



Millthorpe
School



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we achieve
excellence

Year 11 Information 2025-26

25th September

FAIRNESS | HARD WORK | AMBITION



Key Dates

10th December 4pm-7.00pm	Progress Evening 1
Week commencing 1st December	Progress Report 1
19th January to 6th February	PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations)
Week commencing 2nd March	Progress Report 2
11th March 4pm-7.00pm	Progress Evening 2
April 13th- 4th May	GCSE Exams: Practical Assessments
5th May- 18th June	GCSE Exams: written
18th June	Prom- York Racecourse
19th June	Prom Breakfast and Leavers assembly
20th August	Results Day



Inclusion Team (Access Arrangements)	send@millthorpe.elt.org.uk
All other communication	admin@millthorpe.elt.org.uk

GCSE Exam boards 2025/26

SUBJECT	EXAM BOARD	COURSE CODE	ASSESSMENT INFORMATION
GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art)	AQA	8202	8202/C - Portfolio Work, 8202/X - Externally Set Assignment
GCSE Biology	AQA	8461	2 x Biology Papers
GCSE Chemistry	AQA	8462	2 x Chemistry Papers
Cambridge National in Child Development	OCR	J809	2 x Coursework (R058 and R059), 1 x Written Paper
GCSE Computer Science	OCR	J277	2 x Written papers
GCSE 3D Design	WJEC	C655QS	1 x Portfolio, 1x Assignment
GCSE Drama	AQA	8261	1 X Written paper, 1x Internal Practical (8261/C), 1x External Practical (8261/X)
Engineering Level 1/2	WJEC	5799	2 x Coursework (Unit 1 and Unit 2) 1 x Written Paper
GCSE English Language	AQA	8700	2 x Written papers, 1x Practical Spoken Language Assessment
GCSE English Literature	AQA	8702	2 x Written Papers
ELC English (Step up to English Silver)	AQA	5972	2 x Component 1 NEA's 1x Component 2 NEA's
GCSE French	Pearson Edexcel	1FRO	3 x Written papers (Listening paper is audio track) 1x practical speaking assessment
GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition	AQA	8585	1 X Written paper, 1x NEA (8585/C)
GCSE German	Pearson Edexcel	1GNO	3 x Written papers (Listening paper is audio track) 1x practical speaking assessment
GCSE Geography	AQA	8035	3 x Written exam papers

SUBJECT	EXAM BOARD	COURSE CODE	ASSESSMENT INFORMATION
GCSE Graphic Comms	WJEC	C6534QS	1 x Portfolio, 1x Assignment
GCSE History	AQA	8145JC	2 x Written Papers
GCSE Maths	Pearson Edexcel	1MA1	3 x Written exam papers
ELC Maths (Entry Level)	AQA	5930	8 x Component papers
GCSE Music	WJEC	C660QS	1 x Written paper (with audio track), 1 x Composing practical , 1x Performing Practical
GCSE Physics	AQA	8463	2 x Physics Papers
GCSE Physical Education	Pearson Edexcel	1PE0	2 x Written exam papers, 1x Practical Performance (PE0/03), 1x PEP (PE0/04)
GCSE Religious Studies	AQA	8062MA	2 x Written Papers
GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)	AQA	8464	2x Biology papers, 2x Physics papers, 2x Chemistry papers

GCSE online revision recommendations

Subject	Name	Link
Maths	Sparx - homework, independent study and targeted revision Corbett Maths - extra printable practice on all topics Mathsgenie - past papers with mark schemes and worked solutions Year group google classroom	https://sparxmaths.com/ https://corbettmaths.com/ https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.php
History	AQA exam board: BBC bitesize Germany 1890-1945. This link takes you to the main Bitesize page for Germany There are then 11 links to open that revise different sections of the topic. All are useful. Youtube video link for Germany -takes you to 11 clips, around 10 mins each, on each section of Germany, including exam technique. BBC bitesize Conflict in Asia Note Bitesize does not cover the Korean War, but you need to revise this. The YouTube Clip does cover Korea too. Youtube Revision whole overview of Korean War and War in Vietnam BBC Bitesize Health and the People	Germany revision topics link AQA Germany History Revision videos by Pete Jackson The Vietnam War Youtube War in Asia 1950-1975 revision Medieval Medicine Renaissance 19th century - a revolution in medicine Medicine and 19th century part 2 In to the 20th century

	Youtube Q1 How useful revision Health and People Youtube Q2 Significance revision Health and People Youtube Q3 compare similarities OR differences revision Health and People Youtube Q4 Factor 16 mark essay revision Health and People Youtube Health and People whole course Knowledge - Youtube Health and the People Medieval overview BBC Bitesize - Elizabethan England Unit. this link takes you to 6 mini sections, all are applicable. Youtube revision video Elizabethan Court Podcast - Dan Snow's History Hit on Elizabeth I	Modern medicine 20th century part 2 Health and People Q1 How useful tips Health and People Q2 How useful tips Health and People Q3 Compare either similarities or differences Health and People Q4 factor question Whole course Heath and People revision Medieval Period 5 mins overview Elizabethan England overview Elizabethan Court and Parliament revision Dan Snow's History Hit Podcast on Elizabeth I with Helen Castor
English	BBC Bitesize There are separate areas for both English Literature and English Language. All aspects of the course are covered. Sparknotes Similar to Bitesize, but with more of a literature focus and lots of quizzes to help students recall key quotes and themes. Oak National Academy Students can choose the 'pupil' option and access an extensive range of lessons on the key texts. Particularly valuable for	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx https://www.sparknotes.com/ https://www.thenational.academy/pupils

	revision any missed content. Use google classroom for practice literature and language exam questions, and for the rubric guides which will take you step by step through each question on literature and language exams.	
Sports Studies	BBC Bitesize (Edexcel) Seneca Learning: A free and interactive revision platform. Use Edexcel Physical Education materials as they are applicable. Students need their Millthorpe login. Google Classroom will have resources and past exam papers on there.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxbg39q https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Geography	Seneca - A free and interactive revision platform that helps students with engaging content, including quizzes and active recall, proven to improve exam performance. Internet Geography - Offers comprehensive revision notes, quizzes, and case studies, making it a great resource for detailed GCSE Geography preparation.	https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/5a073d30-21f8-11e8-8c19-619061cc7240/section/7014fdb0-21f8-11e8-8c19-619061cc7240/session https://www.internetgeography.net/aqa-gcse-geography/
Engineering WJEC	GoogleClassrooms contains all Unit 3 exam revision materials. As well as the full course rubric Seneca - A free and interactive revision platform. Use AQA DT materials as they are applicable. Full course quiz is also available through Google Classroom	
OCR Child	Google Classroom contains all RO57 exam revision materials. As	

Development Cambridge National	well as the full course rubric.
Computer Science	Educake - Self marking quizzing platform. Seneca - A free and interactive revision platform that helps students with engaging content, including quizzes and active recall, proven to improve exam performance. Google Classroom will be updated with past paper questions.
Graphic Products Eduqas	The course is portfolio based, students do not need access to specific revision resources as there is no written exam. Students need to be working through their own personal journey and designing their own product to manufacture. Students can be working on free software at home including Photopea to develop their designs.
3D Design Eduqas	The course is portfolio based, students do not need access to specific revision resources as there is no written exam. Students need to be working through their own personal journey and designing their own product to manufacture. Students can be working on free software at home including Tinkercad to develop their designs.
Fine Art AQA	Component 1 of this course is portfolio based, students do not need access to specific revision resources as there is no written exam. Students need to be working through their own personal journey and creating personal responses with sketchbook development work.
Science - Triple Science	Seneca - free and interactive revision platform that helps students with engaging content, including quizzes and active recall, proven to improve exam performance. Exam Board AQA - https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/courses/add?Price=Free BBC Bitesize - Exam Board Specific Revision tool. Biology - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpgcbk7 Chemistry - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8xtmnb Physics - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zsc9rdm Subject Google Classroom - all lesson resources uploaded. AQA Website - Biology, Chemistry, Physics https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects

	Cognito - Youtube https://www.youtube.com/@Cognitoedu
Science - Combined Science - Trilogy	Seneca - free and interactive revision platform that helps students with engaging content, including quizzes and active recall, proven to improve exam performance. Exam Board AQA - https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/courses/add?Price=Free BBC Bitesize - Exam Board Specific Revision tool. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h Subject Google Classroom - all lesson resources uploaded. AQA Website: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/science-8464/specification Cognito - Youtube https://www.youtube.com/@Cognitoedu
French and German Edexcel	Edexcel website (specification, exams, tips, vocabulary lists, past exam questions): Pearson Edexcel GCSE French (2024) Pearson Edexcel GCSE German (2024) BBC Bitesize: GCSE French - Edexcel (for exams from 2026) - BBC Bitesize GCSE German - BBC Bitesize Languages Online: Français German Un jour, une actu (listening practice French): 1jour 1actu News in slow French (listening practice French, need to create log in): News in Slow French Memrise (Also available as an app, a great site for memorising vocabulary. Sign up for free and search for 'Edexcel GCSE French or German Vocabulary': Memrise Quizlet: Some say the best website for revising vocabulary! Edexcel GCSE French Revision Quizlet Edexcel GCSE German Quizlet

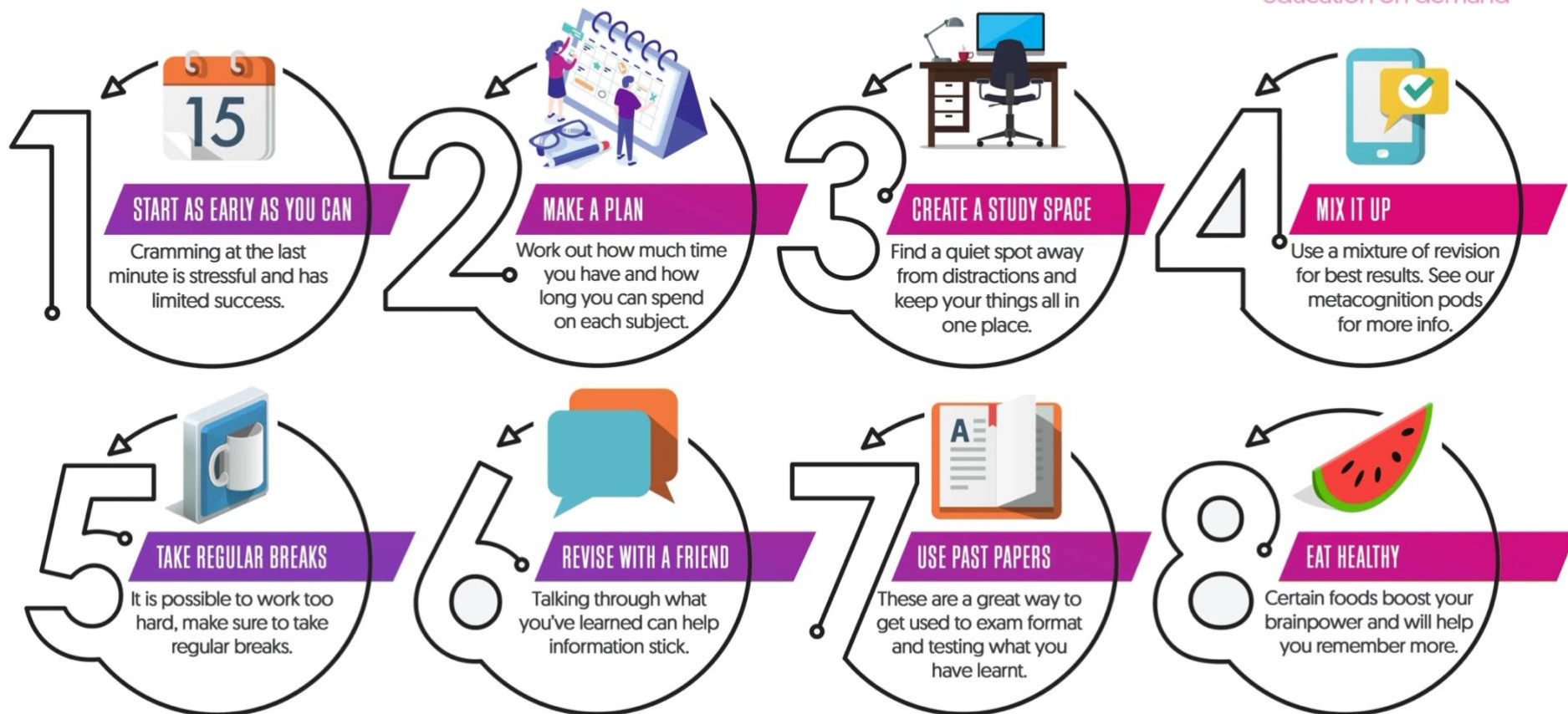
Drama AQA	AQA website: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/specification BBC Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zrnjwty https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxv7sq8 The best source of revision is the Drama Exam Rubric that all students have been provided with and is available electronically on Google Classroom.

TOP REVISION TIPS

Don't let the stress of revision overwhelm you. Stay in control with these top tips.



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1. Brain Dumps



Decide which focussed area (unit/topic) you want to revise.

Give yourself a time limit - e.g. 10 minutes - write down everything you can remember about that topic.

Use highlighters to categorise the words/ideas into groups.

Compare your brain dump to your Knowledge Organiser - correct misconceptions and add any information you missed in a different colour.

Store your brain dump away in order to be able to revisit it later.

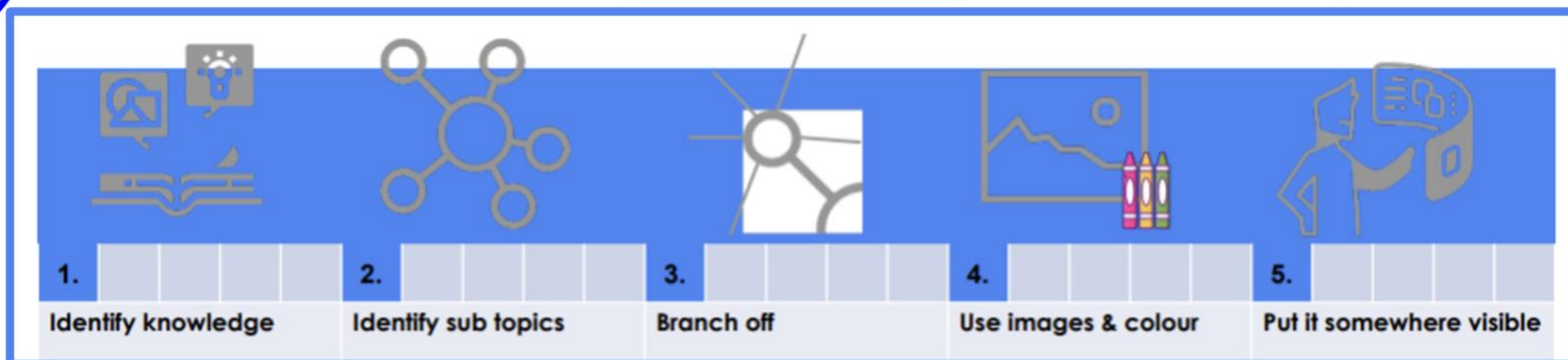


Available on our website under:
Students - Revision Tips and Guidance





2. Mind Maps



Decide which focussed area (unit/topic) you want to revise - have your Knowledge Organisers in front of you.

Begin your mind map - place the main topic in the middle and identify subtopics that will branch off.

Branch off your subtopics with further detail - not too much writing, though - make it easy to recall and visualise.

Use pictures and colour to help this process.

Place your completed mind maps in places where you can see them frequently.



Available on our website under:
Students - Revision Tips and Guidance

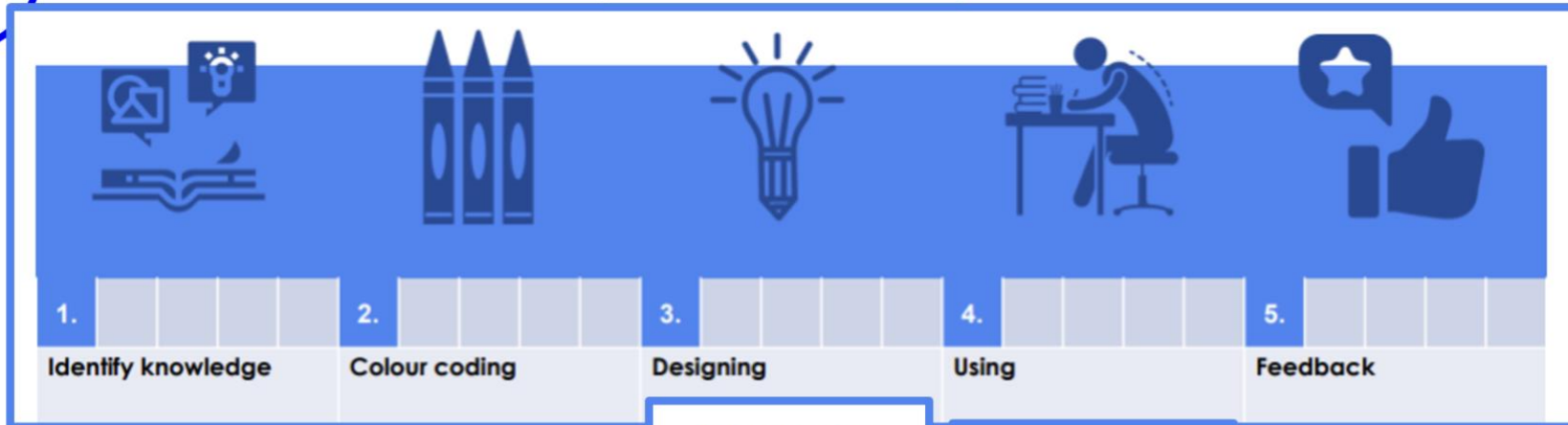




3. Flash Cards



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Decide which focussed area (unit/topic) you want to revise - have your Knowledge Organisers in front of you.

Use different coloured flash cards for different topics to help with organisation.

Write one clear question per flashcard - these should be questions that require short, specific knowledge-based answers.

Look at the question and write your answer down then check, or say your answers out loud and check.

Review your performance and use the Leitner system to test your knowledge over time.

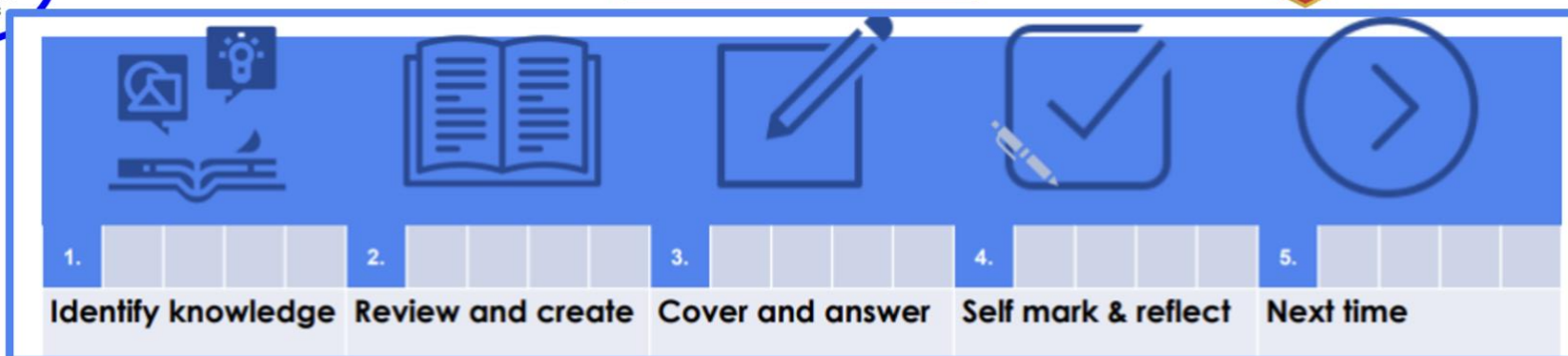


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4. Self Quizzing



Decide which focussed area (unit/topic) you want to revise.

Spend 5-10 minutes reviewing knowledge using a Knowledge Organiser. Create 10 questions on the topic.

Cover up your Knowledge Organiser and answer the questions from memory.

Using your Knowledge Organiser self-mark your answers in green pen.

Revisit the areas where there were gaps in knowledge and include these same questions next time.



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REVISION TIMETABLE



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TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
9AM							
10AM							
11AM							
12PM							
1PM							
2PM							
3PM							
4PM							
5PM							
6PM							



TOP TIPS FROM YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS

We asked your fellow students what helps them to revise for their exams. Here's what they said.

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①

PAGE YOURSELF

Try not to revise everything at once. Give your mind time to take in what it is you are revising.

②

SET GOALS

Whether you set yourself a time goal or an amount of work to complete, it is important to challenge yourself.

⑦

TEST YOURSELF

By testing yourself with questions, you are making sure you fully understand what it is you are revising.

⑧

NO DISTRACTIONS

Revise in a quiet place where there is nothing to distract you.

③

ORGANISE WORKLOADS

Organise your time properly by creating a timetable of subjects to revise. Don't forget to include suitable breaks.

④

USE SUMMARY PODS

For short bursts of revision, the Summary Pods are a great way to help you remember the key pieces of information.

⑨

REWARD SYSTEM

Reward yourself after revision to keep you motivated.

⑩

CREATE A HOMEWORK CORNER

Set up a comfortable place at home where you can relax and revise at the same time.

⑤

NO LATE NIGHTS

Don't start revision late at night. Make sure you have a good sleep of between 7-9 hours every night, helping you to have a relaxed and well-rested mind and body.

⑪

DON'T LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE

Leaving revision until the last minute will add unnecessary stress to your workload. Start sooner rather than later.

⑥

LISTEN TO MUSIC

Calming music can help you to de-stress or focus when you're stressed.

⑫

USE COLOURS

Highlight key points which you need to stand out during revision.



ENGLISH EXAM TIPS

GCSEPod's top tips for good English exam habits



GENERAL

TRY NOT TO WAFFLE

Avoid overly lengthy responses to the reading questions as you'll lose clarity and focus. Instead, think about the number of marks awarded for a question. A 20-mark question will need a lengthier response to an 8-mark question. An 8-mark question probably doesn't need a four-page response. Remember, clear writing equals a clear mark.

KNOW YOUR EXAM BOARD

It's important that you consider the Assessment Objectives (AOs) for each exam question - your teacher or tutor can help you with this. Generally, the highest marks come from discussing the effect of a certain piece of writing or technique. Pay attention to the specific things your exam board's AOs are looking for.

PLAN AND PROOF-READ

One reason people lose marks in the writing section is by failing to plan and proof-read their work effectively. It's vital you think about how you're going to structure your response. It's also important to set aside time to read through your work and catch any errors. Proof-reading also provides an opportunity to check the clarity of your work. Is it clear? Have you removed any unnecessary extras?

REMEMBER YOUR TIMING

Remember your timing. Try to attempt all of the questions. If you're running out of time, remember that answering one question well out of multiple will not be enough. It's better to try to finish off the question you're answering and to begin tackling the others. A castle isn't a castle because of a single tower - it takes a collection of towers and more! Every mark matters.



REMEMBER: PREPARATION AND PRACTICE WILL PUT YOU IN A MUCH BETTER PLACE TO TACKLE YOUR READING AND WRITING EXAMS. GOOD LUCK!

TACKLING QUESTIONS



PAY ATTENTION TO STRUCTURE

If you're asked to comment on a text's structure, remember that some boards will not award marks for discussing punctuation and sentence length unless you're making a very clear structural (and not language related) point. If you're asked to comment more generally upon the effects of a text, remember you can use language points to inform and develop your structural points!

COMPARING, AGREEING AND DISAGREEING

When you compare, remember to focus on comparing the feelings and perspectives of the writers - not just the techniques. It's not enough to note that one used a list where the other used a simile. When you agree or disagree, try to determine where each text would sit on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being strongly disagree and 10 being strongly agree.

ANSWER CLEARLY AND CONCISELY

There are a lot of ways to do this. Firstly, make sure you've read any text or extract at least twice before or during the exam (depending on whether or not the extract is 'unseen'). You need to understand what the text is about to answer any question well. Also make sure you're specific about the effects the text has upon the reader and avoid phrases which could be applied to any technique in the text, such as 'it has an effect' or 'it creates an image in the reader's mind'. Go into more specific detail than this!

AVOID SIMPLY LISTING TECHNIQUES

Always remember to go into detail about the effects and/or effectiveness of the techniques being used. Remember the focus of the text at all times and make sure you're commenting upon what the question wants you to explore. This may be the purpose or effectiveness of the text.

PLAN TO SUCCEED IN YOUR READING EXAMS

You need to show an awareness of what is happening within the text or extract. This means an understanding of what the writer intends and how they achieve it through structure, language and tone. This doesn't mean loads of technique spotting but it does mean noticing how the text starts and develops. If it changes, why? If it doesn't, why?



MATHS EXAM TIPS

GCSEPod's top tips for your GCSE maths exam

EXAM SUCCESS



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REVISION

REVISE MATHS BY 'DOING MATHS'

Practice questions 'little and often' – you can't learn it all by cramming in a couple of long days. Your maths are like building blocks which have been developed over a long time.

IDENTIFY YOUR KEY AREAS

Use past papers and tests to identify your strengths and areas to improve.

Spend revision time on the topics that you are not good at, seeking help with these areas from teachers or the online resources that you have available to you.

LEARN THE SKILL OF 'CHECKING'

Practice checking through your work, or marking other people's work and finding errors; this will help you in your own exam.

LEARN YOUR FORMULAE

Check with your exam board which are given and which aren't.

Don't spend too long on one question. If your calculation seems to be over complicated you may want to stop and check that you are going down the right path. The first half few pages are the most important part! If time allows, go back and redo the first 6-8 pages; you are bound to have thrown away marks as you weren't fully relaxed when you started the exam.

EXAMS

REMEMBER YOUR TIMING



WHAT IS THE QUESTION ASKING?

Read the question CAREFULLY and UNDERLINE key words and values. Pause to THINK about what the question is asking, decide which process you are going to use.

ACCURATE WORK



Keep your calculations neat and work down the page. Underline values that you are going to use again. Use given diagrams to mark on any given information carefully.

SHOW ALL OF YOUR WORKING OUT

Write down everything that you are doing, even if you are able to calculate in your head. Remember to show all working on graphs and compass constructions, and label diagrams clearly.

ALWAYS HAVE A GO

If a long question seems 'too hard' try to write down something that you do know – you will pick up valuable 'method marks'. Sometimes when you come back to a question after a break it can magically make sense.

CHECK YOUR WORK CAREFULLY

Does your answer make sense? Can you check your answer by working backwards? Reread the question – have you fully answered it? Remember to give units, round accurately and write explanations where required.



EXAM CHECKLIST

Get a good night's sleep

☐

Eat a healthy meal

☐

Review the GCSEPod exam playlist

☐

Check where your exam is being held

☐

Arrive 15 minutes early

☐

Do you have...

2 pens (black)

☐

Pencil

☐

Ruler

☐

Eraser

☐

Angle measure or protractor

☐

Calculator

☐

Highlighters

☐

Bottle of water

☐

Clear pencil case

☐

Padlets – online support

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Scan the QR code below to access online support for parents

