5 of 10 first letters. The result is shown in Figure 10: Underline ON, Show First Letter ON.

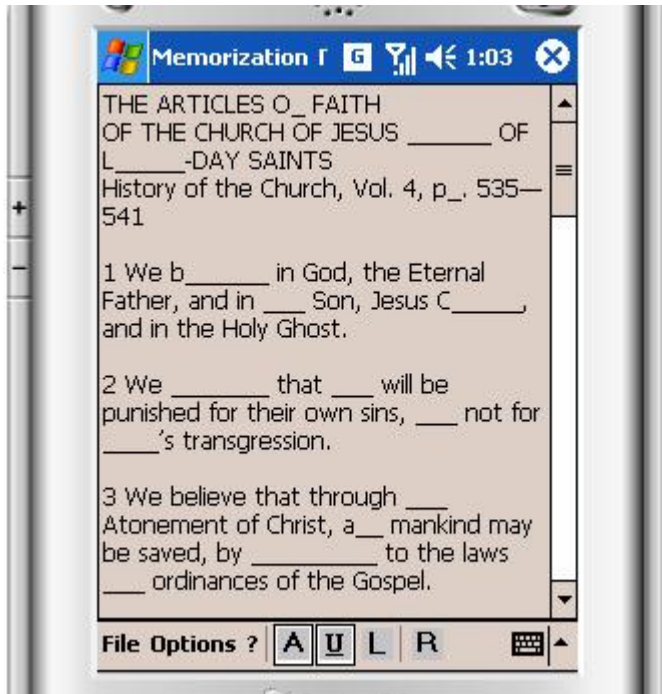


Figure 10: Underline ON, Show First Letter ON

You will notice that the first letter of every other underlined word is visible. You will also notice that the 20% of the text has been replaced by underlines. Specifically you will notice that in the second paragraph the word **universe** is displayed as, "u_____ " while the word **but** has been complete replaced with underlines.

If you change the options so that Show First Letter is not checked, then **none** of the hidden words have a leading letter visible.

Randomize

The **Randomize** options causes the "Use Random Placement" to be turned on and it then randomly selects which of the words are hidden. Selecting this option again results in a new random selection of hidden words.

Use Random Placement

This option allows the software to choose randomly which words to hide. This feature still uses the “Show n of 10 Words” and “Show n of 10 Letters” settings. If you have it set to show 5 of 10 words then 5 of each group of 10 words is randomly hidden. Pressing the randomize button will result in a new random selection. If you have show 5 of 10 Letters then five of the first 10 hidden words will have the leading letter visible. However, which of the five will be randomly chosen.

Show n of 10 Words

This option brings up a submenu allowing you to select a value between zero and ten. Selecting zero will hide all words in a paragraph **accept** for the first word in the paragraph. **The first word in the paragraph is always visible; there is no way to hide it.** If you select 5 then 50% of the words will be visible.

Show n of 10 Letters

This option brings up a submenu allowing you to select a value between zero and ten. Selecting zero will result in none of the hidden words having a leading letter visible. Selecting ten will result in the leading letter of all hidden words being visible. Selecting five will result in 50% of the hidden words having a leading letter visible.

Toolbar Icons

There are four toolbar icons; the letters “A”, “U”, “L”, and “R”, which are specifically called out in Figure 11: Toolbar Buttons.

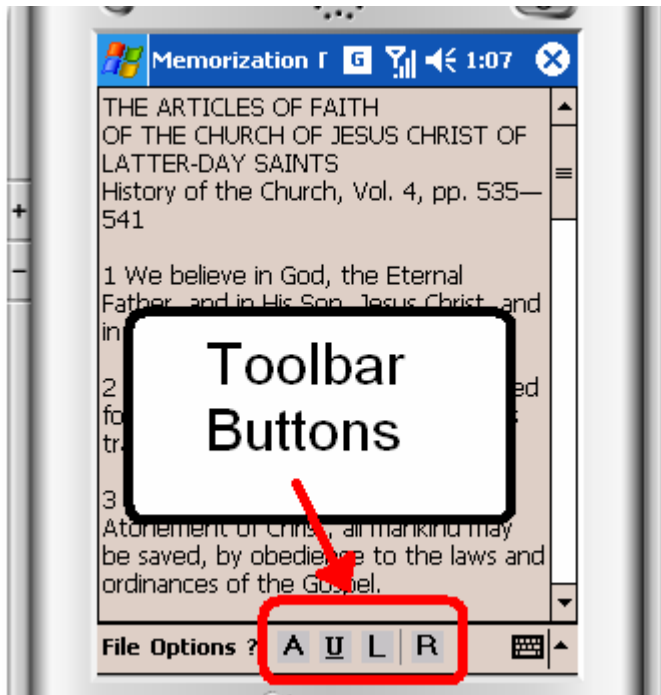


Figure 11: Toolbar Buttons

The “A” button has the same affect as clicking on the “Show All Text” submenu.

The “U” button has the same affect as clicking on the “Show Underlines” submenu.

The “L” button has the same affect as clicking on the “Show First Letter” submenu.

The “R” button has the same affect as clicking on the “Randomize” submenu.

Reminder

Remember to select a word or any block of text before toggling these buttons. If you don't you will loose your place in the text.

Typical Usage

Now that I have gone over the different options let me take you through how the software is typically used. Lets assume that you are working on something new. First, start out by reading the text a few times, or until you are ready to remove a few words.

Now that you start simple set it to show 9 of 10 words and 10 of 10 first letters. Also go ahead and turn off "Use Random Placement." This is the minimum amount of text that you can remove. Make sure you have turned off "Show All Text." With random placement turned off the same words will always be hidden.

When you come to a word you don't remember highlight the word and then press the "A" on the toolbar. All of the text will be restored with the word you didn't remember now highlighted.

When you think you know the missing words turn of the leading letters. Start working your way through the text again. Next decrease the number of visible words to 8 of 10. It might be helpful to turn the leading letters back on. Keep practicing and in a very short time you will have the text memorized.

Also, the more you do this the better you will get at it. Major memory improvement can come from memorizing a small block of text each day.

Happy Memorization.

Chad

Moose Ware Software

Trouble Shooting

Problem: None of the toolbar button has a visible letter on them.

Solution: You will need to install the latest service pack of .Net Compact Framework from Microsoft. As far as I know installing [Compact Framework with Service Pack 3](#) will fix the problem.