Clive Wearing Worksheet

On March 29, 1985, Wearing, then an acknowledged expert i	in early music at the heig	ght of his career with BBC
Radio 3, contracted awhich normally causes only	cold sores, but in Wearir	ng's case attacked the
brain. Since this point, he has been unable to process new	He has also bee	en unable to control
emotions and associated memories well.		
Wearing developed a profound case of total as a		·
required to transfer memories from the to	o the	area is damaged, he is
completely unable tonew memories. He spends of	every day 'waking up' eve	ery few minutes,
restarting' his consciousness once the time span of his short	term memory elapses. I	He remembers little of his
ife before 1985; he knows, for example, that he has children	ı from an earlier marriag	e, but cannot remember
their names. His love for his second wife Deborah, whom he	married the year prior to	o his illness, is
undiminished. He greets her joyously every time they meet,	believing he has not see	n her in years, even
though she may have just left the room to fetch a glass of wa	ater.	
Despite having amnesia, and thus only a moment	-to-moment consciousne	ess, Wearing still recalls
how to play the piano and conduct a choirall this despite ha	aving no recollection of h	naving received a musical
education. This is because his, responsible for t	the maintenance of proc	edural memory, was not
damaged by the virus. As soon as the music stops, however,	Wearing forgets that he	has just played.
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In a diary provided by his caretakers, Clive was encouraged to	o record his thoughts. Pa	age after page is filled with
entries similar to the following:		
8:31 AM: Now I am really, completely awake.		
9:06 AM: Now I am perfectly, overwhelmingly awake.		
9:34 AM: Now I am superlatively, actually awake.		
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Earlier entries are usually crossed out, since he forgets having	g made an entry within r	minutes and dismisses the
writingsalthough he acknowledges his own handwriting, he	doesn't know how the	entries were made or by
whom. Wishing to record the important life event of "waking	g up for the first time", h	e still writes diary entries
as of 2007, more than two decades after he started them,		
Wearing can learn new practices and even a very few facts-n	ot from, but	t by acquiring new
procedural memories through For example, ha	ving watched a certain v	ideo recording multiple
times on successive days, he never had any memory of ever	seeing the video or know	ving the contents, but he
was able to anticipate certain parts of the content without re	emembering how he lear	rned them.

Memories long term amnesia encoding cerebellum virus anterograde encode repetition short term