



3 Steps to Effective Examination Preparation







Revision Techniques





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Revise LIST IT









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This is a simple, easy to use recall task that quickly shows what you do or don't know.

To 'List', do the following:

- List as many keywords as you can
- List as many facts as you can
- List as many key events/quotes/individuals as you can
- List as many causes of X as you can
- List as many consequences of Y as you can





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BRAIN DUMP







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Brain Dumps are extension of 'list it'. They can be incredibly effective. Set aside fifteen minutes. Have a large blank paper and write down as much as you know as correct. Then look at what you everything you know about a topic . Once finished, look at your class notes, textbook and/or revision guide and check that what you wrote is correct. Then look at what you forgot and focus on this. Date the sheet and store it away. At a later date, do the exercise again and compare the sheets.





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Revise Mnemonics









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Mnemonic is a way of learning facts or information in a certain order. They are particularly useful for remembering processes in Science or sequences in Geography and History.

The first letters of the words you need to know become the first letters of words in a song or rhyme - e.g. 'Naughty Elephants Squirt Water' to remember the points of the compass.





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Revise Condensing your Notes







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For each topic:

A great way of reducing your notes to include only the key information. This makes it easier to learn and remember. The aim is always to get the key information for each topic onto one side of A4 paper. Write the name of the topic at the top of the page. Pick out all of the important information and add it to the page. Include dates, names, numbers, formulae.



Condensing notes should always be followed by some of TEST so that you can see how well you know/ understand/ remember the topic. Look at the TEST powerpoints to help find some testing techniques.





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Cornell Note

Taking
Method







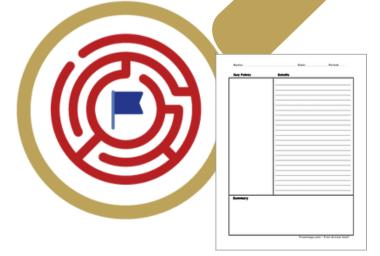
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- 1. Divide your A4 page into three sections.
- 2. Write the names of the topic you are revising at the top of the page..
- 2. Create recall cues one or two days later.
- 3. In the right hand column write brief notes on the topic. Do not spend time writing in full sentences or copying information. Just get down to the main info.







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- 4. In the left column pick out keywords and/or dates, numbers etc from the notes you have just made. Leave the bottom section for 2 days.
- 5. After a couple of days return to the your sheet, reread the information and write a summary of it in the remaining box.
- 6. Leave again for a couple of days and then TEST yourself on the topic using one of our TEST techniques.





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Using flashcards





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- Break each topic or concept into a series of brief notes on a card.
- Just use one side of the card. Keep the other side blank. Use more than one card for each topic/concept if you need too.
- Use an ordering system to help you keep the slides organised.
- Use drawings to illustrate answers.





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- Go back to your flash cards and add a question or prompt on the side that you have left blank.
- Try and answer the question or recall the information on the other side using the prompt. Say your answer out loud and not just in your head.
- Next time you go back to the card write your answer out as you would have to do in an exam or write what you have recalled from the sheet in a summary that makes sense.
- Use the cards both ways You can also look the answers and recall what the question/ prompt is.





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Revise Testing Techniques









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Just **REVISE** and you will quickly forget it. **REVISE** and then **TEST** it and you will remember much more. Ways to effectively test are:

- Use flash cards
- Try practice or past-paper questions
- Do a quiz
- Tell someone about a topic
- Try and write down as much as you know about a topic in a minute
- Re-write mind maps or flow charts from memory then TEST it and you will remember much more.
 Ways to effectively test are: use flash cards.





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Exam Papers







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These are the best way to TEST and improve your knowledge.

If you have not been given them by your teacher, find them (and mark schemes) on the exam website. You will need to know the exam board and subject code / reference.

Practice exam questions under exam conditions.

Use the mark scheme to help you to work out how you did.

Use your performance to help you work out where you went wrong and work on putting it right

After a couple of days go back to the same question and do it again.





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Space out your learning on a subject









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Spacing out your learning over time is far more effective than last-minute cramming. This is based on research into how we forget and how we remember. The speed at which we forget something will depend on many factors such as the difficulty of the material, how meaningful it was to us, how we learned it and how frequently we relearn or remember it. The last factor tells us that when we learn something for the first time, we need to review it quickly afterwards. The more times we force ourselves to remember something, the longer the gap between reviews.





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Learn Revise Test



