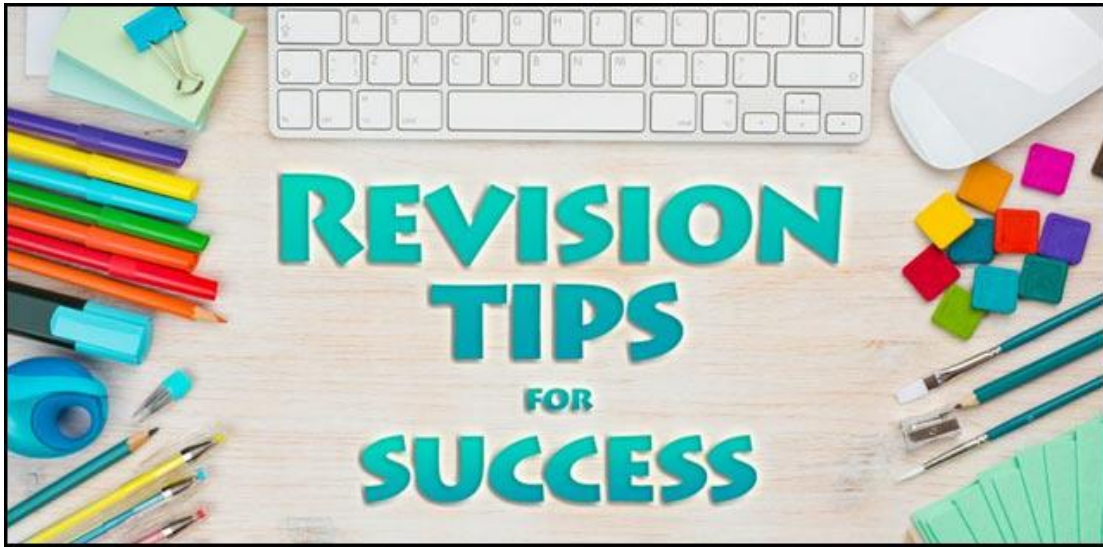


Revision Tips



1. Set up the perfect study space

Make sure that it is well lit, not too hot or cold and quiet enough for you to work.

2. Start with the biggest or most difficult

It might seem easier to start with the smaller or easiest bits but by tackling the biggest, most challenging topics first you'll feel more confident in the long run!

3. Take regular breaks

It's important to ensure that you take regular breaks, you need to rest your brain to process the information you're learning. Arrange time with friends and family or watch a bit of Netflix (just be sure not to binge watch a whole series!)

4. Use the best methods for you

By now, you'll have an idea which revision techniques work best for you and don't be afraid to use a new one if you're struggling to absorb a topic. Do whatever works best for you.

5. Look ahead and make a plan

Look at your exam timetable and create a revision plan based on it. It'll help to keep your revision organised.

6. Eat healthily

Make sure to eat three healthy meals a day and limit your caffeine and sugar intake. Power foods for your brain include blueberries, salmon and nuts, so be sure to stock up!

7. Move distracting apps out of view

Your phone can be a huge help for revision, but also a huge distraction! Move any apps that are likely to distract you to the last page, so you aren't tempted. Add apps that can help you (like the GCSE Pod app!) to your home screen as a reminder to keep up with revision.

8. Exercise

A healthy body = a healthy mind. Try and do at least 20 minutes of physical activity a day to help improve focus and stay relaxed.

Revision Techniques

These techniques are useful for most subjects!

1. Summary Posters

Use key words, pictures and definitions to design a poster on a topic or a whole subject. Put the summary poster up in your room and regularly look at it.

2. Mind mapping

Summarise what you've learnt by creating a mind map. Start by putting the name of the topic in the centre of a piece of paper. Add branches (like a tree) and add additional key words to each branch which are associated with the main topic. Keep adding more detail as the branches become smaller and use images and colours as well as words to help the information stand out. Use keywords in circles, linking them with branches that contain short sentences linking the keywords.

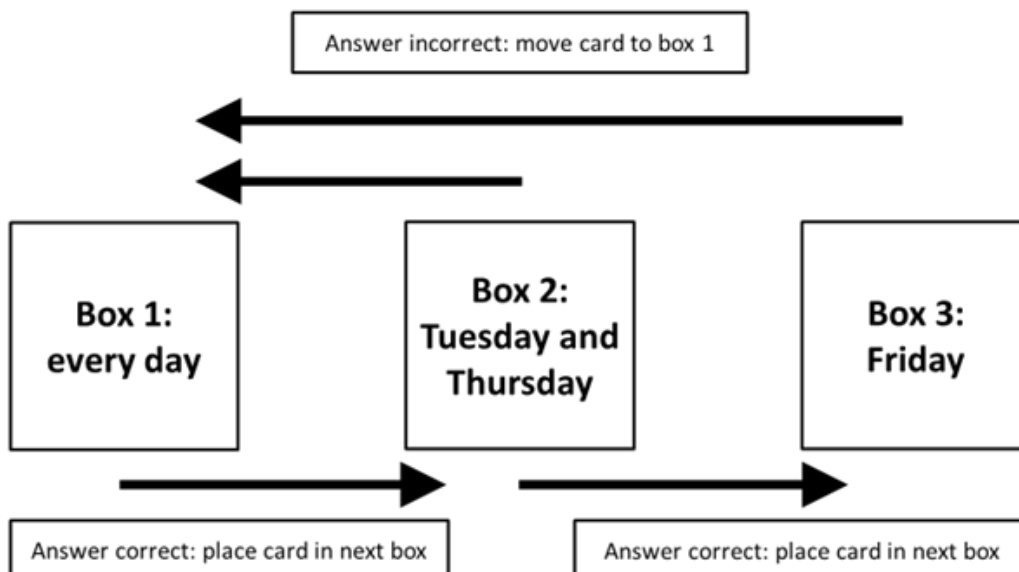
3. Flash Cards

On one side of a flash card or post it note, write a question and the other side, the answer. Only use questions that are things you must memorise, such as:

- Define this keyword
- State the date something happened
- State the equation linking these three things
- Draw a diagram and name it or a labelled part (e.g. circuit components, parts of a cell)
- Describe the function of something (e.g. the mitochondria)
- List the causes of a particular event (e.g. WW1)
- List the outcomes of an event

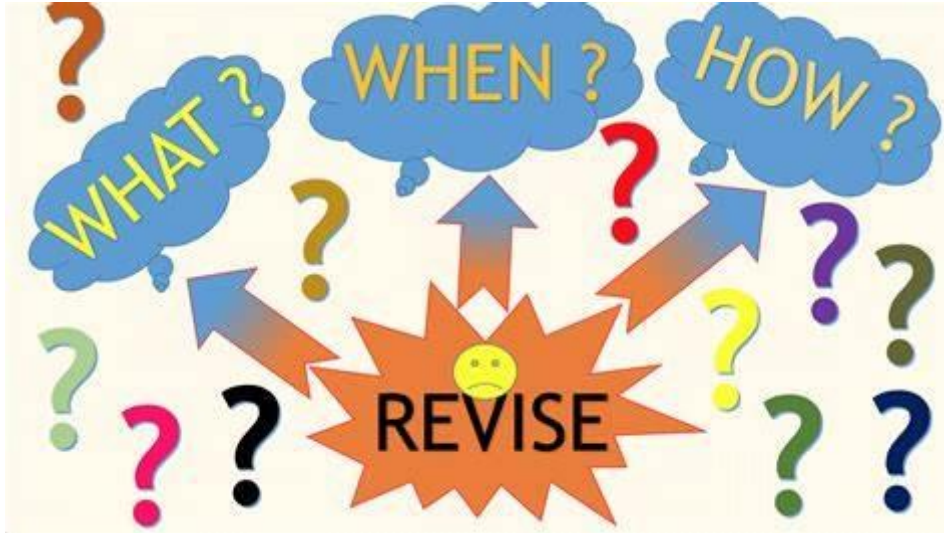
When you test yourself, read the question and think about the answer. When you have a final answer in your mind, turn the card over and check your answer. Have three boxes in your room for your flashcards and use them like this:

Self-testing flashcards



4. Question yourself

Try to improve your knowledge by asking yourself questions such as: Who? When? Where? Why? What? How? This is great to do with your parents or friends!



5. Practice Exam Questions & Past Papers

Practising exam questions and past papers helps to perfect your exam techniques whilst checking your knowledge and highlighting any gaps you may have. Make sure to mark them according to the mark schemes and ask your teacher about anything you do not understand.

6. Mnemonics

A mnemonic is a code that you create using acronyms, phrases or rhymes and it's designed to help you recall knowledge easily. For example, if you have to remember the order of the colours in the visible spectrum (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet) you could use this mnemonic to help you remember: 'Richard of York Gave Battle in Vain'. The first letter of each word in the sentence refers to the first letter of the colour.

7. Note-Taking

Summarise your notes using your own words. Keep your notes brief and use colours and diagrams to help highlight key words, quotes, and dates. This should be very brief – no longer than 1 page for a topic!

8. Timeline

Design a timeline for those subjects where chronology is important, like history, English literature, psychology. They are invaluable for making sense of a series of events or plot. Use key dates and imagery to help you.

9. Ask your teacher!

Find your teacher before school, after school, or at break/lunch to ask questions about things you do not understand. If you cannot find your teacher, send them an email asking for help.

10. Create a revision timetable

See example here.

Revision Timetable

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Saturday	Sunday
4pm						9am		
						10am		
5pm						11am		
						12noon		
6pm						1pm		
						2pm		
7pm						3pm		
						4pm		
8pm						5pm		
						6pm		