

Year 11 Revision Strategies

Preparing for Exams

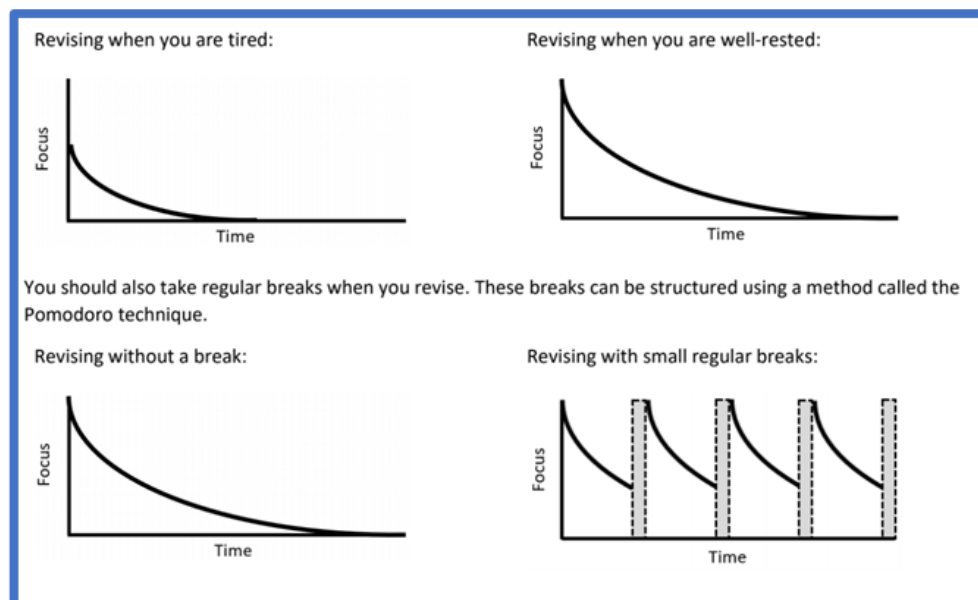


Name: _____

Form: _____

When should I revise?

In order to revise effectively, you have to think hard. Thinking hard is tiring. Therefore, when you revise, you should choose a time when find it easiest to focus. This should be a time when you are well-rested and when you are used to working.



Managing your time when revising

Pomodoro technique is **highly effective** as it helps you effectively manage your time and work on a task without distractions. It is also beneficial as it helps you become more disciplined and think about your work. This technique is designed to combat multitasking and improve concentration.

STEP 1



Pick a task

STEP 2



Set a 25-minute timer

STEP 3



Work on your task until the time is up

STEP 4



Take a 5 minute break

STEP 5



Every 4 pomodoros, take a longer 15-30 minute break

When revising:

Do:

- Get into a routine of revising at a particular point every day.
- Revise when you are well-rested or at a time when you are used to working.
- Take regular small breaks.



Don't:

- Depend on when you want to revise.
- Revise late at night or when you are tired.
- Try to force yourself to work for long periods of time without a break.



9.

Flash Cards

Summary: How to use flash cards

				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Identify knowledge	Colour coding	Designing	Using	Feedback
What are you creating flash cards on? Do you have your knowledge organizer? Use your book to look at previous misconceptions from whole class feedback.	Use different coloured flash cards for different topics. This helps with organization NOT recall	1 Question per flashcard. Making them concise and clear. Use a one word prompt, so that you can recall as much as you can. No extended answer questions.	Write your answers down, then check. Or say your answers out loud. This really clearly shows the gaps in your knowledge. Do not just copy & re-read. Shuffle the cards each time you use them. Use the Leitner system to use flash cards everyday.	How have you performed when you look back at your answers? Is there anything you need to revisit in more detail? Is your knowledge secure? If so, move onto applying knowledge in that area in specific extended exam questions.

Avoid answering the questions in your head: research shows that when you read a question and answer it in your head, you aren't actually testing your knowledge effectively. Say the answer out loud or write it down before checking it against the card, so you are truly testing if you can explain the answer properly

Flash card top tips

- The most effective flashcards include one question followed by one answer (or one term followed by one definition).
- Don't force your brain to remember a complex and wordy answer. It's easier for your brain to process simpler information so split up your longer questions into smaller, simpler ones.
- You will end up with more flashcards this way but your learning will be a lot more effective.

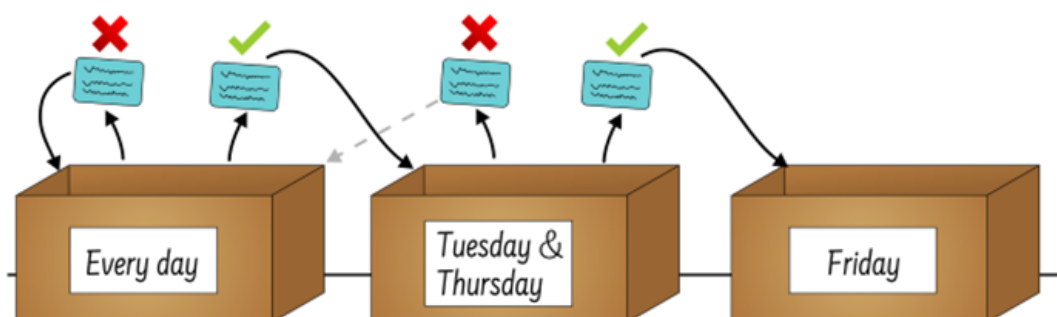


Using flash cards

Self Quizzing

- Read the question** on your flash card
- Write your answer** in your HL book
- Put your flash card **down to one side**
- Move onto the **next** card
- Repeat** steps 1-3
- Keep your flash cards **in the order** you have quizzed them in.
- Mark** your answers – **highlight** any answers you got incorrect.

Leitner System



- Every card starts in Box 1.
- If you get a card right, move it to the next Box.
- If you get the card wrong, move it down a box — in the original version you move it all the way back to Box 1.

Summary: Self Quizzing



1.

Identify knowledge

Identify knowledge/content you wish to cover.



2.

Review and create

Spend around 5-10 minutes reviewing content (knowledge organisers/class notes/text book)

Create x10 questions on the content (If your teacher has not provided you with questions)



3.

Cover and answer

Cover up your knowledge and answer the questions from memory.

Take your time and where possible answer in full sentences.



4.

Self mark & reflect

Go back to the content and self mark your answers in **green** pen.



5.

Next time

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

Ensure that you complete all subjects and all topics – not just the subjects you enjoy the most of find easiest.
Practice makes perfect!

Follow the 5 step process to self quiz 3 topics of your choice.

Mark your answers in green pen and highlight specifically the questions you got wrong.

Quiz 1

	Question	Answer	
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Summary: How to create a mind map

**1.****Identify knowledge**

Select a topic you wish to revise. Have your class notes/knowledge organisers ready.

2.**Identify sub topics**

Place the main topic in the centre of your page and identify sub topics that will branch off.

3.**Branch off**

Branch off your sub topics with further detail.
Try not to fill the page with too much writing.

4.**Use images & colour**

Use images and colour to help topics stick into your memory.

5.**Put it somewhere visible**

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

Avoid using too much information: mind maps are designed to summarise key information and connect areas of a topic/subject. If you overcrowd the page, you lose the point of the mind map and will find it harder to visualise the information when trying to recall it

Follow the 5 step process to create a mind map for 3 different topics of your choice.

You can also colour code the information you are confident with in one colour and information that you are unsure about in another colour.

Topic 1

Summary: Brain dumps



1.

Identify knowledge

Identify the knowledge/topic area you want to cover.



2.

Write it down

Take a blank piece of paper/white board and write down everything you can remember about that topic. (with no prompts)

Give yourself a timed limit (e.g. 10 minutes)



3.

Organise information

Once complete and you cannot remember any more use different colours to highlight/underline words in groups.

This categories/links information.



4.

Check understanding

Compare your brain dump to your K/O or book and check understanding.

Add any key information you have missed (key words) in a different colour.



5.

Store and compare

Keep your brain dump safe and revisit it.

Next time you attempt the same topic try and complete the same amount of information in a shorter period of time or add more information.

Brain dumps are a way of getting information out of your brain.

Follow the 5 step process to complete 3 brain dumps for different topics of your choice.

You can also complete this in two colours. One colour for content you know and another colour for content you need to revise / that you added.

Topic 1

During year 11, you have a lot to think about and a lot of different things which you have to juggle. You should revise independently so that you can close the specific gaps which you have in your knowledge.

However, because you have to plan your own independent revision, its easy to forget revision or to only do it in large bursts right before an assessment.

Planning when and what you are going to revise reduces the number of decisions you need to make every day and will reduce the risks of you not revising or your revision being ineffective because you have left it until the last minute.

Prioritise your subjects

- List all your subjects
- Rank your subjects from number 1 -9 (1 being strongest)
- Then re-write your list in the order of the subjects you have numbered.

Btec Sport
Drama
English literature
English Language
Biology
Geography
Physics
Chemistry
Business

Your list:

Writing your timetable

1. Write in everything you have planned prior to creating your revision timetable. (Going out for tea, going to the gym, playing sport etc)
2. Write in upcoming exams & deadlines
3. Not every space needs to be full – leave yourself time to relax too!
4. Focus on the subjects in RED first, these are the ones you are least likely going to choose – but they are the highest priority.
5. Write in the subjects you are going to cover and when. Be specific around what you will cover each time you sit down an revise.

Revision timetable – example (school week)

Weekly Revision Timetable

Name: _____



Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday	Maths	A7 – Interpret fractions, N14 – Estimations and approximations.	7-7.45pm	Past paper
	Religious Studies	Christianity.	8.15pm-9pm	Brain dump
Tuesday	Basketball 6-7.30pm			
	Biology	Bioenergetics	8.8.45pm	Flash cards
Wednesday	English Language	A04 Critical evaluation	7-7.45pm	Mind maps
	Physics	Electricity	8.15-9pm	Brain dump
Thursday	Sport	Goal setting	7-7.45pm	Flash Cards
	English Literature:	Shakespeare (AO2 - analyse)	8.30-9.15pm	Mind map
Friday	See friends. Night off.			
Saturday	Basketball game (afternoon)			
	Chemistry	Atomic structure, periodic table	10am-11am	Flash cards
Sunday	Spanish	Reading	9am-10am	Past paper
	Maths	Translation and reflections	7-8pm	Past paper



***Remember: make sure you give yourself breaks and allow time to relax and do the things you want to do and enjoy doing.

Revision timetable – example (half term)

Weekly Revision Timetable

Name: _____

Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday	Maths	Full past paper Mark full past paper	9am-10.30am 11.30-12.30pm	Past paper
	Religious Studies	Paper	2-2.45pm then 3.30-430pm	Brain dump
Tuesday	Biology paper 1	Full past paper Mark paper	9am-10.30am 11.30-12.30pm	Past paper
	Meet friends		All afternoon	
Wednesday	History	Paper 2	9-10am, then 11-12pm	Mind maps
	Physics		3-4pm	Flash cards
Thursday	Sport	Definitions of key terms	9-10am	Flash Cards
	Go to the gym		2-4pm	
	English Literature	Shakespeare – one full exam question and mark it	7-8pm	Exam practice
Friday	Day off	Day off	Day off	Day off
Saturday	Basketball game (afternoon)			
	Chemistry	Atomic structure, periodic table	10am-11am	Flash cards
Sunday	Spanish	Writing	9am-10am	Past paper
	Monday exams	Dependant on paper	7-8pm	Flash cards

Weekly Revision Timetable

Name: _____

Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday				

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Weekly Revision Timetable

Name: _____

Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday				

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Weekly Revision Timetable

Name: _____

Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday				

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Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
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Sunday				

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Weekly Revision Timetable

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Day	Subject	Topic	Time	Strategy
Monday				
Tuesday				
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9 Ways to Beat Revision Stress

by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk



Do the actual work – revise!



When really stressed, talk to someone about it



Get some fresh air each day



Stick to regular meal times



Do something to switch off an hour before bed



Don't dwell on worst case scenarios



A good sleep the night before is better than last minute cramming



Once you've done the exam, move on to the next one



Don't aim for perfection – it's a myth and doesn't exist