Perceiving, remembering, speaking

A view of human capabilities has developed in the past several decades which emphasizes cognitive aspects of experience. This view casts the individual as a knower, or at least as one who aims to know. Knowledge of the world and the self is possible, of course, and part of what an individual knows is what the talker just said. We are working this term to expose a version of this cognitive account applicable to language. En route, we should take a moment to review the arsenal of cognitive processes that might pertain to language, whether spoken written, heard, seen or signed. To that end, please provide a simple sketch of the process of identification and recognition that applies to these cases:

How do you know what this is?

a.  

b.  

c.  

d.  

Specific details. Write no more than 500 words on this topic. Bring this little essay with you to class on February 19.