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## Sarris, Jim. *Comic Mnemonics*.

New York: Alacan Publishing, 2004. ISBN: 0-9749096-3-7.

Innovative teaching methods are particularly important when it comes to teaching a world language. Many districts do not offer language study until secondary school, usually in the eighth grade. Research clearly shows that the prime time to learn language is during infancy or childhood. As humans grow older, learning other languages becomes more and more difficult. *Comic Mnemonics* presents a method of second-language acquisition that is unique and accessible to secondary school students.

One hundred verbs are listed in chart form, in alphabetical order. Each verb is then given a two-page presentation. The first page includes the verb, its English translation, a keyword, a picture, a sentence demonstrating the mnemonic technique, and conjugation of the verb in both the present and preterit tenses. The following page shows the same picture, along with sentences with the verb missing, to provide practice using both the present and preterit tenses. The pictures are age-appropriate and accurately represent the verbs. Also included in the text are answers for the exercises and a quick reference guide that divides verbs into a variety of groups.

This book engages the reader and provides pictures that are consistent with and related to the sentences that make the mnemonic technique possible. It could effectively be used as ancillary material in a beginning language class. Spanish I and II students could benefit from the pictures, sentences, and conju-

gation practice. Along with classroom instruction, *Comic Mnemonics* can help students properly utilize the verbs necessary for communication.

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