



Tips and hints for students to be better learners

Tips and strategies to make learning stuff a bit easier

Dyslexic friendly ideas

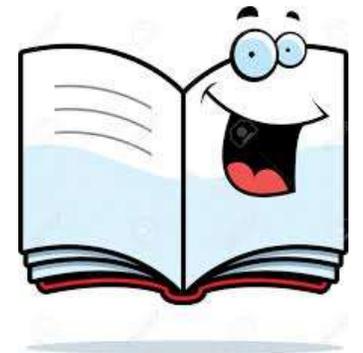
Includes memory and revision techniques

Purpose of the booklet

- This booklet is about trying out some tweaks to help you become a better learner
- Many of them are things that you can do at home and at school
- Its about your learning- take control of it!
- It is not an exhaustive list- just a few suggestions
- Many of the suggestions included are dyslexic friendly, but all students will use them in their learning at some point
- See which ones work best for you- there will be some you haven't tried- give them a go, and see if they help

Reading strategies

- Create a time to read- even a few minutes a day will help. Try to get it as distraction free as possible- a real no screen/phone time.
- Choose something you want to read! It shouldn't be too difficult, but not too easy either. Fiction, non-fiction, newspaper- anything really!
- A coloured, transparent ruler might help you as you go down the page
- Read aloud (or just whisper it to yourself!)- this can help to remember the information, and to understand it.
- Don't skip over words you don't know. Try to split them up, or ask someone else.
- Talk about what you have read to someone else
- Reward yourself for reading- give yourself a treat!



Spelling strategies

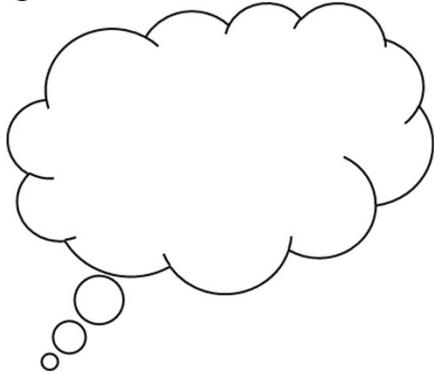
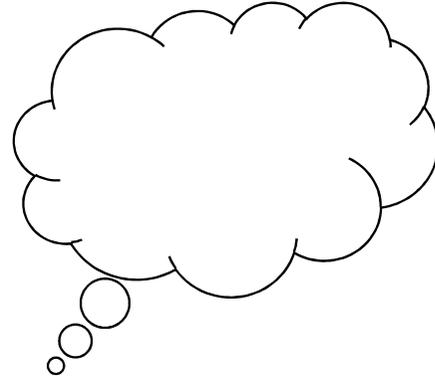
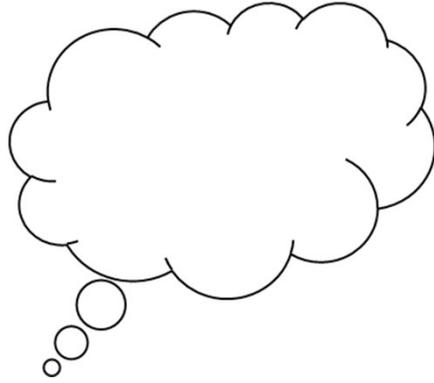
- Separate and sound out the syllables (beats of the word) e.g. hos-pi-tal
- Say/ whisper the word aloud how it is spelt e.g. wed-nes-day, bus-i-ness
- Invent a silly mnemonic! *success = 2 cuffs, 2 sleeves*
- Create a list of spellings you always get wrong- write them on a postit, and stick it somewhere where you see it regularly for a week- then take it down, or move it somewhere else
- Use highlighters or coloured pens to help you remember spelling patterns/ rules. Highlight important, subject specific words
- Now and again, review a piece of your writing, and check how its going- get someone else to read it through as well
- Keep reading! A page a day- you know you can do it!



Writing strategies

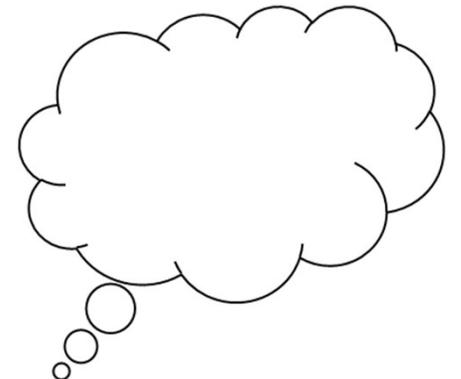
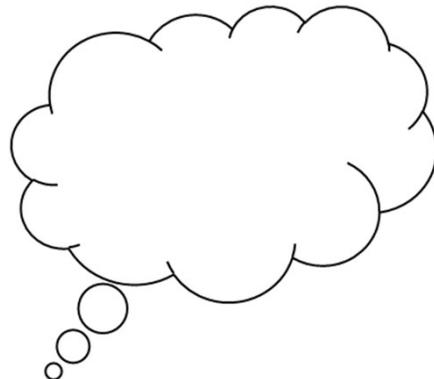
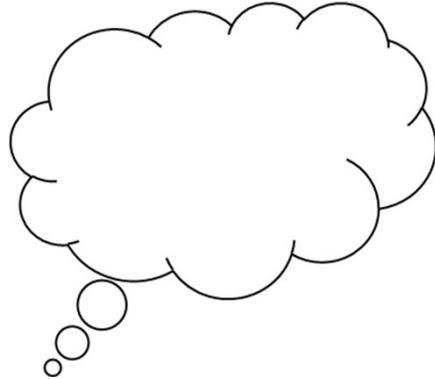
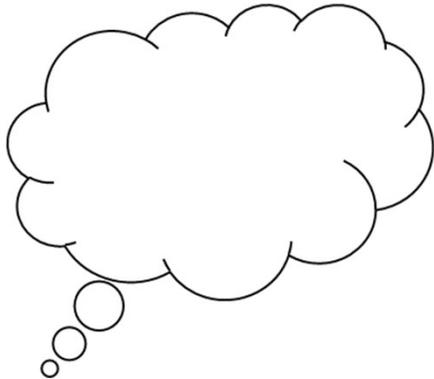
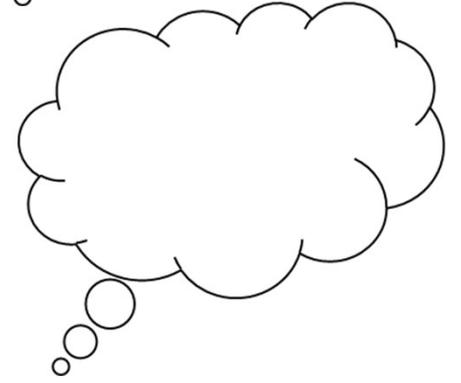
- **Plan it first.** On a plain piece of paper, spend 5 minutes brainstorming/ listing anything that comes to mind about a topic you have to write about- key words, information, your thoughts about it etc. You can use the planner sheet to help.
- Read it through **aloud** afterwards- have you written what you thought you had written?!
- It may help you to **say it as you write it**- this can help you make sense of what you are writing- and give you time to think about what you are going to write next.
- Leave a line- especially if you have big writing.
- As long as it's legible, it's OK. Try to write on the line, and leave a space between each word.
- Holding the pen properly? Get a grip!
- If IT works for you- use IT!

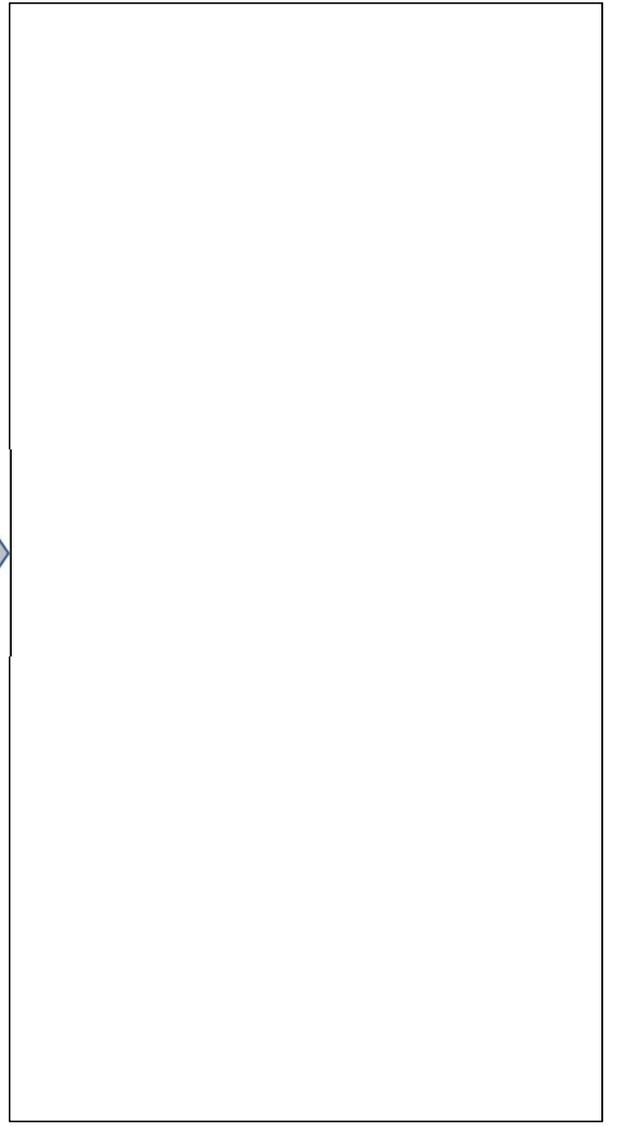
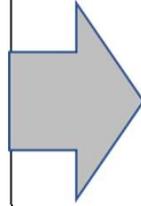
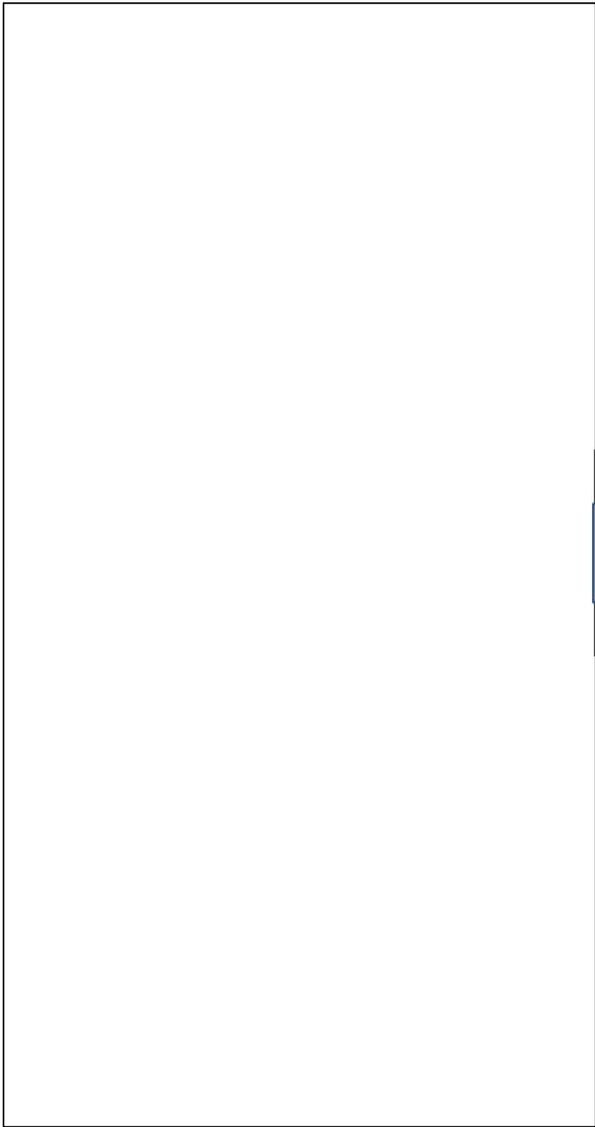
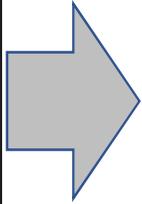
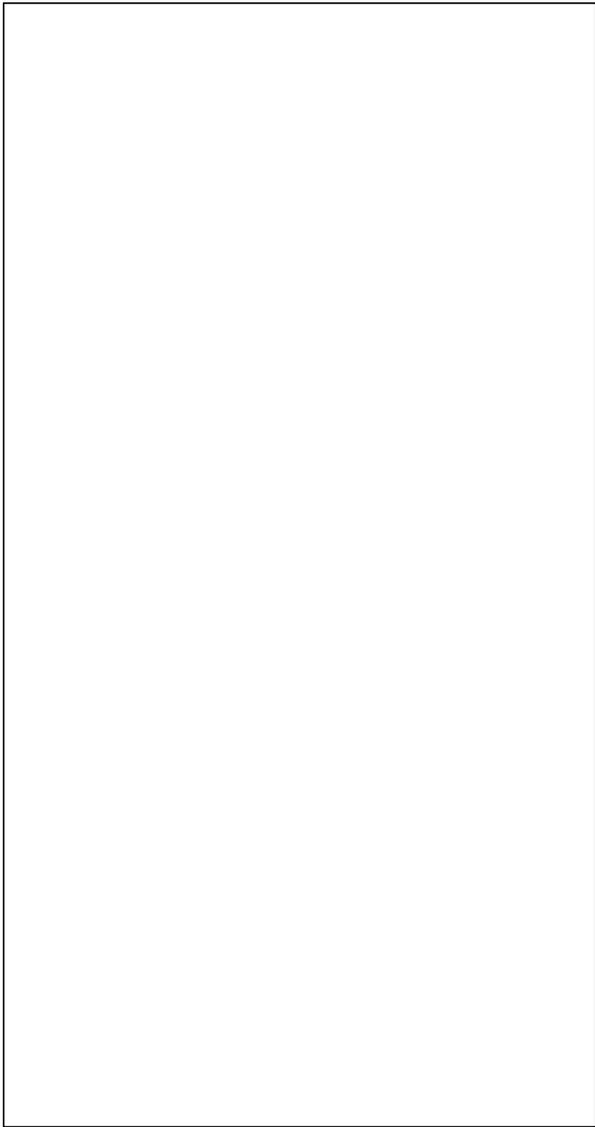




TOPIC:

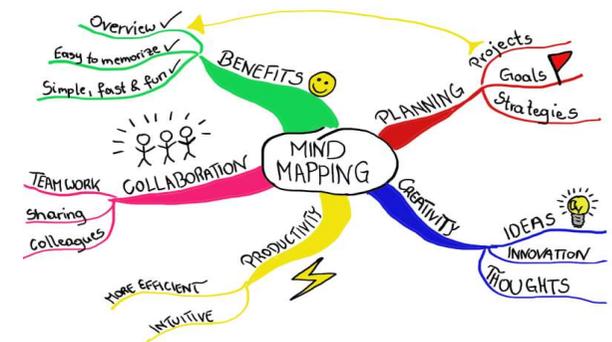
Key words





Memory strategies 1

- Highlight/ underline key words/ information in your book
- Not got it? Ask a friend, ask another friend, as the teacher.
- When you open your book, flick through what you have already learnt
- Read it, write it, say it, cover it... (hearing and writing it will help you to remember it)
- Visualise it- draw a simple picture to show information you need to remember
- Mind map a topic on an A3 plain sheet of paper- symbols, highlighters, colour code, list
- Use IT to help...Bitesize, Youtube
- If it's important- read it through (**aloud**) more than once



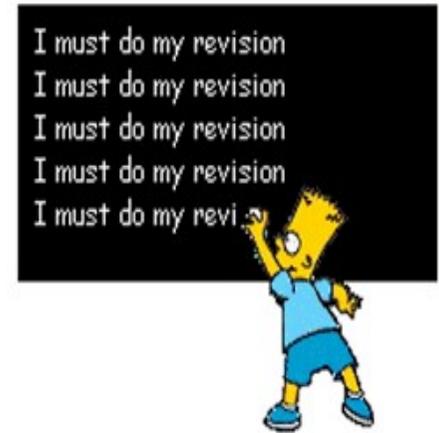
Memory strategies 2

- Chunk information into categories (time, place, things to do with...)
- Create diagrams... for, against... this happened, then this...lists
- Talk it through...with your Mum, with your teddy, with your dog...
- Rehearse it...like an actor learning lines...then have a break...then do it again
- Be organized. Keep all your notes/postits/diagrams in some kind of order...you can jog your memory just before the test/exam
- Sleep well, eat well, take a brain break... (not too long though!)
- Break it down...who, when, why, what...



Revision strategies

- Really, this whole booklet is about revision!
- Choose a few things that make sense for you
- Don't be afraid of trying something new though- your teddy won't mind
- Be organised- buy some files, dividers, highlighters...keep them to hand
- No screen time- it will be worth it
- Reward yourself for gaps of time (*Haribo after 10 minutes...line them up!*)
- Colour helps- its not just to make it look pretty, *colour code, highlight*
- Small steps, every day, is better than a heap of time the night before
- Good luck...! Stay positive...



Exam strategies

- Bring a highlighter with you, as well as other equipment, of course!
- Make sure you know which questions you have to answer
- Keep your eye on the clock, bring in a watch. Spread out the time wisely
- Read the question (you could whisper it) twice through.
- If there is a text to read, always read the questions first, and highlight any bits you want to include
- Use the question paper to scribble some notes, underline words etc
- Take a few minutes to plan out what you are going to write
- Use the *wording* of the question in your answer
- Always have a go...you know you should!
- Missed a question?...come back to it...you may remember
- If you have time, check your answers, especially the big markers

