MEMORIZATION TIPS

* You should study line 15 to 30 minutes in the morning and 15 to 30 minutes in the evening. This is MUCH better than one hour a day and infinitely better than 4 hours in one day! Your brain can only absorb a limited amount of new material.
* Work on one section of lines at a time. Don't try to learn all lines at once.
* Set a timer for the block of time that you feel you can focus (10 min., 15 min., etc.) and then commit to staying on task until the timer goes off. You can then stretch - get a drink - and reset timer.
* Go over your blocking within 24 hour (if possible) after having a scene blocked. Otherwise you will not remember what the director told you.
* As a general rule you should practice lines out loud. You want to involve as many different senses as possible.
* In the beginning you can exaggerate your lines when you say them. Be goofy. This makes the process more fun and helps your brain memorize.
* When you feel you have a basic level of memorization start running lines with anyone in your family who will help you (see tape recording idea below as an alternative to needing another person).
  + The person helping you reads your cue line.
  + If you are stuck ask for "line" and they will read you your line.
  + If you miss a section of your line they should read the line back to you. You then say the line again. Do not move on until you have said the line correctly.
* As you get better at your lines, say them in your character's voice. Practice them with the expression and inflection that you want to use when performing.

Kinesthetic

* If you have a prop that you are holding or using while delivering your lines - hold that prop and use it while practicing lines (find a close substitute if you don't have the exact prop).
* Move through your lines - which means combining the blocking you have been given with saying your lines (sit, stand, walk, etc.).
* Write out the lines while saying they out loud. Best to use pencil as you want to feel the words as you write them.

Visual Learners

* Use a paper to cover up your line. Read the cue line and see if you can remember your line. Uncover and visually look at the line on the paper.
* Do your own outline of the action in the scene. Under the scene section that you have lines in - write down what your lines are about (ie. "complain about ...." "talk about ....." "give a description of......"). Visualize your outline as you learn each section. It wll be your reference point for which lines go where.
* Visualize your blocking as you say your lines (ie. see yourself doing the actions as if you were watching a video of yourself).

Auditory Learners

* Tape Record your lines. When you do this you read the cue line first. Then pause and read your line. You will then listen to this tape over and over.
  + At first you will be slower saying your lines than the recording.
  + Later you should be able to speak the line as fast as you are hearing it.
  + When you are really strong with your lines, you can try to say the line quickly during the pause and then listen to see if you got it right.

For those parts that have more visual characterization than lines - walk through your blocking once you have been assigned it and watch yourself in a mirror. What facial expression do you want. Look at what your body language is saying.