

# MURRAY PARK SCHOOL



## HOW TO REVISE FOR ENGLISH



*“PROUD TO BE HERE”*

# EFFECTIVE REVISION

I began to realize that my  
results had very little to  
do with the goals I set and  
nearly everything to do  
with the systems I  
followed.

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JAMES CLEAR (ATOMIC HABITS)



# LEARNING AND FORGETTING

The only letter that doesn't appear on the periodic table is J

**M&M's stands for "Mars & Murrie's," the last names of the sweet's founders.**

The dot on a lowercase "i" is called a tittle.

**The only number whose letters are in alphabetical order is 40 (f-o-r-t-y)**

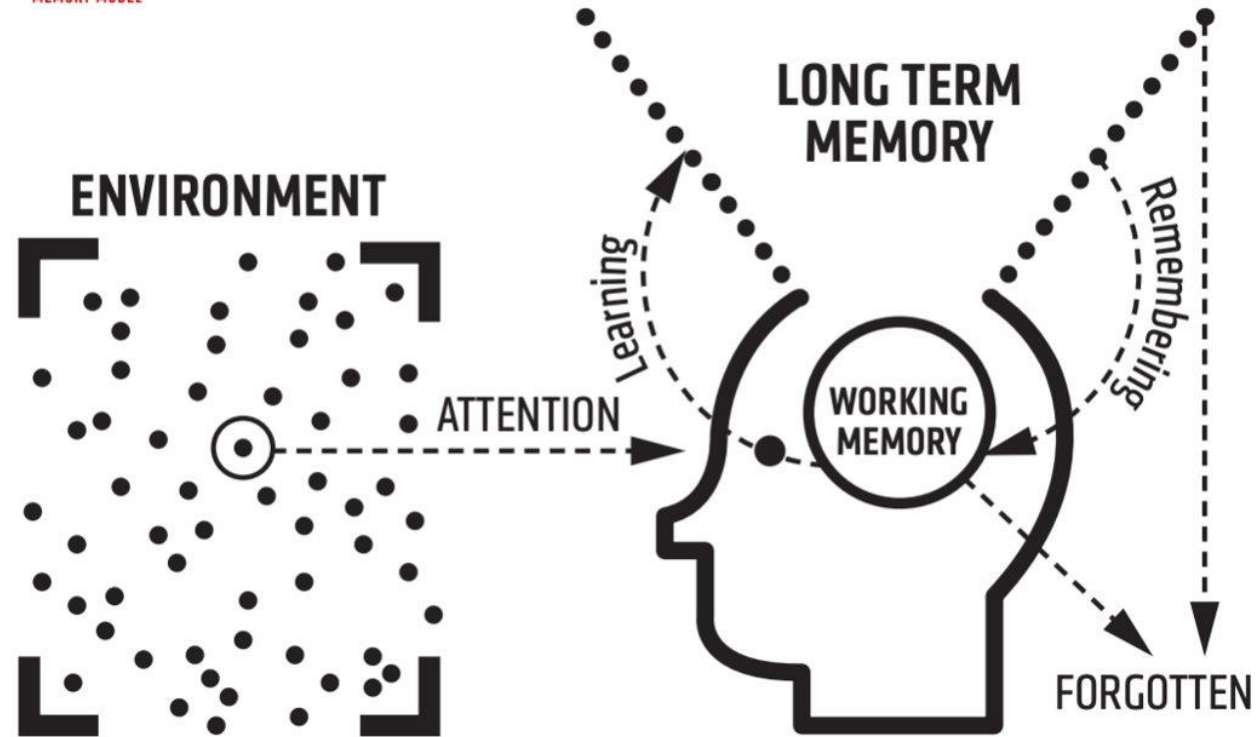
"E" is the most common letter and appears in 11 percent of all English words

**Ronald Wayne was the 3rd founder of apple. He sold his share for \$800 in 1976  
(Would now be worth around \$95 Billion)**



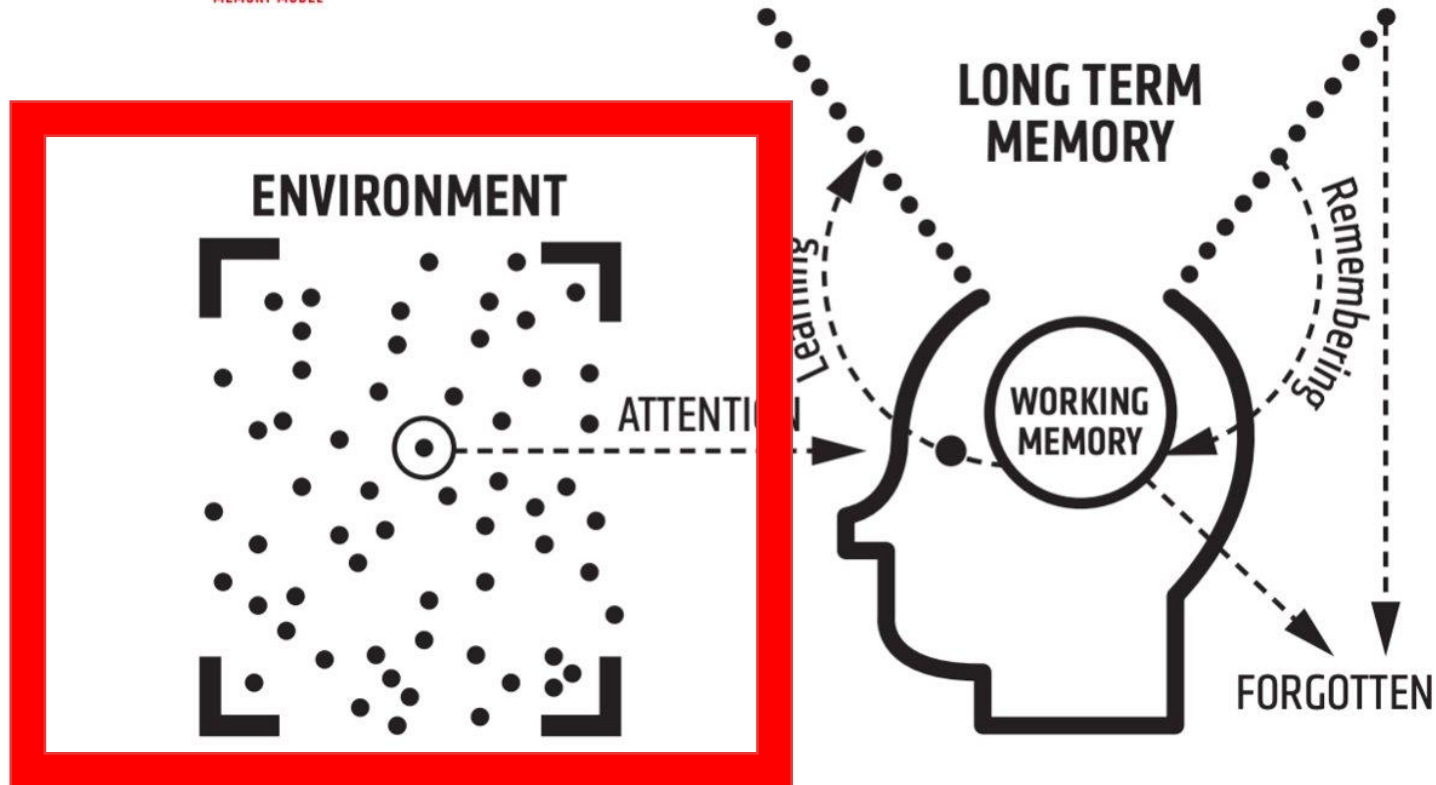
# LEARNING AND FORGETTING

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CAV** OLIVER CAVIGLIOLI  
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WILLINGHAM'S SIMPLE  
MEMORY MODEL



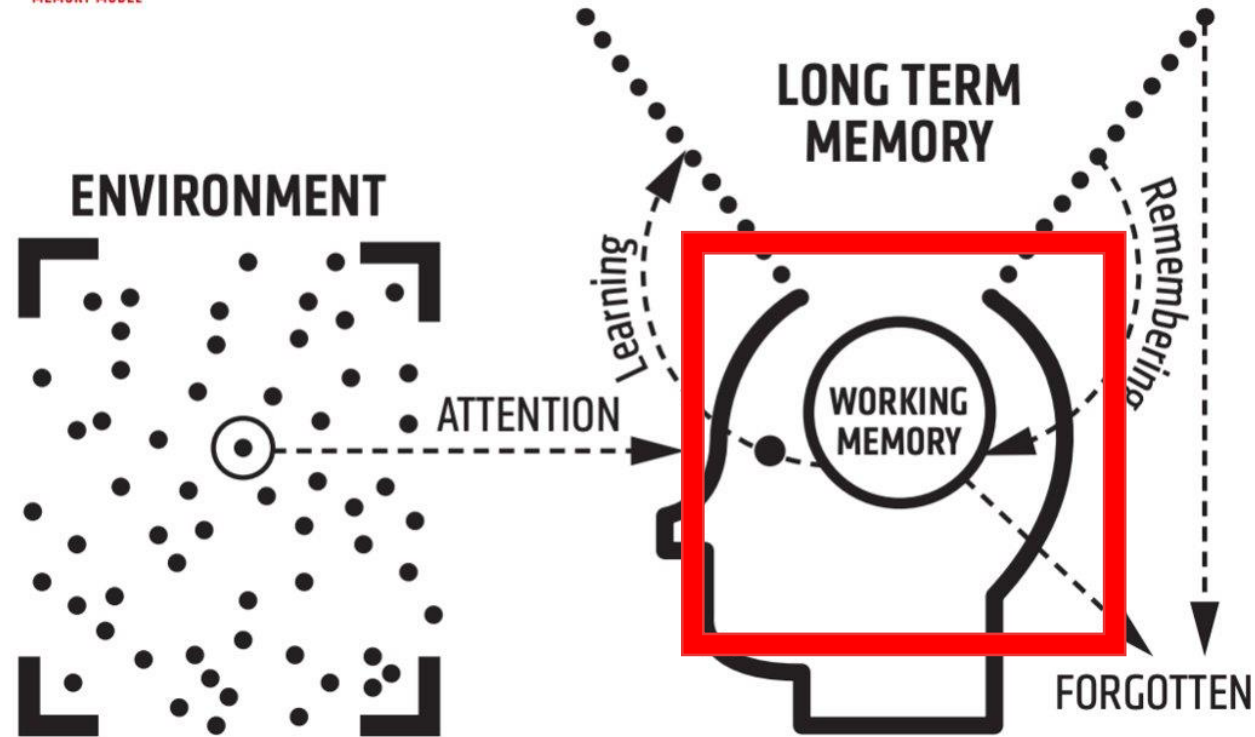
# LEARNING AND FORGETTING

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# LEARNING AND FORGETTING

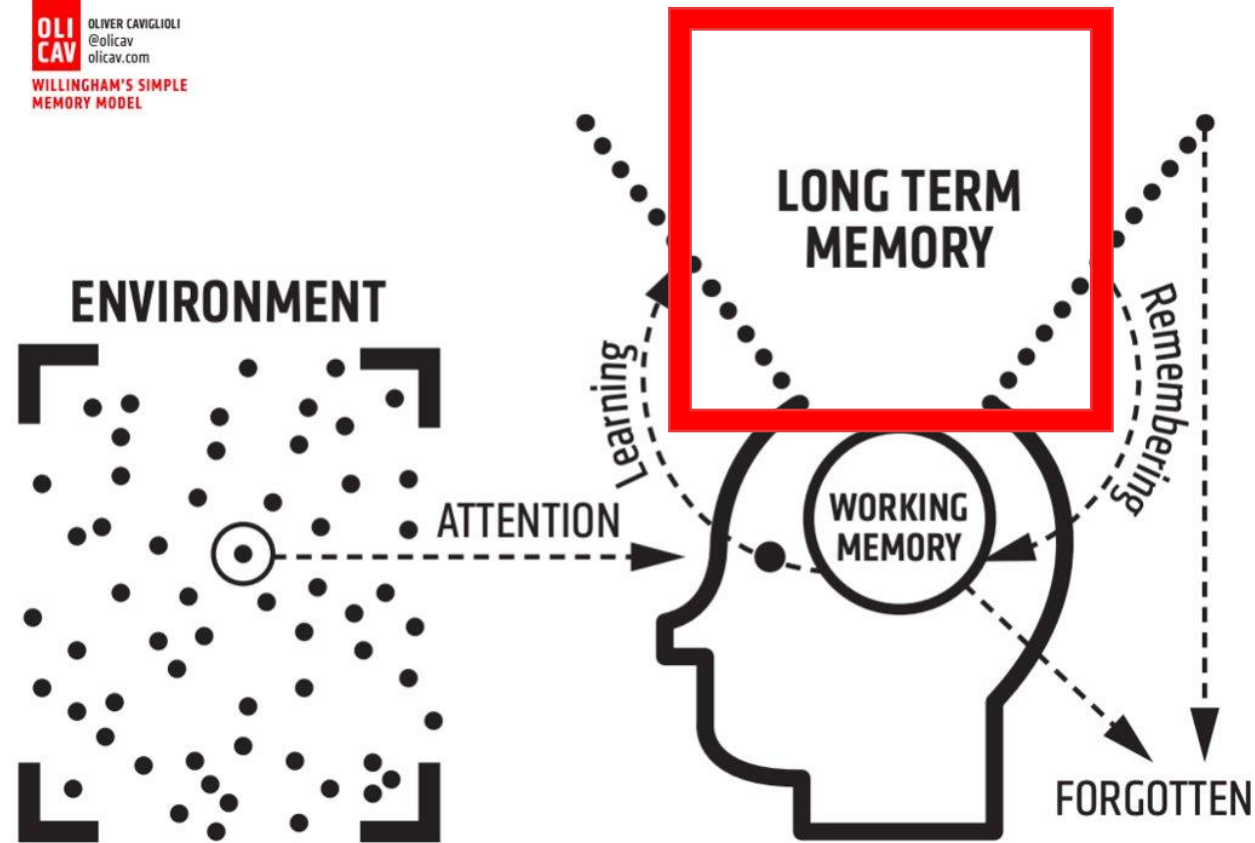
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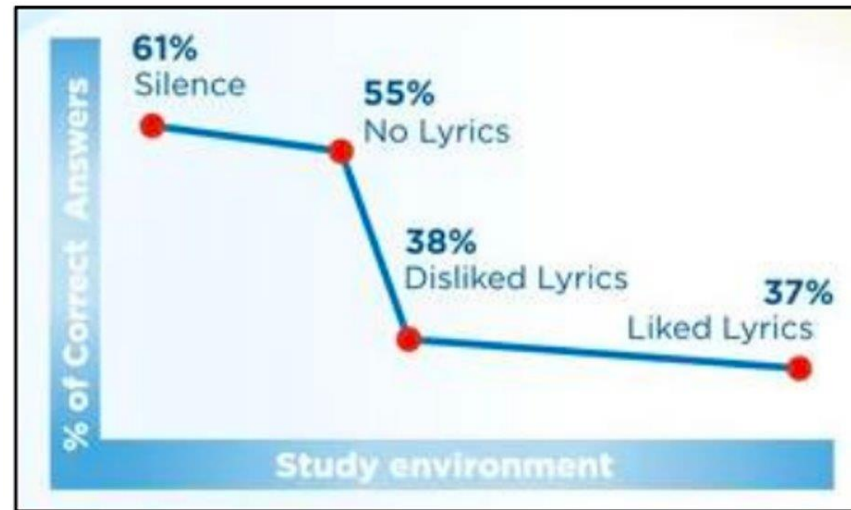
# LEARNING AND FORGETTING

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# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION

- Maximise attention
- Reduce distraction. A study (Thornton et al) found that just having a mobile phone nearby can lead to a **20% reduction in attention, concentration and performance.**
- Despite what many students think, listening to your favourite songs is not the best way to revise; **music takes up processing space in the brain, leaving less space to process revision materials.**





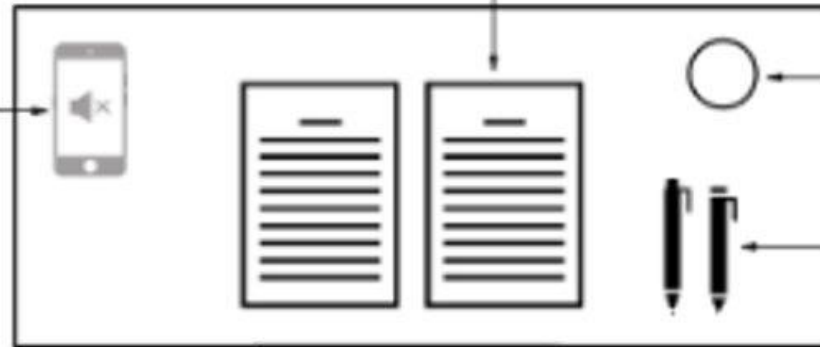
# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION

## An example of an effective revision space:



A quiet environment

Put your phone on silent if you will need to use it or put it in another room.



The resources you will need to revise using your chosen method

A drink, such as a glass of water

The pens and pencils you will need to revise

A chair which is similar to the chair you use at school (not a sofa or bed)



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 am							
9:00 am	School	School	School	School	School		Sports club
10:00 am							
11:00 am						English	
12:00 am						Biology	
1:00 pm						Physics	
2:00 pm							
3:00 pm							
4:00 pm							Maths
5:00 pm							Geography
6:00 pm	Maths	Sports club		Chemistry			Art
7:00 pm	Biology		Physics	Business studies	Socialising / relaxing		
8:00 pm	French		English	History			



# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION – ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## English Language Paper 1 Section A Strategies On A Page

<p><b>Question 1</b> ‘List four things you learn...’ /4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This question will ask you to use a specific part of the extract. Make sure you stay within these lines.</li> <li>Make sure you read the question carefully to find out what the steer in the question is.</li> <li>List 4 very different things from the extract.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Question 2</b> Analysing language /8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When you first read the question, underline/highlight key words. What is the question asking you to analyse?</li> <li>This question will also only ask you to analyse a specific part of the extract. Make sure that you stay within these lines!</li> <li>For this question, you are aiming to write 3 PETAL paragraphs. Always try and push yourself and write 4!</li> <li>When analysing terminology, make sure you focus on writer’s intention – why did they use this and what impact does this have on the reader?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Question 3</b> Analysing structure /8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When you first read the question, underline/highlight key words. What is the question asking you to analyse?</li> <li>Consider how does it start, what happens in the middle and what happens at the end? Rule off on the paper the start, the middle and the end. This will be your three paragraphs for analysis!</li> <li>Want to challenge yourself? Use TIP TOP! Where is there a change in time, topic, place or person? Again, this change in focus could be a different paragraph as part of your analysis!</li> <li>For this question, you are aiming to write 3 PETAL paragraphs. Always try and push yourself and write 4!</li> <li>Make sure you do not analyse language!</li> </ul>	<p><b>Question 4</b> To what extent do you agree with the statement? /20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When you first read the question, underline/highlight key words. What is the question asking you to analyse?</li> <li>This question normally asks you to only focus on part of the text (and this tends to be towards the end). Make sure you only analyse the lines stated.</li> <li>You need to use your evaluation skills for this question, including your opinion. Your opening statement should state to what extent you agree with the statement. A way of doing this is saying ‘I completely agree/I somewhat agree/I disagree.</li> <li>Remember – the statement is worded so that you agree with the statement. But you can write a paragraph about why you disagree.</li> <li>You should use PETAL in each paragraph – you are expected to analyse writer’s methods for this question.</li> </ul>

All students have exam strategy on a page documents which reminds them of the timings by question and the key exam strategies, such as PETAL and PEALCPEAL.



We have plenty of example papers available for students to practice their exam skills. One of the best ways to improve in English is practice, practice, practice!

Any student can collect an exam paper from me in E1.



# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION – ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Look in detail at this extract, from lines 14 to 23 of the source:

Rosie had made a quick check of the unfamiliar garden before letting the children go out to play. The bottom half of the garden was an overgrown mess, a muddle of trees and shrubs. An ancient mulberry tree stood at the centre. Its massive twisted branches drooped to the ground in places, its knuckles in the earth like a gigantic malformed hand. The wintry sun hung low in the sky and the gnarled growth threw long twisted shadows across the undergrowth within its cage. The trunk of the tree was snarled with the tangled ivy that grew up through the broken bricks and chunks of cement, choking it. The path that led down towards the fence at the bottom, which marked the garden off from an orchard beyond, disappeared into a mass of nettles and brambles before it reached the padlocked door.

How does the writer use language here to describe the garden?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms

[8 marks]

The writer effectively describes how the mulberry tree dominates the entire garden and it lends an uncanny atmosphere to the entire garden. There is an "ancient mulberry tree" which is in the midst of "trees" and "shrubs". The writer successfully uses language belonging to the semantic field of foliage within the declarative sentences to illustrate how vast and gargantuan the mulberry tree is. The adjective "ancient" lends the mulberry tree a mysterious aura, emphasising how the garden seems somewhat surreal. Thus the garden is portrayed as ~~or~~ supernatural as

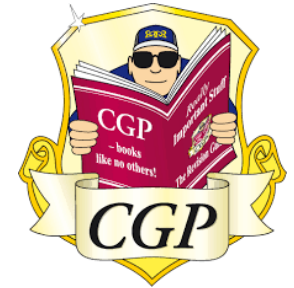
Turn over ▶

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Reflect on your exam paper after improvements have been made in school. Focus on the questions which you struggle on the most and complete exam answers to these questions.

## Use different revision tools!

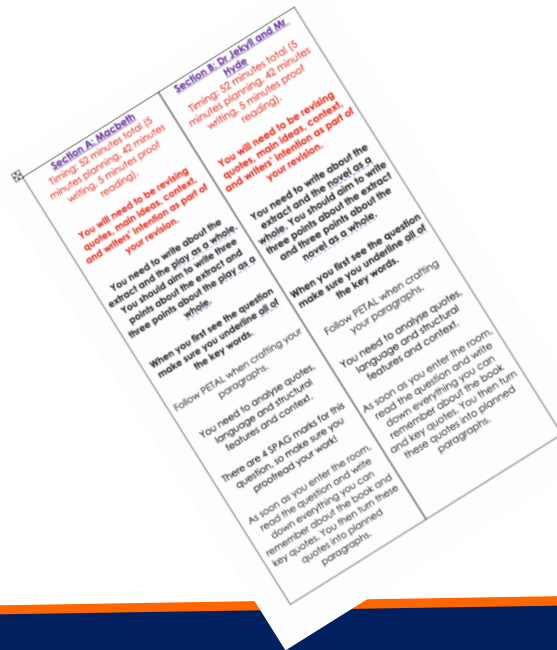


# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

Students need to know the exam paper, what the content of the exam is and how to approach each question. Students often mistake what is in each exam paper and end up revising the wrong topic.

English Literature Paper 1 – closed book – ‘Macbeth’ and ‘The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’. (1 hour and 45 minutes).

English Literature Paper 2 – closed book – ‘An Inspector Calls’, Power and Conflict poetry and unseen poetry (2 hours and 15 minutes).



Again, all students have exam strategy on a page documents which talks them through the exam paper and different strategies which can be used per question. This is really helpful with the tricky poetry question, as the strategy document reminds them to follow the PETALCPETAL paragraph structure.



# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

A key part of the literature exam which students find difficult is learning key quotes for each text and for each poem. Here are a selection of different revision strategies which you can encourage students to use at home.

- **Do not** just read and highlight your notes, class work or revision guide. **Makes notes from memory (they won't be perfect!)**
- **Brain dump!** Choose a topic and write down as much as you can remember, without referring to your notes. Check your notes and see what you missed then try to fill the gaps without the notes. Check your notes a third time and add the missing information.
- **Thinking hard: reduce** . Read a section of your notes then put them aside and reduce what you read to 3 bullet points, each one no more than 10 words. Look back at the notes and decide if you missed anything important. Hide the notes and write a fourth bullet point.
- **Flash cards** - Don't add too much information to each card. Self-test by recreating the flashcard on blank paper. You can even test students at home using the flashcards!





# TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE REVISION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

Again, all of these can be used for English Literature revision as well as English Language!





# LET'S GO BACK TO THOSE QUICK FACTS...

The only letter that doesn't appear on the periodic table is?

J

**M&M's stands for ?**

Mars and Murries

The dot on a lowercase "i" is called?

Tittle

**The only number whose letters are in alphabetical order is?**

40

Which is the most common letter to appear in English words?

E

In what year did Ronald Wayne sell his share of Apple?

1976

**Bonus question** – How much did he sell his share for?

\$800

