**Memory Access and Access Time**

When memory is read or written, this is called a memory access. A specific procedure is used to control each access to memory, which consists of having the memory controller generate the correct signals to specify which memory location needs to be accessed, and then having the data show up on the data bus to be read by the processor or whatever other device requested it.

**Memory Cycle**

A series of operations that take place to read or write a byte of memory.

**Memory cycle time**

The time it takes to perform one memory cycle.