



Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones

REVISION ADVICE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS



PLANNING AHEAD

- ⇒ Study the hardest subjects first
- ⇒ Revise for 25-45 minutes, then 10 minutes break
- ⇒ Timetable
- ⇒ Share your revision plan with others - then you are more likely to stick to it
- ⇒ A tidy environment
- ⇒ Summarise your notes as you go along - don't leave this until the start of revision!
- ⇒ Go back over your class notes the same week, and then re-visit them
- ⇒ Create revision resources e.g flash-cards, online or written
- ⇒ Know which topics you need to revise for each subject – follow the syllabus, learning programmes



Planning

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zn3497h>



Plan and be organised

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zr622nb>



Timetable tips

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/g/planner>

EXAMPLES OF TIMETABLES

Saturday		
TIMES	SUBJECT / ACTIVITY	DONE x ✓
9AM - 10AM	Shower / Breakfast	
10AM - 11AM	French vocab	
11AM - 12PM	Me time	
LUNCH		
12PM - 1PM	English: Learn quotes	
2PM - 3PM	Chemistry topics	
3PM - 4PM	Sport	
4PM - 5PM	See friends	
5PM - 6PM	Maths - past papers	
6PM - 7PM	Dinner	
7PM - 8PM	Watch TV!	
8PM - 8.15PM	Plan for next day	

READY, STEADY, GO! (Getting started)

Top tips how to get started and how to revise!

- ⇒ Know which topics you need to revise for each subject. Use the syllabus, learning programmes as a revision list
- ⇒ Do not just read notes. This is not a good way of revising, Make flash cards, mind maps, use post it notes
- ⇒ Watch online clips to bring your notes to life!
- ⇒ Test yourself - complete past papers, ask someone to test you. This will show areas of strength and weakness
- ⇒ Learn from previous tests/mocks:
 - *Do you know where you lost marks?*
 - *Did you answer the questions directly?*
 - *Did you answer in full?*
 - *Do you know the success criteria for every question?*
 - *Did you revise every aspect thoroughly?*
 - *Did you finish the exam? Was timing a problem?*
- ⇒ Reward yourself during breaks e.g watch your favourite programme, go to the gym, social media
- ⇒ Set short-term realistic goals
- ⇒ Set yourself manageable targets e.g fractions and algebra in Maths
- ⇒ Set yourself a time limit for revising each target topic
- ⇒ When you have hit your target, set a new one



Tips

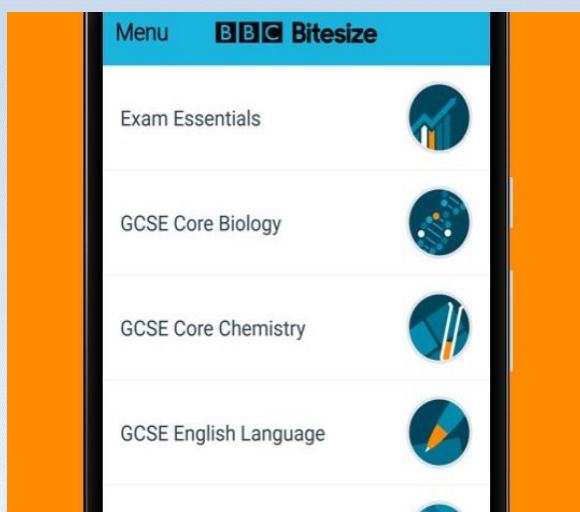
<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z9py97h>



How to revise

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zw8qpbk>

BBC REVISION BITESIZE REVISION APP FREE - FOR SEVERAL SUBJECTS



<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zgd682p>

PAST PAPERS

- ⇒ Understand what the question is asking of you!
- ⇒ Practice the timing. How much time should you allow to answer each question? If unsure, ask your teacher!
- ⇒ Use a different colour pen to highlight any marks you lose or mistakes you make
- ⇒ Test yourself. Use past papers or ask someone to test you
- ⇒ If your notes are all bullet points, past papers might be the first chance you have to write in full sentences!
- ⇒ Examiner reports can give you an idea of where students went wrong in previous exams
- ⇒ Test yourself more than once. Try it 15 minutes after revising a topic, one day after, then a week later
- ⇒ Know the meaning of command words e.g explain, describe, discuss.

Command words and their definitions:

- Describe:** say what you see - no need for reasons
- Explain:** give reasons
- Outline:** give a brief summary
- Analyse:** go into detail
- Compare:** what are the similarities and differences?
- Contrast:** what are the differences?
- Calculate:** use numbers given to work out the value of something
- Define:** give the meaning of something
- Evaluate:** consider both sides - pros and cons
- Justify:** give evidence to explain something
- To what extent:** Judge the importance or success of something - has it worked or not?
- Argue:** present a case with evidence or reasons
- Assess:** Weigh up / give an informed judgement
- Comment on:** give your opinion on something

PAST PAPERS - <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zx6nrwx>



Surname	Centre Number	Candidate Number
Other Names		0

GCSE
4702/01

wjec
cbac

APPLIED BUSINESS
UNIT 2: Business Finance and Decision Making
WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2017 – MORNING
1 hour 15 minutes

For Examiner's use only		
Question	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
1.	38	
2.	36	
3.	26	
Total	100	

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS
A calculator.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES
Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.
Answer all the questions.

TAKE CARE – LOOK AFTER YOURSELF



BREAKS

Treat yourself e.g have a snack, drink, go for a walk, chat with a friend.
After your break, you'll be refreshed and ready for the next study session.
Don't study for more than 45 minutes at a time!



NO SOCIAL MEDIA!!

A few minutes can quickly turn into endless hours.
Don't waste time - take a break from social media!



EXERCISE

Exercise can train your brain, make you more alert and positive.
Doing some form of exercise helps to release endorphins!
Go to the gym, do yoga, go for a walk, jog, swim!



SLEEP

Get plenty of sleep.
Go to bed at the same time every night.
You'll be able to stay out late as much as you like when exams are over.
Don't use your phone before you go to sleep. To get the right kind of sleep, you need to clear your mind and wind down first.



EAT

Feed the brain!
Eat properly . Plenty of vitamins will make you more alert and positive.
Your five-a-day is crucial.



BE ORGANISED

Before you start, make a revision timetable that has all your assignments/
exams with due dates.
Colour-coding so you know what's most urgent.



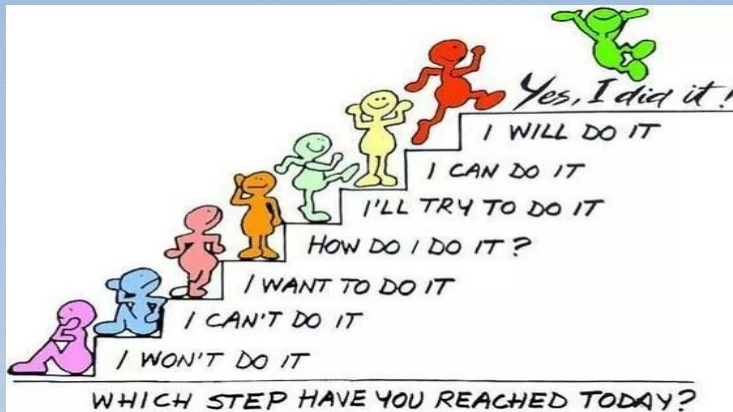
GET COMFY

Find a comfy spot with lots of space to study.



BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, BE POSITIVE AND STAY MOTIVATED

- * Make a list of the things you are good at. Think about the steps you took to become good at them, this reminds of you of your successes.
- * Make a list of the reasons why your exams are important to you.
- * **Believe in yourself.** Recognise your own potential.
- * **Don't compare yourself to others.** These are your exams and your future. All that matters is that you do the best that you can do.
- * **Don't let negative thoughts take over.** Just because you have the thought does not mean that it is true or that you have to believe it.
- * **Remember that life goes on whatever your grades.** You might be disappointed but these are just one set of exams. Focus on doing the best that you can.



<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z26scj6>



HOW TO DEAL WITH EXAM STRESS

- ⇒ When you are feeling the stress, get talking.
- ⇒ Remind yourself that a certain amount of stress is motivation.
- ⇒ Talk to friends. They are there to help. Talking to them will help you realise you are not alone and they will give you support.
- ⇒ Talk to your teachers or parents. They will have a different perspective to you. They can help you to solve problems and find practical solutions.
- ⇒ Take breaks.
- ⇒ Revise with friends so that you don't feel isolated and alone.
- ⇒ Practice mindfulness and concentrate on your breathing.



Minimise stress

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zsvcqhv>



<https://www.ncsyes.co.uk/themix/5-ways-destress->



<https://childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/mental-health/taking-care-of-yourself/>

LEARNING STYLES

WHICH STYLE SUITS YOU?



VISUAL

Taking notes
Reading the information
Watch a film
Write everything out
Colour coding, highlight
Charts, mind maps
Flash cards
Pictures, computers
Bullet points, post-it



AUDITORY

Talking/reading aloud
Listening to the information
Discuss work with someone
Background music
Tape yourself summarising
'Rap' your work



DOING (KINESTHETIC)

Hands on
Short sessions with breaks
Change locations of breaks
Discuss in a group
Flash cards
Present/demonstrate the work
A movement to memorise
Computers
Walk around
Draw pictures, mind maps

REVISION APPS

- * **Gojimo** - Pick your GCSE/A Level subject, exam board, then take part in quizzes to test your knowledge. You get instant feedback and explanations. At the end, you're told how many you got right, and review your errors. The app will track your progress over time.
- * **iMindMap and bubbl.us** - Create and share mind maps with friends. It works the same as it does on paper, but it is more mobile and collaborative.
- * **Quizlet** - Create your own revision flashcards, as well as to use sets created by others. There are four different modes you can use: cards, learn, match and test.
- * **Memrise** - If learning languages – French, Cymraeg is your focus, Memrise shows and tests you on the vocabulary then you can click on the optional “help me to remember this button”, which allows you to select a “mem” – an image, that relates to a word and should, help you remember it.
- * **Science** —Bangor University. Download app.
- * **Seneca**—Revision guides for several GCSE and A level courses.
- * **BBC Bitesize App**

REVISION METHODS

Highlighting

Highlighting is a popular activity when revising.

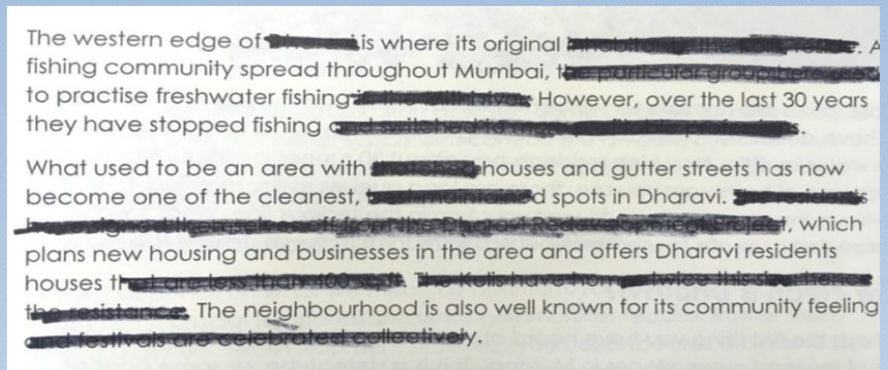
But, be careful that you are using it for the right reasons.

Students who highlight their notes do not highlight what is most important. Ask yourself – does it help? Colour code your notes into categories.



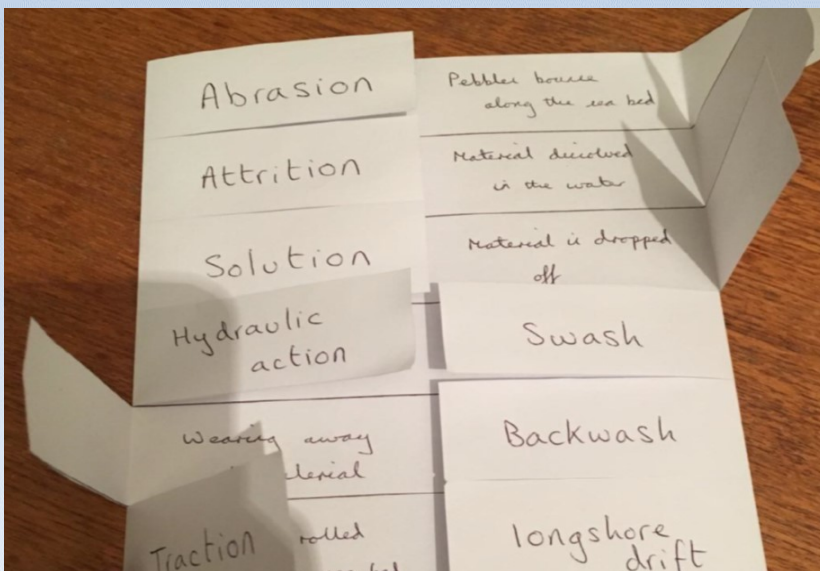
Reverse highlighting

As you read the information, black out any words you do not know or think are not relevant. Anything that is left will be the key information.



Foldable revision

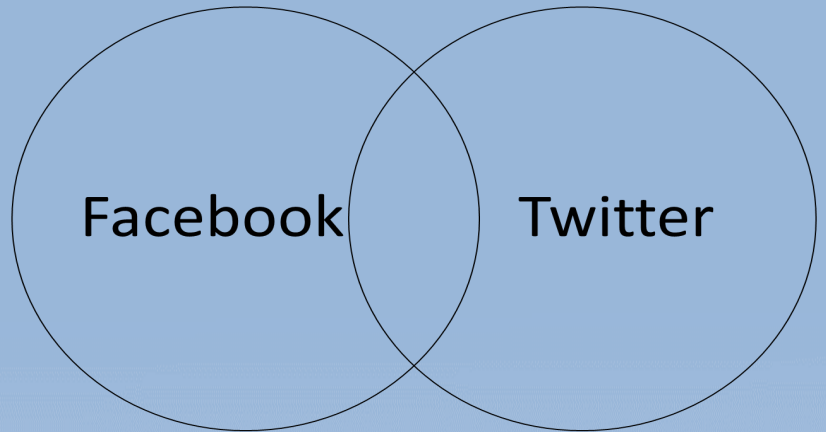
This is a good method to test yourself on key words and definitions. The key words go on the top, the definition is written underneath. A great way to keep your revision together!



REVISION METHODS

Venn diagrams

Compare similarities and differences between important facts for each topic.



Mnemonics

Using letters to abbreviate words, learn spellings and stages of a ceremony. This example is to remember the planets in order, using a simple sentence.

Voice memos

Record your revision verbally, so you can play it back and listen to your revision.

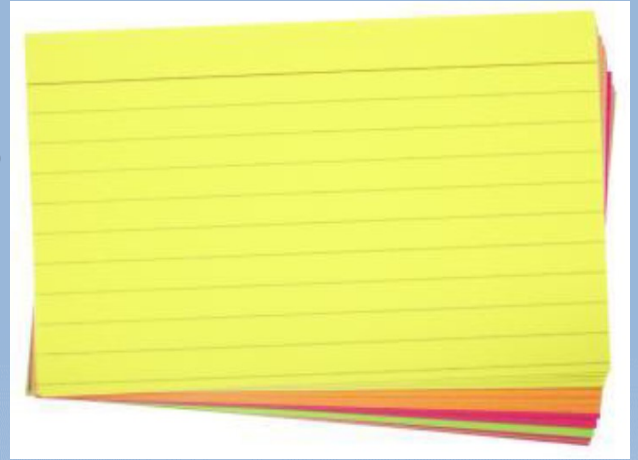
Use a voice memo app on your phone for FREE!



REVISION METHODS

Note cards

Summarise important information on flip cards in order to read just before your exam.



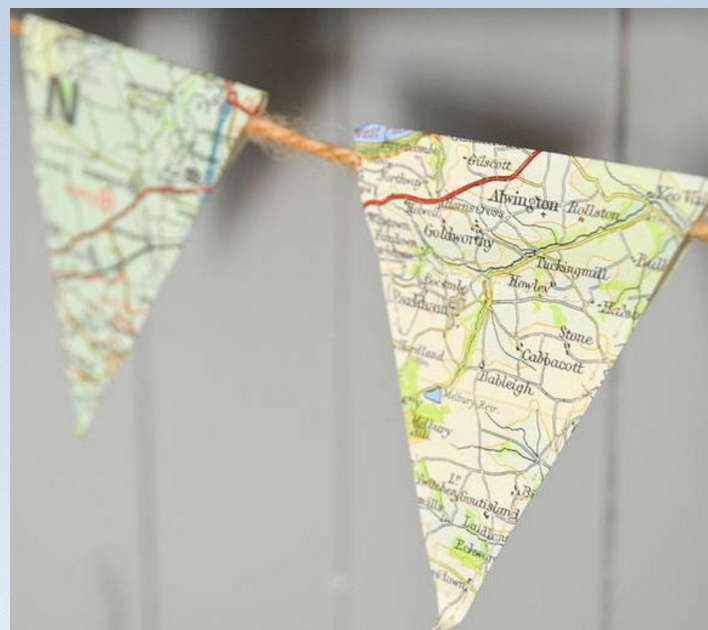
Flash cards

Arch	An opening through a headland with rock above and on both sides of it.
Attrition	A process of <u>erosion</u> . The pebbles are reduced in size. Small pebbles are easier to transport away.
Beach	A gently sloping area of sand and shingle along the edge of the sea.

Each card has a key word and definition so you can quiz yourself or others.

Bunting

Design revision bunting with key words, case studies, concepts or sketches with annotations.



REVISION METHODS

Consult an expert

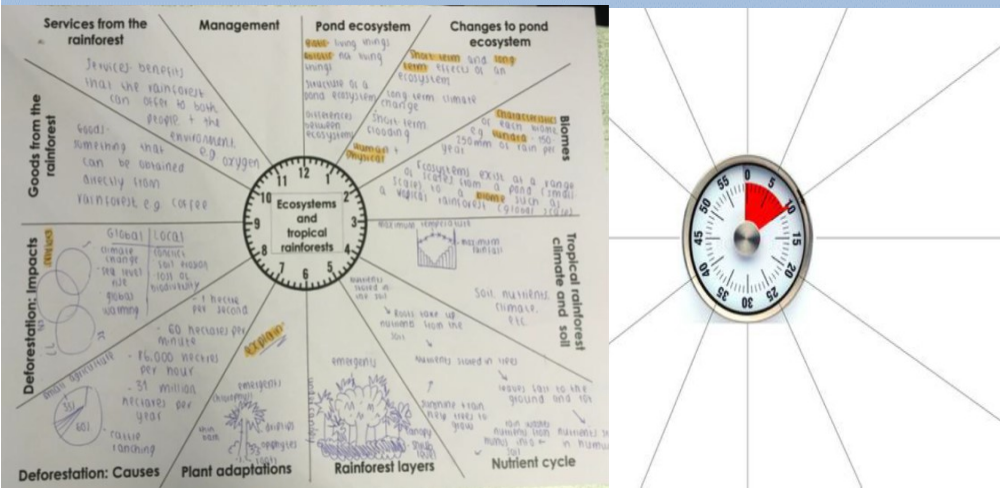
Summarise topics or questions that you need more help on. Then, ask a friend, or teacher to help you understand what you are struggling with.



Revision clock

Break down topics into 12 sub-topics. In each segment, make diagrams, summarise key points.

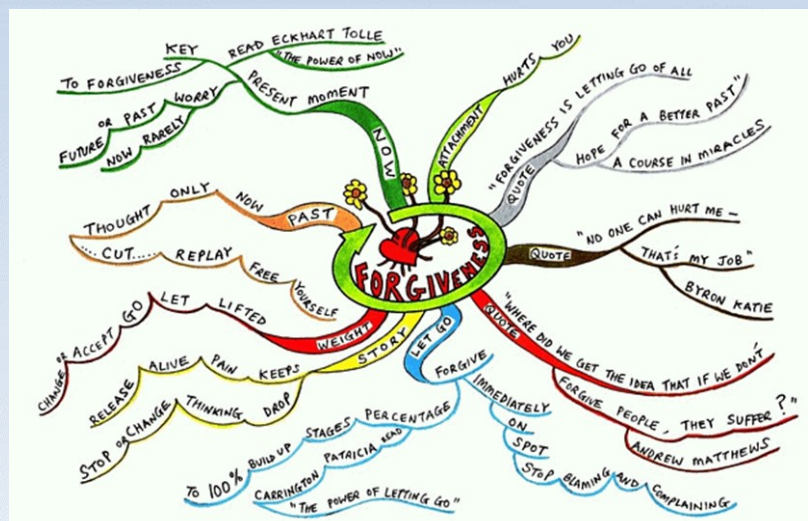
Each segment has a 5 minute time limit, to break down learning into smaller pieces.



Spider diagrams

Summarise a topic onto a page branching out various sub-topics

List as many things that you need to know OR what you already know.

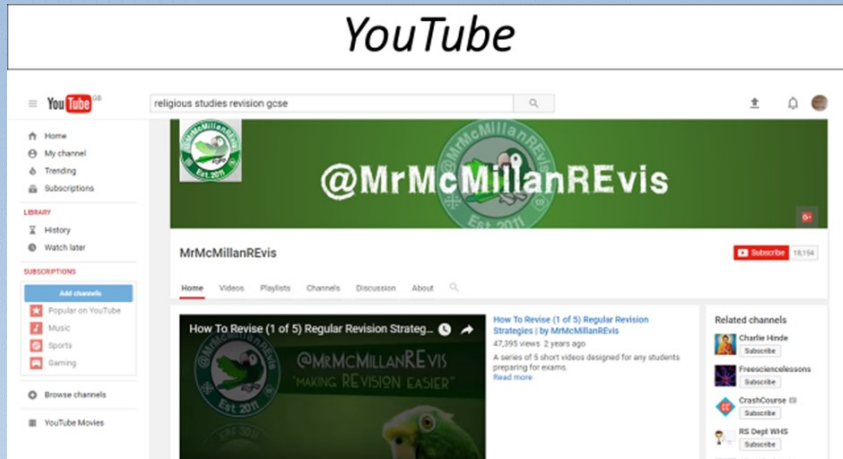


REVISION METHODS

Model answers

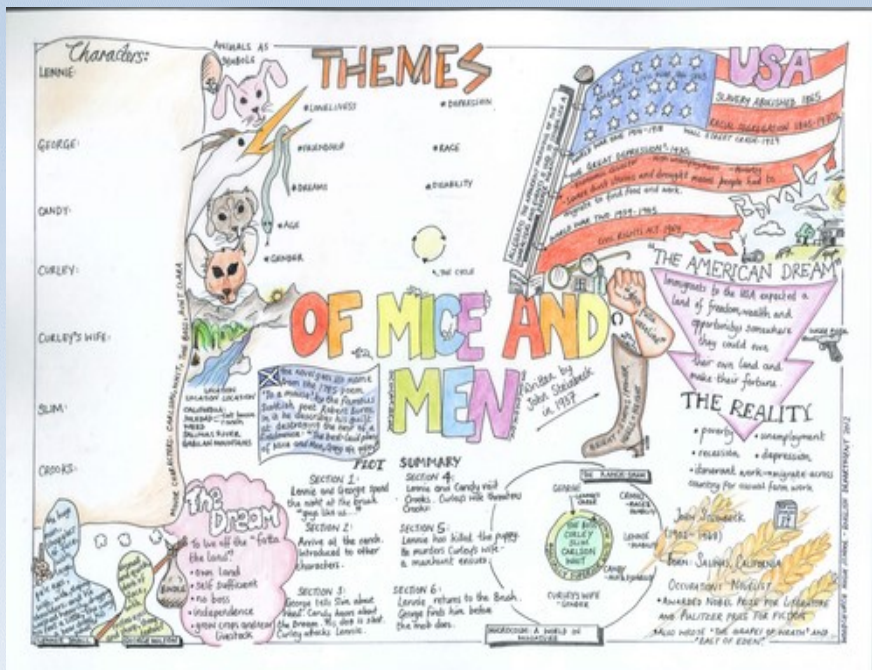
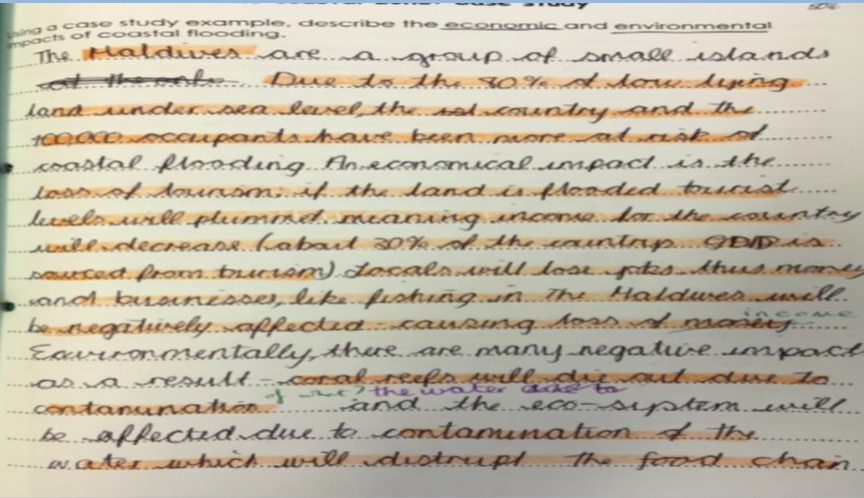
Use past exam papers and full mark model answers to understand how the marks are awarded.

Youtube



Brain dump/ Mind map

Create a mind map on everything you know about a topic. You can write, draw a picture.



REVISION METHODS

QUIZ—Create practice questions on a topic. Swap questions with a partner and answer. E.g –

What is _____ ?

A _____

A _____

A _____

FLASHCARDS—Create your own flashcard – question on one side, answer on the other side.

FRONT OF CARD

What is meant by discrimination?

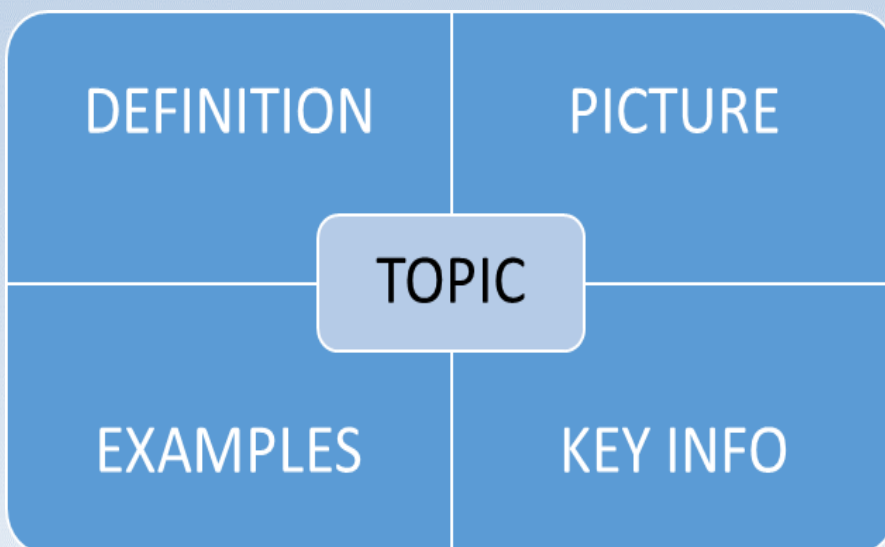
QUESTION

BACK OF CARD

An action where you treat someone differently e.g colour of his/her skin.

ANSWER

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS



THE DAY OF THE EXAM - TIPS

- * **Sleep** - Have a good night's sleep before the exam. Staying up late to 'cram' is never a good idea. Stop revising at a point, which gives you time to calm down, then go to bed at a decent time.
- * **Correct stationery** – Check with your teachers what you can and cannot take into the exam (e.g Calculator). Make sure you have a spare black pen and pencil in case of an emergency.
- * **Stop and reset** - If your mind goes blank during the exam, do a simple breathing exercise to focus yourself, then have a calm read through the exam paper to find something you know well. Start by answering that, to boost your confidence, and then move on to the trickier stuff.
- * **Focus on you** - Don't focus on what other people are doing in the exam hall. You can't judge how well you are doing by how other people are behaving.
- * **Move on** - Don't keep re-living the exam when it's over. You've done what you can and you can't change anything now. Move onto the next one.



Websites to help you further:

www.google.co.uk - In search, type WJEC revision KS4 (the topic you need e.g Biology Cells)

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-and-work/school-college/exam-stress/>

[https://www.wjec.co.uk/students/exam-preparation-andrevision/?](https://www.wjec.co.uk/students/exam-preparation-andrevision/?fbclid=IwAR3ZDynshNizXNpq114bj2DLI16dkQQMdLajIAEF2nccUQukGLa2iVbmMQ&language_id=1)

[fbclid=IwAR3ZDynshNizXNpq114bj2DLI16dkQQMdLajIAEF2nccUQukGLa2iVbmMQ&language_id=1](https://www.wjec.co.uk/students/exam-preparation-andrevision/?fbclid=IwAR3ZDynshNizXNpq114bj2DLI16dkQQMdLajIAEF2nccUQukGLa2iVbmMQ&language_id=1)

[https://www.bangor.ac.uk/studyskills/study-guides/revision-exam-skills.php.en?](https://www.bangor.ac.uk/studyskills/study-guides/revision-exam-skills.php.en?fbclid=IwAR1tKVmz_cWES7mhSd7QKr_W65DpDcaOOrv0WzlmzRvCIVaFuC9DOMSWb5Y)

[fbclid=IwAR1tKVmz_cWES7mhSd7QKr_W65DpDcaOOrv0WzlmzRvCIVaFuC9DOMSWb5Y](https://www.bangor.ac.uk/studyskills/study-guides/revision-exam-skills.php.en?fbclid=IwAR1tKVmz_cWES7mhSd7QKr_W65DpDcaOOrv0WzlmzRvCIVaFuC9DOMSWb5Y)

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/your-stories/14-ways-to-beat-exam-stress/#.XGdF6rp2vml>

Mathemateg.com—Many resources to help with your revision. Twitter account— @mathemateg = clips.

TIPS FOR PARENTS - HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD REVISE

There are many ways in which you can help your child plan their exam revision:

- ⇒ Ensure they **attend school every day**.
- ⇒ Know your child's WJEC summer **exam timetable**.
- ⇒ Help them plan out a **revision timetable**.
- ⇒ Balance between **revision and relaxation**/leisure activities are important for keeping students healthy and well balanced.
- ⇒ **Time revision sessions**. Revise for no more than 45 minutes at a time, focus on no more than 2 subjects on a school night and 4-6 subjects over the weekend.
- ⇒ Your child needs **regular breaks**. Regular 5-10 minutes breaks plus longer ones for meal times.
- ⇒ **Boundaries**. Although parents want their children to succeed, continual questioning about revision can sometimes be viewed as interfering and may have a negative effect.
- ⇒ Finding the right **study space** where students can sit down and focus on their revision is essential for their concentration and to reduce exam anxiety.
- ⇒ Somewhere **quiet** to study away from distractions.
- ⇒ **Offer a cup of tea/drink**.
- ⇒ **Encourage and praise** for good work.
- ⇒ A well balanced **diet and sleep** are essential.
- ⇒ If they cannot control the usage of their mobile phone, you might want to have an agreement that they **don't have their phone** whilst revising.

REVISION TECHNIQUES

Here are some questions, which may help each student decide **which method works best for them**:

- ⇒ Does he/she prefer studying through visual aids such as graphs, diagrams, and charts?
- ⇒ Does your child learn best through interacting and discussions?
- ⇒ Do they tend to work well going through their notes and textbooks?
- ⇒ Does your child prefer revising by going over questions and answers completed in class, quizzing themselves and practicing mock exams?
- ⇒ **Actively engaging with the work through memory techniques rather than just reading notes is the most effective strategy.**

REVISION RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

- ⇒ **Stationery/resources**. Make sure your child has everything they need for their revision and exam.
- ⇒ If they are missing some important material, whether notes or past papers, encourage them to ask teachers for it. Also, **ask if they need any help with their revision**.
- ⇒ **Attend revision courses/sessions** e.g over the Easter holidays, extra revision lessons lunchtime or after school.

MESSAGES...

Mrs Angharad Williams: " I **CAN**, I **WILL**, End of story."

"Keep going...you're getting there, it's not going to be easy, but it's going to be worth it. You **CAN** do this...**believe it!**"

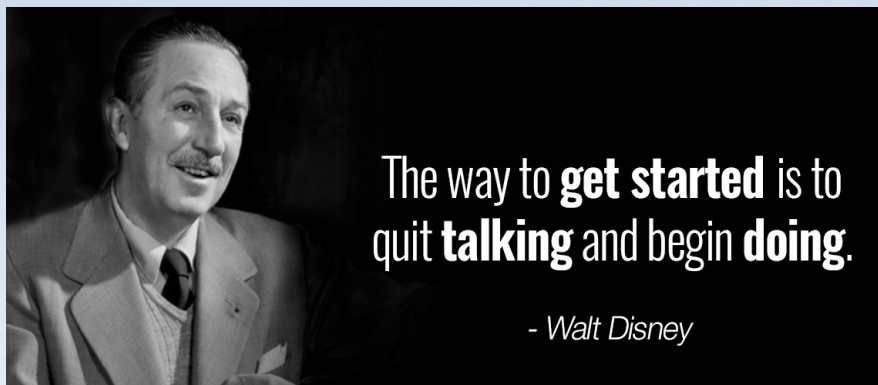
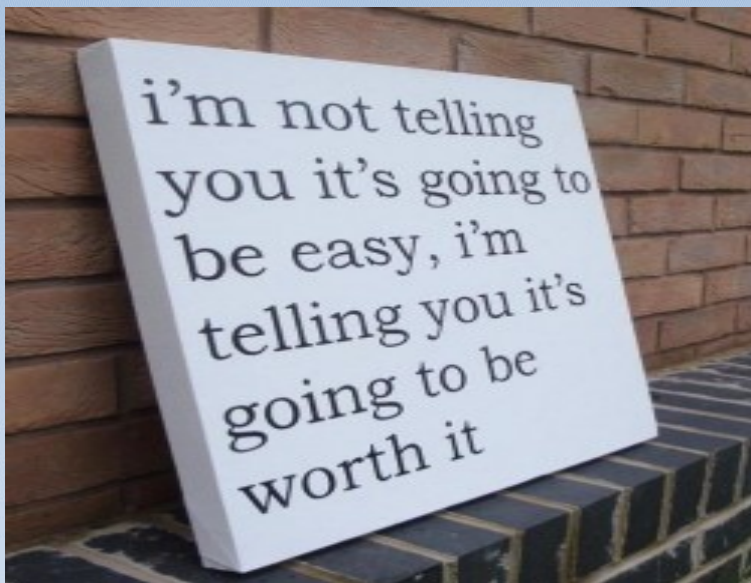
"WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE QUITTING, THINK ABOUT **WHY** YOU STARTED."

Mrs Einir Williams: "The man who moves a **mountain** begins by carrying away small stones".

Mrs Lois Molyneux Owen—"Top tip: Create a list of what you need to revise before the session and stick to the list—no more, no less. "You can do anything, but not everything".

Dr Geraint Jones: "When an athlete like Usain Bolt is preparing himself in the blocks, waiting for the gunshot at the beginning of the race, he's not only thinking about the race ahead of him, he's recalling all of his hard work from training, over the past week, months, years that have led up to this very race. He has faith in the hard work that he has put in. For you, the race is the exam, and the training that he has done is the revision you've done over the past few weeks, the lessons that you've attended over the past years. All the hard work that you've put in, has led up to the exam - have **FAITH** in the hard work you've put in and **GO FOR IT!!**"

Mrs Mefys Jones: "Push yourself because, no one else will do it for you. I like the following quotes—think about them. Be happy, enjoy the summer holidays, and I wish you all the best and happiness for the future."



Kelly Clarkson stonger

inir Williams

"Dyfal donc a dyrr y garreg"

"The man who moves a **mountain** begins by carrying away small stones". – **Chinese Proverb**

Gyda dyfalbarhad, gwydnwch a gwaith caled mae'n bosib llwyddo.

