I've just gone through life telling myself that I just have a bad memory.

We could turn this into a little master class.

Go ahead.

So the three keys to a better memory are

Jim Quick in the house.

They globally recognize leader and memory improvement.

Training your brain to work better.

If you want to learn faster, you want to retain that information,

you are in for an absolute treat.

Google, Virgin, Nike.

Why are they coming to you?

They're struggling with distraction, memory loss.

It's affecting their performance, their productivity.

Our mind controls all the treasures of our life.

Yet it's not user-friendly.

The reason I'm so passionate about it is because

I grew up with a broken brain.

I was five years old and I had a traumatic brain injury.

I didn't understand things like everybody else.

I was being teased pretty bad.

A teacher pointed to me and said,

leave this kid alone.

That's the boy with the broken brain.

That was the darkest time of my life.

And in that moment, I learned my mission

to build better, brighter brains.

Memory retention is getting worse and worse.

We live in an age where the amount of information is doubling at dizzying speed.

The higher reliance of technology to store information

that you would normally have to store in your brain

means that not everybody is exercising those parts, keep our memory sharp.

The other dip in cognitive performance,

often when people retire, they mentally retire.

The body is not too far behind.

There's a study done on these nuns.

They're living 90 and above.

And because they were learning all the time,

it added years to their life.

It surprises a lot of people because they have this thinking

that their intelligence is fixed.

The truth is, there's no such thing as a good or bad memory.

There's a train memory and there's an untrained memory.

I'm going to give everybody right now the 10 keys, and this is how real transformation happens. The boy with the broken brain.

That's what his teachers called him, after Jim had a tragic accident at a young age that left him with a permanent brain injury.

And he believed it.

He lived it.

He embodied that identity.

He believed he was broken.

And then, because of a chance experience which we can all choose to have right now,

that limiting belief was unlocked.

And he realized that the stories we tell ourselves

about ourselves, about who we are

and what we're capable of achieving

and what we're capable of doing

are exactly that.

Stories.

I've spent decades telling myself that I have a bad memory.

So much so that at 30 years old,

it's just part of my identity.

And after this conversation, I realized that I'm wrong.

If a man like Jim, the boy with the broken brain,

can go from that,

poor memory, low potential, self-doubt,

to being a memory expert and becoming limitless,

then that says something about who any of us can become.

If you want to learn faster,

if you want to become more persuasive,

better in business, work, creativity, podcasting,

whatever it is you do,

then knowing how to retain important information

might just be the key to becoming limitless

that you've been looking for.

Google, Nike, SpaceX,

they all use Jim to improve their team's memory

and brain power.

And today, he'll be coaching you for free.

Jim, before we started recording,

you used a curious word.

You said mission.

Yeah.

What is your mission?

What is the mission you're on?

And why is that mission important to you,

but also to the world?

Our team is small in people,

but we're big in purpose.

Our mission is to build better, brighter brains.

No brain left behind.

I feel like we live in the millennium of the mind

where our mind controls so much

in our lives, our relationships, our health,

our careers, our schooling.

And yet our mind,

it doesn't come with an owner's manual,

and it's not user-friendly.

Yet it's our number one wealth-building asset,

like nobody listening is paid.

It's not like it was 100 years ago

where it's your brute strength.

Today, it's your brain strength.

It's not like it's your muscle power.

Today, it's your mind power.

And I do believe the faster you learn,

the faster you can earn.

Because knowledge today is not only power,

knowledge is profit.

And I don't just mean financial.

That's kind of obvious.

But it's all the treasures of our life.

And the reason I'm so passionate about it

is I grew up with a traumatic brain injury

when I was a child.

And just things didn't work for me

like everybody else.

And through those struggles,

I developed some strengths over the years.

And I always thought it was interesting

that there's no class on focus,

on concentration,

on recall.

And so I put the schoolwork aside

because I wasn't getting any gains there anyway.

And I started really focusing on this

learning how to learn.

And so I put my focus in those areas,

started studying a little bit about adult learning theory.

I got introduced to mnemonics,

which is memory techniques,

speed reading, the art and science of reading

for better comprehension and understanding.

And about two months into it,

a light switch flipped on.

And I just started to understand things in school

for the first time.

And it was so pronounced that

I felt two emotions.

I felt like this is awesome.

Because with my grades improving,

my life improved.

And it started to affect my identity

and how I saw myself and how other people saw me.

But the other emotion I felt, if I'm honest,

was anger.

I was so upset

that I spent my entire childhood

struggling every single day,

unsure about myself,

doubting myself.

And there were simple things that

I could have learned that would have made my life

a lot easier.

And I realized then in school

that it's not how smart you are,

it's how are you smart.

It's not how smart you are,

how smart your significant other is,

your kids are, your teammates.

It's how are they smart.

And I do believe that

we have this, if knowledge is power,

then learning is our superpower.

It's the superpower we all have.

And so from there.

I couldn't help but help other people.

And I'm kind of agnostic how it happens,

whether it's our books or podcasts

or YouTube or courses.

But I wouldn't have a positive impact

as it relates to memory.

I think I've just gone through life

telling myself that I just have a bad memory.

I'm the type of person that forgets names

instantaneously.

And I've just come to believe

that that's just me.

And I've almost resigned

to that.

I'll be honest, I don't think I really try that hard anymore.

Because I just think my type of brain

is the type of brain

that can't retain

most information.

if I don't consider it to be important information.

Am I bullshitting myself?

You are. It's complete BS.

Belief systems.

If you want to give it a label.

BS, belief systems.

I believe our brains are this incredible supercomputer

and our self-talk, our thoughts, our beliefs

are the program that will run.

So if you tell yourself I'm not good at

remembering people's name,

you will not remember the name the next person you meet

because you programmed your supercomputer not to.

And it's more than anecdotal.

I believe people at events

will see me do these demonstrations.

They're surprised to hear that I grew up with learning difficulties

and put in special education.

But before I go on stage,

people invariably in the lobby

pull me aside and they whisper to me

when no one's listening.

Jim, I'm so glad you're here. I have a horrible memory.

I'm getting way too old.

I'm not smart enough.

And I always say stop. If you fight for your limitations

you get to keep them.

If you fight for your limits, they're yours.

If people truly understood how powerful their mind is,

they wouldn't say or think something

they didn't want to be true.

And that's not to say you have

one negative thought that ruins your life

any more than eating that one donut

will ruin your life. But if you ate those donuts

every single day, consistency

will compound.

And it will change the direction

or the destination.

I have to zoom in there.

So four years old.

Were you four years old when you had a brain injury?

Yeah, I was five years old in public school.

Elementary school.

I was a kindergarten here in the States.

Had an accident where I lost my balance

and I went head first into the radiator

separating the window and me.

There's a lot of blood

and I was rushed to the hospital

where it really showed up though

whereas my parents said

where I was very, as a child

very energized, like most kids

very playful, very curious, very excited.

I became very shut down.

I had processing issues, they said.

I didn't understand things like everybody else.

Teachers would repeat themselves over and over again.

And later on

when I was nine years old

I remember I was being teased pretty bad

for slowing down the class.

And

a teacher came to my defense

but she pointed to me from the whole class

and said leave this kid alone.

That's the boy with the broken brain.

And that really became my identity.

You know, she was sincere

like she was trying to help

but that's all I remembered

was like oh I didn't know

I had the broken brain.

And so that became my explanatory schema

for everything.

Every single time I did badly in school

which was daily.

I did badly on a test or a report

or I would say I have the broken brain

or if I wasn't picked for sports

which was all the time I was this little kid

I would say oh because I have the broken brain

and that label became my limit.

I do believe

that we have to be solely responsible

for our lives

so I don't want to

say that I was a victim

but we are shaped by our environment

by our experiences

by our external

and that was something

that I really struggled with.

You started the

quick learning

in 2001 when you were 28 years old

and if you think about the clients you have there

from Google, Virgin, Nike

etc. they clients of yours

at the very heart of it

the core of it

why? Why are they coming to you?

What is the benefit? The why as you call it

that people are seeking.

I think people tend to come

to us because

they are they're struggling with distraction with memory loss with overload right and anxiety from information anxiety they're drowning information I think people who come to me realize that their ability to learn and translate that learning into action an incredible competitive advantage in a world where there's lots of distraction there's lots of overload there's lots of technology that would make our life easier but it also in some ways while it's convenient could also cripple us in a way that we're not using our mental faculties just like my shirt here says use it it's like our body if I put my arm in a sling for a year it wouldn't grow stronger it wouldn't even say the same, it would atrophy and the high reliance on technology like using your phone as an external memory storage they call it digital dementia it's a new term in healthcare digital dementia is the high reliance of technology it's information that you would normally have to store in vour brain but now that you don't have to do it not everybody is exercising those parts of our brain to keep our memory sharp is there science that shows we have to exercise our brain? you know the two biggest two dips, cognitively

in terms of cognitive performance in people's life cycle usually happens when people graduate school because somehow they associate education along with learning the traditional education is over so they're learning, they're not learning and that can be an unconscious belief but the other dip in cognitive performance is usually when people retire often when people retire out of their career, their job sometimes they mentally retire and it's interesting that once the mind kind of retires the body is not too far behind there is a study done on these nuns it was a longevity study engaging with grace great title they were living 80, 90 and above and they wanted to find out what was the cause of their longevity and they said half of it was their emotional faith or gratitude, the other half they were lifelong learners and because they were learning all the time on the daily it added years to their life but also life to their years it made the cover of a time magazine but I do really do believe we have to keep our minds active as much as we have to keep our bodies active there's a lot of talk and there is a narrative that says when people retire they die there's like a long held thing where there seems to be a startling correlation

between when someone retires and then passing away soon after there's also guite an interesting correlation between elderly couples and when one of them passes away often passes away suspiciously soon after do you think that's linked to what you're saying that cognitive stimulation is central to our physiological longevity yeah, I mean this study aging with grace would be evidence that you want to keep your mind active till the day you die at every age or stage that you could actually stave off brain aging challenges much like the biography of the mind if you will just like you would keep your body active I think most people would have the same understanding if they stop moving their body over at the retirement years then it would lead to probably unfavorable results what's the evolutionary reason for that could you have a hypothesis as to why from an evolutionary perspective the body would decide to everyone, we talk about a mind-body connection we hear that a lot so the primary reason vou have a brain is to control your movement that's the number one reason mammals have brains is to control movement and it's not just a one-way connection that it's that as yes, your brain controls your movement

but actually moving actually stimulates different parts of your brain I know that one very well before I do this podcast I do exercise yes, very much so and even development we had our first born recently a few months ago so crawling as you look at the study of brain development that cross-lateral is very important even we do that in our events when we do our our brain conferences and such we get everybody standing up and doing these this area is called educational kinesiology popularized by brain gym where you take one knee as you're standing and lift it and touch it with the opposite hand and you go back and forth things that are crossing the midline forces left and right brain communication so you have a left brain and your right brain and separated by that is a bridging station called the corpus callosum and by doing these exercises it increases communication between left and right brain and this is an over simplification left brain is if someone's left brain they're said to be more logical how do we know if someone's left brain left brain or right brain we have a couple of assessments in limitless but you can find it online free assessments for brain dominance left and right brain in there we have multiple intelligence theory a study out of

research out of harvard university by howard gardener savs that there's not in the US in a lot of westernized societies they tend to emphasize two kinds of intelligences verbal linguistic and mathematical here in the states we have the SATs it's just verbal reading comprehension and mathematical harvard gardener says they're actually not limited to two intelligences and so they're more and each one can be developed and so for example kinesthetic intelligence great choreographers dancers athletes interpersonal intelligence people who have this innate talent that could relate to people and connect visual spatial intelligence people who are incredible graphic artists architects right musical intelligence it just goes on so there are these other assessments and I really the reason why we put so many of this in limitless and in our podcast and we created our own assessment recently this year we haven't talked about it we're just launching it now called cognitive types and these are I use animals as a metaphor because I think so much of us for happiness for me has always been having the curiosity to know yourself right that's why you go to therapy or you turn or you meditate

or you you know you read about that inter interpersonal intelligence self to self as opposed to interpersonal self to others but once you have the curiosity to know yourself having the courage to be yourself is a different game too because so many people have mitigated you know like their expression of who they are because of looking bad or how people would perceive them and so on but this cognitive type I don't go back to the answer to your question we found in delineated I pulled from you know Myers Briggs and multiple intelligence theory introvert extrovert ambivert lateral thinking styles to realize there are about four buckets of cognitive types and I used animals to as a metaphor to represent them so there's four cognitive types and it what's the acronym sorry code C O D C O D so what does the C stand for so very briefly the C and as you're listening this you could see which one kind of hand raised for yourself even take a snapshot of this and post you know which one you think you are or we have an assessment online also as well that's free the C is cheetah and these are your intuitives and you might know you might have someone on your team or a family member they're cheetahs they're fast acting they're just always moving they thrive in fast paced environments Sophie I reckon that's my assistant Sophie maybe me as well Jack what do you think

do you think I'm a cheetah fast acting thrive in fast paced environments does that sound like me vou think so okav and the O is the owl and you might know people the owl is often linked to logic critical thinking they love data facts formulas figures right they lean into that information sounds like Grace Miller on our team Charles we have a data scientist in our team as well very nice yeah Michael as well yeah okay lean into information so that's the owl okay the D is are your dolphins and your dolphins are your creative visionaries these people love problem solving they love to be creative expression great at pattern recognition right they see patterns that maybe other people don't see as easily or naturally dolphins are they the creatives amongst us yes and I think a lot of the future belongs to the creatives you know the creators if you will you're thinking about AI aren't you yeah that's an interesting conversation also as well and finally the E are your elephants and your elephants I chose them because I use them as a representative symbol for like empathy they love collaboration tribes right working team environment so we created these models because you know

yourself right even even in the matrix when when he's going to see the oracle and the sign right above in the kitchen was and you know thyself and then we could be ourselves but the more you know about yourself and then you have a way of filtering the world and then not being judgmental of yourself or even others it's just how people are organized you know some people are just right handed or they're left handed right they have certain preferences and so these are it could help you inform you based on like yourself if you're if you know like you thrive in certain environments and then we give you know in the report careers that you excel in and this is kind of obvious right if somebody is creative certain career paths what if you're a couple of these things yeah so we have when you go through it there's a primary and there's a secondary you know and so these are usually very very few people because we have all the back end stats we've you know is is completely even 25 percent and so on but we usually have a place where if I ask everybody to write their name on a piece of paper you could do that but if I ask you to switch hands and below it write your first and last name below that that second time is going to feel is going to take longer it's going to feel awkward and the quality is probably not going to be as good as the first one and have you ever been in a situation where you're learning something and it's a subject you're you're interested in but for some

reason you're just not getting it because you're just not connecting with the instructor it's kind of like the way that they prefer to teach is different than the way you prefer to learn and it's like your two ships in a night and you're passing each other and there's no there's no connection that's there and so it feels like you're learning with the opposite hand so what happens it takes longer the quality is not as good and it feels a little weird and uncomfortable so I feel like it when you know what your strengths are you could lean into it and then further further refine it and we get people suggestions if they want to improve areas that they're not as strong and to be able to boost that but this is weighted right because you named a couple of those there and I thought you know I'm probably a cheetah I've got a little bit of an elephant in me as well no pun intended and you know I like to think I can be a dolphin once in a while so yeah we can express each other in different contexts as well you know and it's nice to have a level of cognitive flexibility you know and because that increases your learning agility it's one of the things that we teach in limitless is a six thinking hats it's created by Edward de Bono and it's this idea that if you are facing a decision or a difficulty or a dilemma in your life one of the reasons why we can't always think our way out of something is because we see something from a set

point of view and what six thinking hats does it gives you permission to step out of yourself and try on another lens meaning imagine this table here has six color hats right and I want everybody to think about who's listening or watching this right now a decision you need to make or difficulty doesn't have to be like life and death but it's just something that where to live I'm thinking about that perfect where to live and then you have these hats so the first hat is the white hat I'm in no specific order so imagine you're reaching out and you're putting on the white hat right and the white hat and I'll give you a mnemonic because I'm the memory guy to help you remember what each one symbolizes the white hat imagine a white scientist lab coat like a white lab coat that's data that's information that's facts right so now you can only look at the situation or this decision tree through the act through the eyes of logic okay so right I'm doing that now so me and my partner actually looking for someone to live at the moment and we're we've been looking it was really about which area to live in in London or maybe we'll live in Portugal or maybe Dubai so we're kind of trying to figure that out okay so I've got my white hat on and my lab coat and I can only think about logic so price I'm thinking about is it a good time to buy what's the graph saying I'm thinking about renting versus buving commute and travel and amenities that are

that would be all the factual and then so you could take off the white hat and now look for the red hat so you grab the red hat you put it on and the red hat symbolize heart is emotions so this is where you're going more with your gut your feeling you're putting logic aside and just like what what feels right for you her family lives in Portugal so that's the first thing that came to mind when you said about feelings being close to family yeah absolutely and this is good I hope everyone's doing this also so you take off the red hat and you could put on let's say the black hat and the black hat think about judges robe and the judges robe this is where you get a little bit you could be judgmental you could look at the the risk or the the devil's advocate you could look at the the other side in terms of what could go wrong living there the places we're considering we've never lived in before so what if we buy a place and then we immediately don't like it maybe we should stay where we are and not buy anywhere maybe the housing market will collapse and there'll be such a bad investment that we'll regret it so you're shining a spotlight so the idea here is that the information is out there but where are we choosing to put a spotlight and acknowledge and be aware of so you could take off the black hat and we're doing this abbreviated right and then look for let the yellow hat

you put on the yellow hat and the yellow is like the sun and that's like optimism and this is like all the things opposite of the black hat what could go wrong what could go right like the upside and even all those things are just named we'll figure it out if we live there we can always move somewhere else and we'll make it work and it buys lovely it's hot so is Portugal nice and those are four hats and the last two take off the yellow hat and find the green hat and so you put on the green hat and the green is possibility it's like new growth if you look at plants that are green imagine new foliage new growth and these are like maybe thinking outside the box like maybe it's not I go to you know I go to this job or this job maybe it's I go back to school or maybe it's something I'm not entertaining so that's possibility so that would be in the context of me moving house what is that that's the possibility of so if it was like between this and this it could be like choice three or choice four a third option so maybe we'll try America or we'll try another place to live in the world or maybe we'll just Airbnb in all these places and we can live in all of them yeah okay so that would be green and then finally the last hat so it could be done in any order but the blue hat is always you end with

so put on the blue hat and the blue imagine this guy overlooking everything it's kind of like the manager hat it listens to all the conversations with all the other color hats and then it helps you make a decision because it informs because here's the thing you can only make decisions based on what's in your conscious awareness and so many people live with a certain hat on like 24 seven they are just that logical facts prove it to me and they see through a certain lens but if they're not you know looking at the emotional context or other possibilities or with the downside of vou know Branson's very good at that right he's very good at looking at everyone looks at him as very very risk you know like do all these crazy things but he's you know you have conversations with him he looks at like from the black hat look in terms of risk management right and mitigating the downside and so like but if you just looked at everything through the yellow hat investing optimistic you think everything's gonna Bitcoin everything's gonna be good and you go on that and you're ignoring the view and so this allows you to have more information so hopefully with that more information you can make a more a wiser choice with something and that's kind of you know literally recommend people in chapter 15 of this book to buy multi-colored hats if you wanted to be able to do that we could do this we do this with our team

where we'll go through with our team and say either one of two things as a team building exercise or like we're facing this you know initiative we're launching a new book or we're doing this whatever like a social media challenge or whatever and we'll have people like everyone put on the same color hat metaphorically like literally physically go like this and put it in as if you know so you get your body into it also and we're all looking at it through the same point of view or we'll assign different hats for different people and we'll have this big kind of you know court case and conversation and that the rule is you have to talk as if you're from that you know point of view and that allows us to get outside of ourselves it's similar to innovation where there's a there's a book called the structure of scientific revolution not not really fun read but the essence of it is a lot of innovation and progress comes from people outside of that industry because it takes somebody from the outside to have a different lens or hat that didn't have the same learned helplessness and taught the same limitations of how things should have been done so maybe an elon outside saying well if we're going to make a car today with today's technology how would we go about doing that instead of doing just incremental improvements on you know what they have existing right and I think you ask a new question and you get a new answer and part of these you know 60,000 thoughts we have a lot of them are in form of

questions but are those questions getting us shining a light we have something called a reticular activating system which we talk about a lot that the brain primarily is a deletion device deletion deletion we're trying to keep information out yeah like because if we let everything in of course that would be stressed right and so we're primarily but what we let in we have part of our nervous system called the RAS that determines this is important to us so if you're going around in the city and somebody shouts out your name you're going to turn around even if you know logically you don't know that person but your wired your RAS is wired for your name right because and think about how it got there is probably one of the first words you learned how to be able to write and say and how much praise vou mean how much love is associated to be able to your identity around a name but also what also helps us to channel our RAS in terms of our focus are the questions we ask so a part of the book I talk about a dominant question that I believe that everybody has a question that they ask more than any other question and that question you determine a lot of your focus and because your focus determines how you feel what you do and what you're experiencing life and the results so for example a friend of mine you know we talked about this dominant question we found out her dominant question the ones he's thinking about consciously or even

unconsciously throughout the day is how do I get people to like me and now you don't know her career what she looks like you know what you don't know anything about her but you probably could guess a lot of things about her if somebody is obsessed with answering the question how do I get people to like me what would you say her personality is like insecure Mary she's a martyr a lot of people take advantage of her some people call it a sycophant or a people pleaser maybe her personality and I've seen this dynamic changes depending on who she's spending time with you know because she likes whatever they like and does whatever they do so you don't know anything about her but you know a lot about her and you only know one question she asks herself I'd use this story with Will Smith in the book I help a lot of actors to remember their lines or be focused on set or speed read their scripts or whatever we're in Toronto and they're shooting during the day doing some brain training and at night they're shooting 6pm to 6am and it's very cold it's February, winter, Toronto at night and a lot of people think it's very glamorous Hollywood but a lot of it as you know it's very hurry up and just wait and just waiting all the time and it's an outdoor shoot and his family happens to be visiting and they're all just watching the monitors and there's a big break

and during that he makes hot chocolate to all of us

even though there's a crew that would do that

he's there

cracking jokes and telling stories

because we realize that his

dominant question earlier that day is

how do I make this moment even more

magical

he asked that unconsciously wherever it came from

how do I make this moment magical

and I realize

that he was living that question

his dominant question which determines the

dominant thoughts and actions

and for me

I grew up with the broken brain

so I didn't have answers

I was like how do I be invisible

and for years I would just shrink down

and get sick psychologically

before I had to take a test

so I get to go to the nurse instead of having to perform

but later I switched it to

how do I fix this

and then my dominant question ended up being

how do I make this better

and I'm obsessed when I was talking before we started recording

this idea of being the best version of yourself

and at some level you must have thoughts

or a defining question

that says how do I make this better

I think it's probably

how do I convince the world that I'm enough

I think that's probably

that's definitely what the dominant question started

within my life

now

it's not that as much

and I look at my behavior as evidence

so I don't look at my words because I think my words

and my thoughts have often deceived me going back but I look at my behavior and the choices I make and they seem to be more intrinsically motivated than extrinsically motivated so they seem to be more about doing things for me not for the approval of someone outside of me is that something that's more recent or was there some inciting something that kind of put you on that where you went for how do I prove to the world that I'm enough I did the things that I thought would prove it oh yeah and you know it's interesting because I I've never really talked about this before but I know a lot of people close to me that grew up with that feeling of like they didn't feel like they were enough and so they committed the next sort of decade of their life to proving that they were in some way whether it's business, sports, athletics often to their parents, whatever and this might be wrong but my observation is they had to do that and then have the evidence let them down or they had to do that in order to kind of change the guestion so it's funny because I you'd hate to say to someone listen the only way you're gonna believe that you are actually enough is if you go and become really really successful and then you can stop buying all that stuff you don't actually like and stop showing off or whatever

that's the only way you're gonna be able to do it but that seems to be the case for a lot of my friends I've got one friend that's the son of a billionaire he went and built a billion dollar business himself and until he did he was one of the most insecure materialistic superficial people I've ever met and then once he had built that tremendous business and established his own identity kind of got out of his father's shadow then he sold all the shit he sold everything, he sold the nine sports cars he sold the house, just wears all black now doesn't seem to give a fuck anymore and I can kind of relate without making a billion I can kind of relate to what he's saying or that experience, I think my question changed to what is my potential hmm that seems to be my dominant question veah and I would invite everybody everybody has a question and not only for yourself because you just sometimes when we're silent or under stress we realize that those questions come out of us, we start asking questions especially if we're faced difficulty and we go mind is like how do I fix this or how do I make it better because some people ask questions like why can't I do this why can't I ever have this whatever it is and they're getting answers that aren't very supportive it's this equivalent when people read and they want to understand more of what they read a lot of people read a page in a book get to the end and just forget what they just read or not even understand it because they didn't have any questions to begin with

and so I think that a lot of times we get used to just listening to a podcast on YouTube or reading a book and then we feel like our lives are different because of just that process and I just want to remind everybody for every hour you spend listening to a podcast I would challenge everybody to spend an equal hour putting that into play and one of the ways you could do that as you're listening to something is ask yourself three dominant questions for me here is how can I use this so I'm obsessed with this question how can I use this you know because then I start saying there's an answer, there's an answer, there's an answer one question why must I use this because common sense is not common practice your listeners have probably forgotten more about life changing, transformation health, wellness, business that most people in their lives come across that's just the truth right they're probably like why are you always watching you know these podcasts and videos and all this stuff you know because sometimes family and friends don't want to lose you and they want to kind of keep you in a certain place and but if you ask yourself why must I use this and you get into head, heart and then hands then you have this incredible purpose and drive and then another question I ask besides how can I use this why must I use this is when will I use this I think one of the most important productivity performance tools we have is our calendar but you'll see people will schedule investor meetings, they'll schedule

team calls, sales meetings whatever doctors appointments they're not always scheduling their execution of things that they read from that business book or something that they watched and so I just want to encourage everybody that you know it's better it's better well done than well said you know and the practice what we post and the way we do it is I think the life we live are the lessons we teach others, the life we live are the lessons we teach because you're absolutely right that people could say something but that is better to show it you know it's not one thing to promise it it's better to prove it right you know especially in the world that we are today quick one before we get back to this episode just give me 30 seconds of your time two things I wanted to say the first thing is a huge thank you for listening and tuning into the show week after week means the world to all of us and this really is a dream that we absolutely never had and couldn't have imagined getting to this place but secondly it's a dream where we feel like we're only just getting started and if you enjoy what we do here please join the 24% of people that listen to this podcast regularly and follow us on this app here's a promise I'm going to make to you I'm going to do everything in my power to make this show as good as I can now and into the future we're going to deliver the guests that you want me to speak to and we're going to continue to keep doing all of the things you love about this show thank you, thank you so much

back to the episode I've been thinking a lot about this in writing coming out soon called The Diary of a C.O. 33 Laws for Business and Life and in chapter one which is law one of the book I was playing around with this idea of knowledge and skills and all of these things and the relationship they have between them and really was trying to find advice for young people that want to get to a point where they have reputation and a big network and lots of resources right and I was trying to figure out the order so I almost visualized it like five buckets and the first bucket I wrote down is knowledge that's the first one right and these are sequential buckets so they go from you know this is bucket one and then once you fill that bucket when you apply knowledge it turns into a skill and then once you have knowledge and applied knowledge which I call skill then you'll get these other things then you'll get resources you'll get a network and you'll get a reputation but it's those first two buckets vou can't have skills without knowledge really and knowledge is certainly the first one but just having knowledge alone without that applied skill without that applied knowledge which we call a skill you'll never get the reputation the resources and the network and the only two buckets that no one ever can take from you the only two buckets that anyone can never unfill

is the knowledge bucket and also the skill bucket people can take away your reputation they can take away your resources they can take away your network but they can never unfill these two buckets and these two buckets are the first two buckets which go on to fill the other three and that's why I think more recently in my life I've become obsessed with learning am I a great learner no

I don't think I am

because I sit here with the greatest minds in the world and I remember very little of it and it's funny as you were saying I was like I've been thinking this over the last couple of weeks but I thought gosh you're in such a privileged position to get to meet all these incredible people I should be

like a

human encyclopedia

of information and wisdom and I don't think I

I don't think I am

I meet people that are I sit here with them

I think you're one of them I give this guy this everything and he's remembered everything and he knows the names of studies and he can recall

I can barely recall names of people

so I'm like where

where do I start because

I'm in a privileged position meeting all these wonderful people

and our listeners are too if anyone's

loyal to this podcast

you're like me I actually wrote something down as you're speaking

I was thinking

what we need to do here at the Diary of a CEO

after the episode ends is we need to

set the audience some homework

and what I mean by that is say

okay

Jim said these three core ideas

after the episode

I want you to go and implement them

and then I want you to like tag me on social media implementing them the action after the episode and share it with me and that's what I think we should all do because then not only are we going to listen we're going to learn and those are two very different things yeah and I feel also when we teach something we get to learn it twice meaning you share that with your friends your family your followers your fans it takes advantage of something called the explanation effect the explanation effect says that when you learn something with the intention of explaining it to somebody else you're going to learn it much better and that's kind of obvious right if you you know if we talked about speed reading or the best brain foods or changing your habits optimizing your sleep the kind of things that we specialize in and somebody listening had to give a TEDx talk about it the following week would they focus better they would have a better concentration would they take more notes would they ask more post more questions online right they would own that information and so I think that learning with the intention of teaching helps you to be able to certainly learn it better I mean that's even how you could even you could explain it to somebody I mean the whole Richard Feynman method was take this difficult subject neuroscience whatever happens to be like social media marketing, AI and explain it to

me as if I am a six year old

you know right

and I can open up a whole thing with this conversation of artificial intelligence and creatives but I really feel like all these tools are there to augment I don't even think it's artificial intelligence for me it's obviously machine learning but it's augmented intelligence and I'm thinking like how do I use this tool like I would use a book or computer or the internet or whatever to AI to enhance HI like human intelligence I'm very interested in that people I think mean you know the Feynman technique well but when I came across it it really was a game changer for me because it explained why I have good comprehension on a certain subject matter and then I'm quite loose on others could you explain it in a simple way I know you have you speak to it in a version of it in the book but for anybody that isn't aware of that technique so the idea here is anyone can make things more complex but the idea is when you really understand something you could simplify it in a way that makes it usable for the end result right and not only the end result but the process of learning it so meaning I love reading the neuroscience papers and having deep conversations and I think where where if we had any level of success is translating that in a way to people where it's conversational where they see the relevance in their daily lives

in the application and as results oriented and how does that impact our ability to learn the subject this Freiman Technique because stage one is of the Freiman Technique from what I remember is you learn something and then stage two is I believe you simplify it and then you share it and then if you can't share it to the six year old you go back to learning it and that's a great synapses of it and I would say that so how how it builds so every single time you have a new there's an Oliver Wendell Holmes quote that says a person's mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimensions and so when we have so neuroplasticity happens when we experience novelty so we learn a new idea or something happens in our environment it's neuroplasticity allows learning, it allows adaptation it even allows recovery from traumatic brain injury right I had these deficiencies if we call them that and I was able to compensate by creating workarounds like somebody would do in some kind of program and then you start building paths another way of neuroplasticity it's kind of like if I walked through a field and there are lots of bushes I walked through it once not much changes but if you take that path

and you reinforce it through repetition or space repetition then all of a sudden it becomes more of a path and eventually it becomes a road and it becomes a highway and we've made that connection so I like pulling on things that are natural as metaphors but we learn through metaphors because all of learning is taking something you don't know and connecting it to something you do know people say learning is repetition they just say it loads does that work? it does but when we're looking at methodology repetition, the problem with repetition and certainly it leads, it gets a result it's rote learning it's like when the churches started universities and how people would teach would be the teacher or professor would say a fact and to the class and the class would repeat it and then the teacher would say it again and the class would repeat it and so I'm making on video if you're watching this circular motion like rote, like rotary, like a rotary club it's as simple as a wheel the first half of the wheel is the teacher saying the fact the second half of the wheel is the class repeating the fact and you do that 50 times and then you build that pathway and you have quote unquote learning the problem with that is it takes so much time and now we live in an age where the amount of information is like doubling at dizzying speed there's more information

today in the newspaper than somebody in the 17th century and it's just like it's overwhelming so we can't be learning the same ways okay so I've got a book coming out as I said and there's 33 laws and I've been saying to myself listen you're going to at some point start really promoting this book so you need to memorize all 33 laws like I actually don't need to I mean so I need to what am I doing with my life these 33 laws I need to remember basically what the law is and then the gist of it how would you help me do that? let's turn this into coaching and we could use just content that everyone could relate to because I don't know how much of the laws you want to share or how much you have on tap okay so the method I'm going to share with you I call it PI P-I-E that three ingredients for a better memory P stands for place we remember things based on where we put it like you put your keys in a certain spot each time vou're in it you're always going to find it because it's organized you forget someone's name, you ask yourself where do I know the person sometimes the context gives you the content so that's a place to store the information the I is imagine we remember things better that we could see and imagine meaning I bet

as difficult as names are to remember you remember faces so many people remember faces because more of your visual more of your brain is dedicated towards your visual cortex it takes up more real estate so we tend to remember things we see better than what we hear so you see the face and you just go to someone I remember your face but I forgot your name that's me every day of my life never go to somebody say the opposite you never go say I remember your name but I forgot your face I roll up to people and say hi nice to see you and then I realize I didn't remember their name so here we go the I is imagine there's a proverb that says what you hear you forget what you see you remember what you hear you forget what you see you remember and we think in pictures when you get on an airplane it doesn't say no smoking fasten your seat belts there's just pictures so you want to imagine those pictures and the E and Pi in twine is where vou're connecting in twine means to associate or to connect and what are you connecting the P and the I the place in the image so let me give you an example five buckets law number one we could do the five buckets also I was going to teach people quickly ten things that they could do to upgrade their brain let's do your ten things

but certainly we could apply this towards buckets too alright so so we're blessed that the book was heavily endorsed by the Cleveland Clinic Center for Brain Health the founding director there one of the top Alzheimer's research out of Harvard Dr. Rudy Tanze and when I speak at these organizations we know that about one third of your brain performance your memory is predetermined by genetics two thirds is in your control they say the metaphor is that for example Alzheimer's and this is like we donated a lot of proceeds to Alzheimer's research for our book is in memory of my grandmother they say that your genetics will load the gun but your lifestyle will fire it right kind of kind of makes sense and it's not like all metaphors they're not absolute they're not absolutes but this is an idea to connect something you don't know to something you know so going to this two thirds I'm going to give everybody right now the ten keys as you know it in the book but I'm going to show you how to memorize them but what I liked it to do whether or not people memorize them or not and I find that people will be able to do it pretty easily and effortlessly is at least rate yourself zero to ten how much energy and effort and attention are you putting towards this area because everyone wants to know the one thing they could do for an incredible memory there's just not there's not a magic pill but there is a process right so we'll go through them fast number one good brain diet

so everyone on a scale of zero to ten ten being the best how much energy attention how much time are you putting towards a good brain diet so there's certain foods that are very neuro protective and I would also say I'm not a doctor or nutritionist everyone's bio individual so do allergy testing do functional medicine testing in terms of microbiome test nutrient profile food sensitivity so everyone's a little different in general some of my favorite brain foods avocados the monounsaturated fat is good for the brain blueberries I like to call them brain berries neuro protective broccoli good for your brain olive oil good for the brain if your diet allows eggs the choline in eggs is good for your cognitive health green leafy vegetables like kale and spinach and now again some people are allergic to kale so that wouldn't be for you another one I would say wild sardines or like wild salmon or sardines like your brain is mostly fat so those fish oils turmeric is a great brain food meaning it helps to lower inflammation you can use that while you're cooking walnuts everybody's just waiting for you to say chocolate veah there vou go walnuts and dark chocolate dark chocolate non milk chocolate so those are some of the brain foods so 0 to 10 on the other side that's not so good processed foods high sugar what does it do to the brain

so sugar is highly addictive right you've had guests on here talking about how it's more addictive than a lot of drugs right there's certain things that are not good for the brain and I don't know again people like we've had on our podcast or we've interviewed for the book like people like Dr. Mark Hvman Dr. Daniel Aiman sugar alcohol marijuana certain things are just certain things like alcohol could some people say they use it to help them sleep there's a difference between getting knocked out and actually getting good deep sleep getting good REM sleep sleep is just a personal focus of mine but sugar is highly addictive not good a lot of people are also hyper you know the ADHD the hyper behavior a lot of times you could eliminate sugar but in the US schools it's tough you know they would have vending machines there with all the pop and the sodas and the vou know just veah but to get through the list 0 to 10 how good is your diet number 2 and I'll go through this fast killing ants ants killing ants is actually proving to be good for your brain ants I get this from Dr. Daniel Aiman automatic negative thoughts remember we talked about the power of your thoughts and just keeping it even if you say you don't have a great memory just add a little word like yet at the end it just changes you know the potentiality of that statement

so in 0 to 10 how encouraging optimistic are your thoughts and beliefs number 3 in no specific order again is exercise there's so much research talking about the power of movement and the brain when you move by the way the studies show that when you listen to your podcast when people are listening to this podcast and they happen to be doing something rhythmic going for a nice walk with the dogs or on an elliptical they'll actually understand the information and retain it better when your body moves your brain grooves just remember that when your body moves your brain grooves when you move your body you create brain derived neurotropic factors B, D and F which is like fertilizer for the brain it's like fertilizer promoting neuroplasticity number 4 brain nutrients and this is I always prefer people get it from their own foods but vou know you could get so much data nowadays you could do a nutrient profile because if you're lacking your vitamin D levels are low you're not going to perform your brain's not going to perform at its best you know if you're not getting your omega 3's your brain is mostly made out of fat your DHA's, your vitamin C your vitamin B's everyone comes here and talks to me about bloody vitamin D and omega 3 everybody says the same two things supplements work for that right? do supplements work for vitamin D? quality supplements

I would again prefer people get it from sunlight and prefer people get it from natural sources like whether they can fish or whatever I don't want to go out in the sunlight enough I need to fix that yeah you've had guests talking about the power of sunlight first thing in the morning to reset their circadian rhythm to help them sleep you know for me in the morning I try to do I try to get the elements in my life so I think about thousands of years ago they thought the four elements made up made everything up that you see so it's like you know Babylonian times and Greek times you know four elements of air water, fire and earth and so like I don't know I take this approach in the morning you don't have to biohack everything you can do it for free go out there outside and get some earth get your feet on the ground really simple to do to feel more grounded and more connected and I think in energetic people talk about pulse electromagnetic fields and everything but I don't know I feel more grounded when I just walk in the grass simple thing people could do my deep breathing or some people do fire breathing, alpha breathing Wim Hof breathing first thing in the morning clear the cobwebs of the night and then some water drink some water or take your cold shower you get to integrate it whatever your morning routine is and then fire is the sunlight for me you know first thing in the morning but I just find that any of the biohacking stuff and people follow me on Instagram

I have my toys and everything else they're just a mimic nature you know the red lights and the the cold plunges and all that stuff nature point number five is a clean environment yeah so after brain nutrients zero to ten rating yourself five is a clean environment and this is for everything and including the quality of the air that you're breathing you know like I had somebody on our podcast talking about the neurotoxins and brand new carpets or furniture you know in terms of what they're sprayed with and the off-gassing that comes from it and how it can have a toxic effect you know on your brain you wrote air pollution is a massive and underrated health risk they cause up to 30% of all strokes life expectancy is appreciably lower in cities than in the countryside even accounting for differences in wealth and lifestyle veah I mean we sorted through a number of research talking about air pollution water pollution also as well you know in terms of the certain residues that happens to be in whether it's in tap water or what have you or some people are concerned about plastics that come from bottles also as well and other people are concerned about we've had a couple episodes talking about EMFs you know just the how does that impact my brain though I don't think we know you know all I know is that the brain hasn't changed

a lot in the past hundred thousand years but technology certainly has and you know and we talk about you know these videos that we make about morning routine and evening routines and millions of views just simple things like don't touch your phone the first 30 minutes of the day or the last 30 minutes of the day something so simple and then 7's brain protection brain protection so clean environment even just cleaning your desktop your external world's reflection of your internal world or making your bed just helps you get how you do anything is how you do everything number number sorry that was number 6 veah number 7 is sleep so very concerning with sleep and brain performance we know when you don't sleep how's your thinking the next day you know how's your ability to solve problems how's your ability to focus remember things when you sleep if you have long-term memory issues get a sleep study done that's where you consolidate short to long-term memory is during sleep when you sleep the sewage system in your brain kicks in because you know energy to do so also as well and your brain doesn't it's not doesn't stop at night if anything it's sometimes in ways more active it's consolidating short to long-term memory it's cleaning out beta amyloid plague that could lead to brain aging challenges often a lot of the studies show that with a lot of disease there's a kind of a sleep deficiency component also as well sometimes I wear a device to monitor it because it's not that people ask the quantity of sleep what's the perfect

Mount 7, 8, 9 hours it's absolutely not the quantity it's the quality of your deep sleep and your REM sleep your deep sleep you can imagine is where you're recovering your body your REM sleep is where you're restoring your your mind so seven seven is sleep zero to ten you know how much focus energy attention are you putting towards it we've done stress management which is we talked about how stress impacts the brain we talked about sleep there we've talked about yeah so the last three really quickly are protect your brain yeah wear a helmet zero to you know your brain is very resilient but it's very fragile so I get to work with a lot of sports figures that have post concussions or TBI's yep you know and so we have protocols for that and obviously see a doctor zero to ten rate vourself new learnings is big we talked about the power of learning that's novelty and for me reading reading is to your mind what exercises your body I think it's the best people out you get all fancy apps and everything else I think look someone who has decades of experience like yourself or your guests and they put into a book and you can sit down and read that book in a few days you can download decades into days that's the biggest advantage right and reading is incredible exercise for your mind especially the way we teach it and then finally stress management which you mentioned you know zero to ten how well are you mitigating stress and coping with stress what mechanisms and tools rituals or practices do you

have you know my go-to is meditation a guick word on you as you know they're a sponsor of this podcast and I'm an investor in the company and I have to say it's moments like this in my life where I'm extremely busy and I'm flying all over the place and I'm recording TV shows and I'm recording shows in America and here in the UK that you is a necessity in my life I'm someone that regardless of external circumstances or professional demands wants to stay healthy and nutritionally complete and that's exactly where he'll fits in my life it's enabled me to get all of the vitamins and minerals and nutrients that I needed my diet to be aligned with my health goals while also not dropping the ball on my professional goals because it's convenient and because I can get it online in Tesco in supermarkets all over the country if you're one of those people that hasn't yet tried Huell or you have before but for whatever reason you're not a Huell consumer right now I would highly recommend giving Huell a go and Tesco have now increased the listings with Huell so you can now get the RTD ready to drink in Tesco Express is all across the UK how is our gut linked to our brain you know people often on this podcast have said to me that there's a really significant link between the two they call your gut your second brain right and so there's a lot of neurotransmitters there you create a lot of your serotonin there also as well what you eat matters especially

for your gray matter what you eat matters especially for your gray matter there's a lot of microbiome tests also that you could test for food sensitivity that exists in the market you know we had Navin Jain on our podcast and he has a company called Viome and they do that test you know also as well but it shows you green, yellow, red you know green you could eat pretty much as much as you want of it yellow eat it sparingly and mild red ideally avoid but imagine your gut is kind of like the roots of a plant that's feeding this stem and the stalk and the flowers of your brain so what you eat it should nourish you because you are what you not only you are what you eat you are what you absorb frankly and so gut health is extremely important that's why you know we talk about the power of probiotics for people vou know that take in on maybe they do it first thing in the morning but good bacteria my friend turned around to me this weekend asked on this tag do I have that and he said he was talking about a book we had read and he said to me does it matter that I don't read he doesn't read he is dyslexic I think he struggles with reading a little bit and he asked me does it matter that I don't read it's just not interested in it so we could consume information however we could consume it some people prefer to read it some people prefer to watch it some people prefer to listen to it and so we all have different styles

because in your book chapter 14 it says there is a direct relationship between our ability to read and life readers enjoy better jobs higher incomes and greater opportunities yeah I do believe so if people have seen photos of me with Oprah or Elon or these individuals you know people invariably ask you know how did you connect how did you build we bonded over books you know Elon and I were geeking out over some of our favorite sci-fi books right and then you know he brought me into the SpaceX I did training for their rocket scientists but it was leaders or readers you know you read to succeed you know I talked about earlier that someone's decades experience and they read it you can read it in a few days you can download decades in the days it's a huge advantage right and they say Warren Buffett reads 500 pages a day so you want to read to succeed because you know you learn from other people's experiences you know what to spend the same time money, trouble, stress from somebody else now my reading has changed for four years I read a book a day because I was just so most people don't read because they're not good at it so if I'm not very good at golf see so like vou don't find me on the courses on the link stupid very much because I'm not very good at it so I don't really want to do it and most people don't read because they're not good at it because reading is a skill and like all skills they can be developed through training but when's the last time you took a class called reading how old were you when you took a class called not a college literature club but a reading class

yeah so most people are still reading like they're seven or six so the difficulty and demand has increased a whole lot but how people read it is from the last time they learned it and people think just because they've been doing something for so long they're better at it that's not absolutely not true right somebody even somebody the other day said I have 30 years of experience in sales but you talk to them they're like not really with the results he has like one year of experience as he's repeated 30 times there's a difference between growth and somebody who's just kind of stalled right and same thing with reading if you're just doing the same thing just because you're doing the same it's like typing if I'm typing with two fingers there's a cap in terms of how far and if you do this for 30 years or three years it doesn't matter you're only going to reach a certain point as opposed to people using more of their faculties now I know people who are listening and masks could triple their reading speed right not of everything like I can't how do I triple my reading speed so okav so what I teach is not traditional speed reading traditional speed reading is more associated with skimming skipping words getting the gist of what you read you know we train a lot of wealth managers and doctors you don't want your doctor to get the gist of what she reads right so you want to be able to retain it so there's smart reading so most of the time when we have students in every country in the world online through our academy we kind of built like a con academy but instead of for math it's for accelerated learning reading memory and so on so

on average people with triple their reading speed how do you do it well I'll give you a couple tips because there's different training is different than a tip right like we have time for a couple of guick tips doing a training would be skill acquisition and and but um if you allow like there's a link in my instagram I put in for this publication and there's a free one hour master class people could double their reading speed and bring whatever book they want and go for it and it's there did you say most of your your clients triple their reading speed on average about triple yeah reading speed so so reading is very it's very measurable um now there's an upward cap like some people like think you could read 20,000 words a minute the average person reads about 200 words a minute on average you know and so um now by the way when you read it doesn't make if you can't understand a subject reading it faster is not going to help right if you if you don't if you don't understand Arabic speed reading it's not going to if you don't understand nuclear physics and reading it faster is not going to help right so there's there you need to you you're not going to read any faster than you can understand but um I'll give you everyone a couple quick tips um number one when you're reading most people lose focus right and that slows them down their eyes go in different places and so if you use a visual pacer when you read you'll read faster what do I mean by visual pacer if you're watching on video I'm using

my finger to underline or a pen or a highlighter a mouse on a computer will help you to read faster and and don't believe everything I'm saying test this so what I would do is after this conversation grab a book that you're reading put a mark in the margin where you start and just read how you would normally read and time yourself on your phone for 60 seconds and then pick up where you left off give yourself another 60 seconds but this time just underline the words don't touch the screen if you're reading online or don't touch the book but just just go back and forth and a rhythm that's comfortable for you and then count the number of lines you read the second time that second time on average will be 25 to 50% faster and most people will say after they practice a little bit you know like practice for a few days that their understanding is actually better people feel more in touch with their reading I'll tell you why number one as hunter-gatherers we are visual creatures that's our survival right if you are you have to look at what moves so if your finger is moving you're going to follow the visual pacer because it's your survival like if something ran across this room you wouldn't look at me you would look at what moves because that's your survival right because if you're hunter-gatherer in a bush and you're hunting that rabbit or whatever your diet is right and that bush next to you moves vou have to look at what moves because number one it could be lunch

or number two you could be lunch so either way you have to look at what moves so if your finger is going across the page your attention is being pulled through the information as opposed to your attention being pulled apart right the other reason why and I'll tell you neurologically certain senses work very closely together you have your taste at a great piece of fruit like fresh from the farmers market like a great tasting peach you're not actually tasting the peach you're smelling the peach but your sense of smell and taste are so closely linked that your mind can't tell the difference it can tell the difference if you're sick if you can't breathe out of your nose and you're congested what does food taste like nothing it tastes bland right and so just as your sense of smell and taste are closely linked so is your sense of sight and your sense of touch that people literally using their finger while they read will say they feel more in touch with their reading in fact when people lose their sense of sight how do they read touch right when you train people so that's the first one is visual pacer oh veah there are manv I mean that will boost your reading speed in focus 25-50% across the board and then you'll learn so there's something called fixations and fixation is where your eyes will stop and how many stops you make across the page determines how fast you're going to read so it's like in traffic most people are stopping at every single word

so they're taking 10 stops faster train readers will actually use their peripheral vision to pull in more than one word so if you look at a word on that page on your screen you could probably see the word to your left and to your right and so that's a trained skill so a person seeing three or four words doesn't have to make 10 stops they can make two or three stops so it's less taxing and you can go faster because it's not a start-stop so there are all these different tips and the master class will walk people through so you actually get training on it 95% of what we publish is absolutely free because we want to democratize this to the world but for your comprehension the key to comprehension though is asking more questions what we talked about most people aren't looking for the pug dogs so even when you're taking a test usually the questions are at the end in my books I put the questions in the beginning so it charges your particular activity systems when you read they're like oh there's an answer there's an answer there's an answer the culprit to reading faster is something called sub vocalization do you ever notice when you're reading something you hear that inner voice inside your head reading along with you yes that's what was just happening hopefully it's your own voice it's not somebody else's voice the reason why it is an obstacle to effective reading is if you have to say all the words in order to understand them you can only read as fast as you could speak

that means your reading speed is limited to your talking speed so what we do is we train individuals to reduce the sub vocalization because the truth is do you have to say all the words do you have to say New York City to understand what New York City is do you have to say the word computer to understand what a computer is the truth is you don't because 95% of words are what they call sight words they're words you've seen tens of thousands of times like a stop sign you don't have to say stop every single time but you understand what it means in your book that you're reading online emails are words you've seen before you don't have to say it in order to understand those words so we train people to reduce the sub vocalization lastly on concentration and flow and these kinds of topics what advice would you give me if I'm trying to get into what they call the flow state more often and I'm trying to do deeper work and be less distracted I mean there's all these techniques what's it the pomodo technique there's all these different techniques that seem to be most effective for those people who are struggling with concentration and focus and getting in the zone we've done a number of podcasts this whole chapter dedicated to flow the art and science of getting in the zone flow is a state where you feel your best and you perform your best that's those flow states the markers of it are usually three things number one you lose your sense of self

the second thing you lose it's effortless it almost feels like you're in that zone you don't have to exert a lot of effort and the third thing is you lose your sense of time you don't know if five minutes went by or five hours because you're in the moment you're present so you could actually here's the here's you like first principles one of my first principles is taking nouns and turning them into verbs I get in the habit every day of hearing a noun and turning into a verb meaning I think a lot of people hypnotize themselves by the words that they use they say I don't have motivation today I don't have focus today I don't have energy you do not have those things you do them so you don't have motivation there's a process for motivating yourself you don't have energy there's a process for generating energy you don't even have a memory you do a memory there's a three-step process for memorizing encoding storing and retrieving right and so I think a lot of what our podcast your mind and our work is is about transcending trans and it's about ending the trans ending this massive gnosis through marketing or media that were broken like I felt for so long that I felt like I wasn't enough like vou did or transcending our own thoughts meaning like I am a procrastinator right how do you change that that's your identity right and so going back to the power of words and Turk taking nouns and turning them into verbs focus you don't have focus

you do it there's a process for focusing right and so what I would do if I want to get into flow state the trigger for flow getting in the zone is when competence and challenge connect meaning that imagine a diagram right and on one axis is challenge and one axis is competence and skill if something is too challenging and you have low competence that's just stressful right it's a bigger challenge and you're capable of handling if the capability is too high you're highly skilled and the challenge is too low then you're bored right you're too skilled and this challenge doesn't even it's not even a challenge so you're not going to get in that flow state flow happens when you're at that edge where it's just challenging enough to keep you engaged and it's stretching you also as well so it's a state of mind that you could create and what I would recommend doing it with everything is a small simple step right and when you're in flow the world kind of disappears so you have this natural focus is there anything that you have an activity like writing where you lose sense of time and it's kind of endless so people can create that in their job and their relationship on the field also as well so obviously up level your capabilities right and then have an acceptable

amount of challenge there also as well also a lot of that comes through finding passion and focus so flow starts with focus and I would say is focused activities of work eliminating distraction to the best your ability you know let's say you need to focus on this activity your phone is not there people your family knows that not to be bothered right and then you're engaging somewhere somewhere meaning there's something called the Zygarnik effect in the book and this is doctor she was a psychologist in Europe and she noticed that when she's having coffee out at the cafe outside that all the wait staff would easily memorize all the orders without writing them down until they were delivered and once the wait staff delivered that order they would forget right and she called it the Zygarnik effect after her last name that our our ability when we start something there's a high propensity for us to want to finish it right to have closure to have to close that loop that's how people keep people coming back to every Netflix show or whatever because there's an open loop some kind of suspense that they want to get closure on so you have to behave and follow through the Zygarnik effect if you start somewhere anywhere because you procrastinate

you're more likely to finish that activity because it's an open loop and that open loop will engage somebody to get into flow what's the most important thing we haven't talked about in your view based on all of the the mission that you articulated so well at the start of this conversation what's the most important thing okay so I love this discussion about disrupting education in terms of the power of meta-learning and learning how to learn if there was a genie right now that could grant you anyone wish but only one wish everyone who's watching and listening would ask for more wishes right because then they get money, they get everything else they want if I was a learning genie and I could help you become a master an expert in any one subject or skill by the way everyone that thought food or something before he said one more wish, you're not the only one so if I was a learning genie and I could grant you one wish but if I was a learning genie and I could learn to become an expert in any subject or skill people could think oh I want to be a great dancer I want to understand money or investing whatever it is the equivalent of asking for limitless wishes is learning what learning how to learn because being able to focus and concentrate and read, understand remember what can you apply that to everything money, mandarin, martial arts

everything after that it's a lead domino so I think that limitless is a treatise on an owner's manual for a brain the best diet, sleep, everything else and the processes for focusing, remembering learning how to learn I would say the thing that I would want professional tombstone would be a Venn diagram with three things and this is the core to my work I realize Steve that a lot of people know what to do but they don't do what they know that most people have forgotten more about personal development and growth and transformation and money and wellness whatever they're hearing than most of the people that they know because common sense is not common practice how do you get yourself to overcome self sabotage procrastination and actually get something done and so I would end with this limitless is not about being perfect it's about progress but in what area of your life if you're still listening to this do you feel like you're stuck in your progress think you don't have to share this but I know you're very vulnerable but is there an area of your life you feel like you're in a box and it could be you're learning you might be feel like I wish I could learn faster, remember better, read faster I wish I was more organized if you could see what my suitcase looks like right now my cameraman walked into my room it's like a hurricane had hit the room that's embarrassing and the organization also will help with your focus and everything else

what's your practical, where are you stuck I'm going to admit something I've never admitted when I connect my Airpods to my iPhone it says Apple Airpods **Brackets** 23 because that is my 23rd pair of Apple Airpods so that's how unorganized I am for me to keep hold of those little things it's impossibility so anyway sorry that also because well the thing when I teach meditation or I do mindfulness it's not just about that 20 minutes you're in silence externally and internally whatever is going on you could bring mindfulness into your eating you know I show people just challenge them to brush their teeth with the opposite hand maybe it engages a different part of your brain right the opposite side but it forces people to be present you know and I think flexing that presence muscles and the mindfulness muscles first thing in the morning is just very important especially when you can tag it to a habit that you're already doing and so eating so it's not just what you eat ask the other questions right it's why you eat it's where you eat it's when you eat it's how you eat also as well some people are so stressed out about their diet you know measuring every micronutrient and everything and so stressed out about some ideology that it negates any health benefit they're getting from it because they have so much anxiety around eating

right but it's also not only why you eat but how you eat some people as they're eating they're working at the same time and you've heard about the sympathetic parasympathetic right in terms of our nervous system the sympathetic is kind of like your beta your fight or flight but your sympathetic is rest and digest but some people when they're working they're not even that parasympathetic place where they can rest and digest their food because they're also while they're doing this working and stressed out or on conversations or anything so you know going back to this I want everyone just to imagine an area of their life this is what I would teach on my professional tombstone is the limitless model it's a Venn diagram three intersecting circles and I want everyone to imagine an area of your life where you feel stuck in a box your income your impact your learning your whatever it happens to be your relationships where do you feel like you're not making progress and by definition that box it's a cube right and that cube is three-dimensional right so the three forces that contain that box keeping you in there it's the same three forces that will liberate you out now the three forces that I'm talking about are the limitless model and if you're watching this on video I'm going to make three intersecting circles on a pad of paper SO three intersecting circles most people know this as a Venn diagram

it kind of looks like Mickey Mouse two ears and a head and so these are the three forces that will liberate you to help you become limitless in any area of your life and this works for a person a family a team a nation a world okay so it could be a micro macro and this is how real transformation happens so here's the thing you're taking something specific maybe your income or your reading speed or your memory let's say your memory you feel like you're in a box you can't get out of it right the first circle the top left I'm going to give you three M's is your mindset right so your first circle is your mindset and yours mindset I am going to define as your set of assumptions and attitudes you have about something your attitudes assumptions about being unorganized yeah exactly and that's going to contain you in that box right because it's defining the borders and boundaries of what's possible so somebody could also who's finances their mindset and assumptions and attitudes about money if people think money is the root of all evil or money doesn't go on trees whatever their mindset is it could contain them in that box if their memory if they feel like they're limited in a box you know it could be I'm getting too old I'm not smart enough right that's mindset attitudes and assumptions about something especially attitudes assumptions besides your attitude assumption about a relationship what does that mean I mean I lost my freedom doesn't mean whatever it is that's going to affect your your quality of box but the other part of it is your mindset and attitudes

assumptions about yourself so three things I would put in mindset what I believe is possible so you could believe it's possible for you know Steve have like millions of followers and make all this money or whatever but you might not believe it's possible for you so what I believe is possible what I believe I'm capable of that somebody could those could be different and the third thing is what I believe I deserve like people don't feel like they deserve to have this body or this business or they have imposter syndrome or they don't think they deserve to be happy in a relationship that's going to affect all behaviors belief driven right in order to get a result new result vou have to do a new behavior in order to do that new behavior you need a belief that allows that to be possible so that's mindset so that's Mickey mouse is left here right now Mickey's right ear is going to be the second hand which is motivation okay huge because you could have a limitless mindset about money about politics about change about your health your memory and you're not motivated to get out of that box so you're not getting out of that box so motivation people talk about it like a warm bath for me motivation is very structured it's only three factors that you have to unlimited the formula for limitless motivation to motivate yourself to work out to read to meditate or to motivate someone to buy or your kids to clean their room three things p times

e times s3 the letter p times the letter e times s3 and what does this mean and now take now see yourself in that box if you're not motivated you're procrastinating the p is purpose start with why Simon talks about but if you don't feel it like I had I saw somebody on the street the other day and he was I didn't even recognize him because when I knew him years ago he was so unhealthy I mean like the worst extreme and all friends would do an intervention say give him suggestions he would ignore all of it he would take pride in being unhealthy right I see him on the street he lost all his weight he looks younger and I didn't even recognize him and I'm just like what do you been doing tells me all this stuff I'm like we've been telling you for like 20 to do this stuff why are you all of a sudden and he's like I came home tell me about this work trip he came home and his daughters like crying hysterically and he had a dream that he died right and wasn't there for him and I was and that's that was purpose right so that's the thing we are not logical we are biological dopamine oxytocin serotonin we could get that through life circumstances or to focus on something that drives us so I would sometimes we need a rock bottom moment to get a new purpose in life that kind of explains why that is the case so many of my guests here when I hear about their life stories say this particular thing happened and then my life changed

what you're saying there is it was an increase in their purpose I would say there's some things in my experience that you could only learn through a storm like some storms come to teach us things you know or to clear a path for us but certainly rock bottom is an interesting perspective we talked about the six thinking hats to be able to look at something from a different point of view vou know so the purpose so feel the purpose and so just like people don't biologically they buy emotionally get them emotional right but then if you don't have an emotional reason to read that book emotional reason to remember that name emotional reason to do that no the e p is the purpose which is emotion the e is energy so some people are motivated because they're exhausted like so like the idea here is like I mentioned newborn baby if you haven't slept for three nights in a row you're not going to be very motivated to work out if you had a big process meal and you're a food coma you're not going to be very motivated to study or read that okay so like physiological energy perfect so and remember you don't have energy you do it so the things we talked about reducing stress getting good night's sleep eating the best brain foods now s3 somebody could have limitless purpose they know why they do it they're doing the right things for the right reasons and they could have an unlimited energy and still not be motivated because they're overwhelmed or because they're confused maybe that goal is too big they want to meet their soul mate and live happily ever after that's way too big right they want to make the next unicorn

that's way too big right on on dragons den whatever s3 stands for small simple steps because often what stalls us is we're intimidated or we're confused and a confused mind doesn't do anything right even if you're marketing to somebody give them purpose have them energy meaning having resources capital but are you making it so simple they can't fail small simple steps right because if you make that too confusing they won't go do anything so a small simple step this is how you find it with a question I ask myself this question every day when I get confused or I get overwhelmed I say what is the tiniest action I could take right now that will give me progress towards this goal right can't fail what's the tiniest action I could take right now that will give me progress towards this goal right can't fail so let's say somebody doesn't work out right because this is beyond that's too big of a jump small simple step put on their running shoes maybe somebody leaders or readers they're inspired now to say that they're going to read every day for an hour that's too big maybe small simple step opening up the book reading one line can't get your kids to floss their teeth get them to floss one tooth right nobody's or put one sock in the hamper you know to get clean because nobody remember this iconic effect nobody's going to stop one tooth they're going to go to completion so I believe little by little a little becomes a lot and that's the key for motivation

mindset motivation and then the last things the head there is the methods and I put that last because a lot of people know the methods but they are not doing it because they either have them don't have the right mindset or they don't have the right motivation now here's the reason why I share this and I'll put this on my professional tombstone is because this is the gap between what keeps people limited to limit less meaning any area of your life you control the controllables right and what you could always control is your mindset your motivation and the methods you're using to reach that goal so what I would do with this is I would put like goal on top and then I could even use this as a role modeling I can listen to all your podcasts and discern and elicit what is their mindset what is their beliefs and attitudes assumptions about that topic money Ray Dalio whoever you're talking to right then I would say what's their motivation what's the purpose you know how are there small simple steps and then the methods that they're using because the methods that work today you know are they want the methods that work 10 years ago in marketing aren't necessarily the same methods that work for today right or investing or in wellness because there's a big information upgrade so my message for everybody is the past few years been very frightening for a lot of people and out of that fear I feel like they've downgraded their dreams to meet this current situation and I think that's the wrong approach you shouldn't be downgrading

your dreams to meet the current situation you should be thinking how do I upgrade my mindset how do I upgrade my motivation how do I upgrade the methods I'm using to be able to meet those both audacious goals right we have a closing tradition on this podcast where the last guest leaves a question for the next guest not knowing who they're leaving it for okay the guestion that's been left for you is ooh wow good guestion what is the last thing you did that you deeply regret okay I I'll say this I without giving names T I committed to an event to speak out out of this country in your neck of the woods and it's an event I really want to go to and I put it off for years I do regret because I'm going to be missing father's day here in the United States and this boy I've learned so much from he's only a few months old but and I it's funny going into fatherhood the three growth areas I've had in my life were entrepreneurship and you could identify with that right like what it's all lies on you and if dozens of people that rely on you to for their livelihood and the impact it's it's a lot of responsibility my personal relationship you know where you're intimate with somebody and you're that vulnerable and but the third thing is his fatherhood and I went into this thinking

I'm going to upgrade this kid's brain and biohack the heck out of this kid
I've noticed over the past few months that I've taken a different approach
I'm just like
loving this kid so much but just observing and
I don't remember the times a lot of my childhood because of what I went through but just watching these revelations that he has

hands and that he can manipulate the

world and I realized that my perspective

has changed instead of me teaching him stuff

you know I want to protect him and provide

but I feel like he's reminding me

of these

these important core memories that I

had forgotten Jim thank you so much

Jim quick knows how to get the

maximum out of me as a

human being a wonderful quote that

Will Smith has put on the front of his book and that's exactly

what you're doing for so many people

that's the mission you're on and that's certainly what you've done for me

I've been a fan of yours for some time now

having struggled

with a lot of the things you talk about in this book

even the process of meeting you and getting to do the research

has advanced so many of those

critical areas of my life

really I think the key thing is it's let down a series

of limiting beliefs that have

held me prison

prisoner and hostage you know the first

the left ear on that Mickey Mouse thing was

mindset that's probably where I'm

struggling the most and from reading your book limitless

that's certainly the wall that has been left

that has been

torn down so thank you

for that and thank you for the mission you're on because I can feel in everything you say and all the stories you tell

how internally motivated and how authentic you are about what you're doing and that's a service to the world that I think is incredibly necessary so thank you so much Jim thank you for your time thank you for your vulnerability and thank you for your wisdom Can I challenge everyone to do something Steve? I would love everybody knowing that knowledge by itself is not power that the small simple step could lead to something big is to take a screen shot of wherever they're consuming this on social media and Spotify and iTunes wherever and and tag you and I so we get to see it and I have a question for everybody because this will be my question for your next guest is my normal question is what are you going to do for your brain today and I would love to hear that also but over the past 12 months what is a new behavior or a belief or a habit and understanding that you've adopted that has served you this past year a new behavior or a belief that has been supportive of vou and I would love for you to post that tag us so we see it I'll repost some of my favorites and I'll actually gift a few copies randomly for the book out to people and yeah signed copies or? we can do that also as well books books are everything for me and then I encourage people to connect and again I put that link if that's okay to mention in our Instagram for the quiz

for the brain animal mybrainanimal.com and to our podcast and everything but I appreciate Steve I'm being a big fan and follower of your work impeccable the amount of so many shows you're on like somebody will say something so deep and then and I'll be so upset because the interviewer will go on well my next question is this whoa whoa you're so good at being present you know and I since you create space for so many people to just be vulnerable and you know it's it's real it's raw and it's extremely rewarding so thank you thank you so so unbelievably kind of you to say that means the world to me Jim thank you so much pleasure to meet you and become friends thank you quick one some of you will know that this podcast is now sponsored by the incredible Airbnb I'm a huge user, lover and customer of Airbnb every time I go away on a trip whether that's work related or it's a holiday Airbnb is always my go to but have you ever considered have you ever thought about making some extra cash to cover some bills or to help pay off a holiday let me explain further perhaps people are coming to your town or city for a music festival for an event or a holiday and you have a spare room why not Airbnb it or your home office is free right now you're working home during the week you can Airbnb it honestly the possibilities are endless I've Airbnb'd one of my apartments before and it's a great way to make extra cash I'd highly recommend you all to at least check it out that extra

space you have that extra room it might be worth more than you think so to find out just how much it's worth search Airbnb.co.uk slash host that's Airbnb.co.uk slash host check it out subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe subscribe