



Effective Revision

'We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us.'
Venerable Catherine McAuley



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Principle One:
Revision should be spaced and planned for learning to take place over time

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Principle Two:
Revision should be active

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Principle Three:
students must practice for the real thing

How can they do this?

- 🛡 Create a revision timetable

Why?

Students need to return to their revision topics often - it is not enough to just revise something once or the night before the exam!
The more often students retrieve information, the less they will forget.

How can do this?

- 🛡 Creating revision cards
- 🛡 Self quizzing
- 🛡 Peer quizzing
- 🛡 Mind mapping

Why?

Students need to think hard about what they are revising and complete as much of it as possible from **memory**.

How can they do this?

- 🛡 Complete past paper exams.

Why?

The testing effect means by testing yourself you are strengthening your long-term memory. It will allow students to feel more confident and less anxious in the exam.
It gives them the chance to identify any knowledge gaps



Creating a Revision Timetable



Top Tips!

- 🛡 Studying in short bursts with regular breaks helps to maintain concentration.
- 🛡 Research suggests that interleaving your revision with different subjects/topics is better for you than doing one things for a long time. So do not study just maths one day, English the next and so on.
- 🛡 A revision timetable is a working document. It should be adjusted each week. Students should make a note of the topics they are confident with and those these are not confident with and then prioritise the topics they are less comfortable with.
- 🛡 On the run up to exams, try to do at least the two hours most days.
- 🛡 Rewards are important, so plan in time with friends and family and for fun!



Active Revision: Mind Maps



Step 1: Choose a Key Topic

- Pick a topic or subject area that you need to revise (e.g., a concept in math, a historical event, or a scientific process).
- Make sure the topic is narrow enough to fit the essential information on one card.

Step 2: Gather Essential Information

- Review your class notes, textbooks, or any study materials.
- Focus on the main points, definitions, formulas, or key facts that are critical for understanding the topic.

Step 3: Organise Your Content

- **Front of the Card:** Write the topic or question at the top (e.g., "What is Photosynthesis?" or "Key Dates of WW2").
- **Back of the Card:** Summarize the key points, definitions, or steps concisely. Use bullet points, key terms, or short sentences. Avoid overloading with too much information; keep it simple and easy to review quickly.

Step 4: Use Visual Aids (Optional)

- Add diagrams, charts, or symbols to help visualize complex concepts (e.g., a cell diagram for biology).

Step 5: Simplify for Memorization

- Include mnemonics, acronyms, or short phrases to help with recall (e.g., "SOHCAHTOA" for trigonometry).

Step 6: Test Yourself

- Once the card is complete, use it to quiz yourself by looking at the front (question or topic) and recalling the answer without looking at the back.

Scan to watch the 'How to' guide, here:



Application



How to Guide:

- Use past-papers.
- Complete these without using your notes or revision guides. This should be a generative process.
- Complete these in timed conditions. The closer the practice is to the real thing the better. This way you will feel less anxious and more prepared when you get into the exams.
- Once you finish, self assess your answers. Highlight any areas where you are unsure or could not provide an answer and build these into your revision plan.

Surname	Other names
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Pearson Edexcel
International GCSE

<p>English Language A Paper 1: Non-fiction Texts and Transactional Writing Example Paper A Time: 2 hours 15 minutes (includes 15 minutes reading time) You must have: Extracts Booklet</p>

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Answer ALL questions in Section A and ONE question from Section B.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets - use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
- Quality of written communication including vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar, will be taken into account in your response to Section B.
- Dictionaries may not be used in this examination.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
- You are reminded of the importance of clear English and careful presentation in your answers.