



Revision Guide

GWA's Top 10 Revision Strategies



Flashcards

Write a question or topic on one side of the flashcard.

Then on the other side write your answer, this could be brief notes or definitions

Run through them by yourself or with others as a test

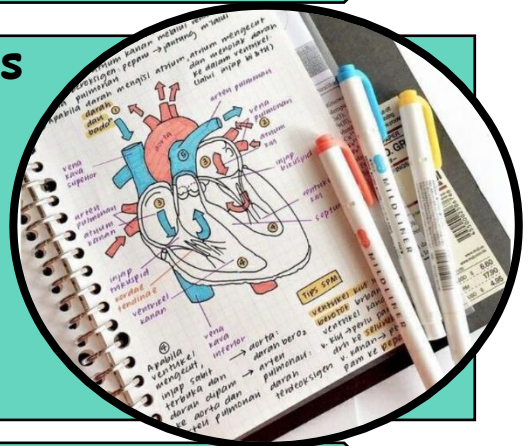
Top Tip: Use different coloured cards for different topics

Rewriting sections of notes

Summarise your existing notes. What is vital for you to remember?

This could be by rewriting them on paper, typing them up or even creating a PowerPoint presentation

Top Tip: Colour code, highlight and add images to make it more memorable

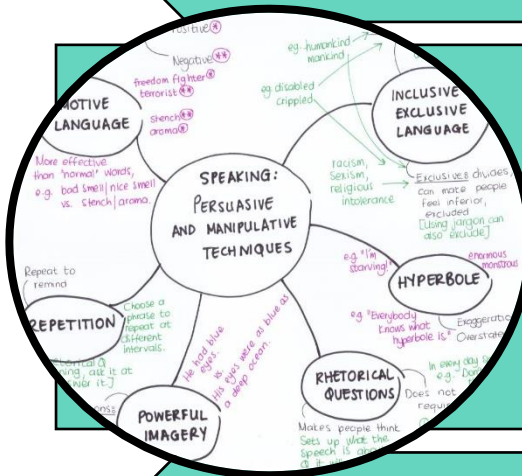


Mindmaps

Write down everything you remember from a topic without looking through your notes.

Then use a different colour pen to begin to add more notes to your work

Top Tip: Include key terms, dates, quotes, symbols and small images to help memorise information



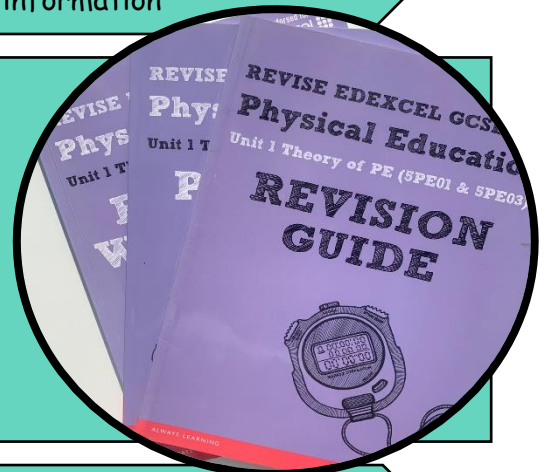
Past Papers

Practice writing the question before your assessment.

Check through past questions, what can you do well?

What did your teacher tell you to focus on?

Top Tip: Could you ask your teacher to mark a practice question for you? Could you have a go at marking it yourself or asking a trusted friend to?

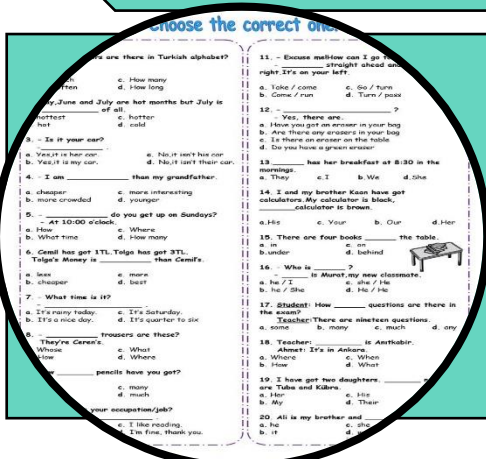


Quizzes

You can use a variety of websites such as Quizlet or Kahoot to create online quizzes for yourself. Alternatively, you can make a paper quiz and get someone else to test you.

Aim for a minimum of 10-15 questions to make sure you have fully covered the topic

Top Tip: Use different question types such as true or false, multiple choice, put in the right order etc



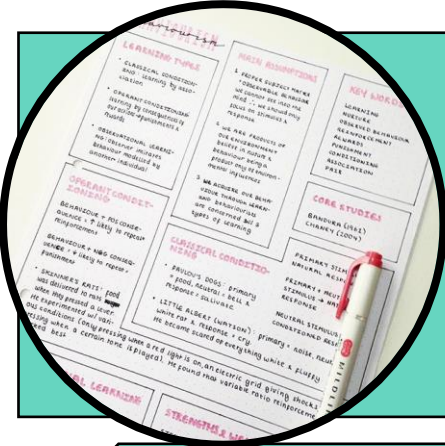
GWA's Top 10 Revision Strategies

Knowledge Organisers

Create a knowledge organiser for a particular unit or concept. Try to condense your notes into specific sections and be creative by using images, diagrams etc.

You could complete these yourself or even trade with a friend to complete

Top Tip: Try to focus on key information and summarise where possible



Essay Plans

Use an essay plan template or create your own to write a brief essay plan for exam questions

Make sure you have added key information such as dates, key factors, statistics, quotes or examples

Top Tip: Once you've created your essay plan, practice LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK to make sure you have memorised it properly

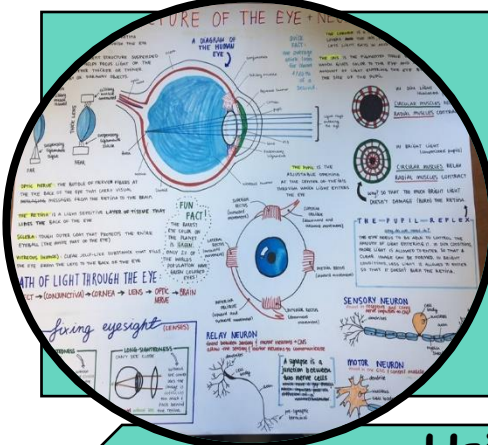


Posters

Use an A4 or A3 piece of paper to create a poster on a key concept or unit you have been studying.

Make it bright and colourful but make sure you have specific information

Top Tip: Could you stick it up somewhere at home so that every time you pass it you read it?



Using key websites

You can use key websites such as Dr Frost, Seneca, BBC Bitesize, TED-ED to help you revise

You could practice questions, watch videos, write bullet point lists on what you have learnt etc.

Top Tip: Make sure you are actively learning not just reading through the website. Practise, Practise, Practise!

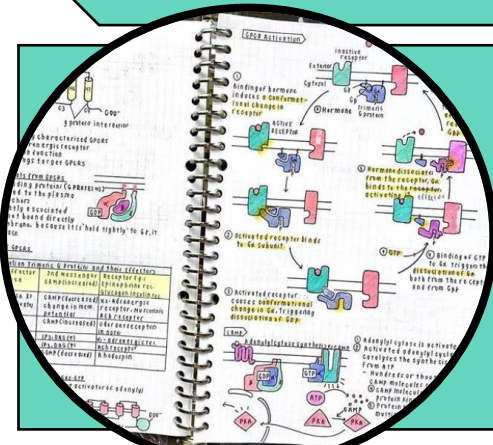


Flow Charts

Create a flow chart to represent a process or a step by step approach to solving a task.

The flowchart shows the individual steps in order, directed by arrows to show either how you should complete a task or how a process works.

Top Tip: Draw images to represent each step or process





English Revision Tips



Know the plots

There are four key texts that you need to know for your Literature exam. You must know the plots inside out in order to access the questions. So, turn the plot into dual coding (images to represent main events); practise cutting the plot down into just ten stages; rewrite it into 100 words.

Exemplar responses and question papers

Look at exemplar material that has been given to you in class. With this in front of you, try to emulate this into your own writing with a practice paper. The more you practise writing essays, the better you will be.

Reading - openings, middles and endings

Find three different books from the library or at home. Read the opening pages, a middle section and the ending. Using your notes from your exercise book, consider the features of each of these sections of a text and identify how they are presented in the book you are reading. Keep a log of the sections you read as inspiration for your own creative ideas for Language Paper 1, section B.

Know the quotations

You are always required to remember quotations from each of these texts! Firstly, list the main themes and characters in the text and then go about identifying quotations which can be used for a variety of questions. Once you have done this, create FLASHCARDS, which should just have the main info on them. Exploded quotation on one side and on the other side the themes and characters which the quotation could be used to discuss.

Reading - newspapers, articles, blogs

Get into the habit of reading newspaper articles online from a range of publications (Tabloids - The Sun, The Mirror and The Daily Mail. Broadsheets - The Telegraph, The Independent and The Times). It's often interesting to choose one news story and then read a variety of papers to see how the story is presented similarly or differently in each publication. Remember to consider the PAF (purpose, audience and form) for each article.



Maths Revision Tips



Practise and Mark Exam Questions

Continually practising past papers is one of the best ways to revise for exams, as the best way to revise maths is by doing it, and past paper questions will show you exactly what the real exam will look like. These can all be found online, with mark schemes, and often YouTube videos working through every question.

If you mark your own questions, you will be able to see where you are making mistakes and start to correct these. You will also identify any topics that you haven't fully understood and need to go and work on.

Key Website-Corbett Maths

On this website, go to videos and worksheets. Hit Ctrl + F, and you can search through all different topics. For each topic there is a video with example questions, practice questions (which are a bit more like questions that you get in assessments), or textbook exercise (which is repeated, similar questions to practise the skill over and over again). All have answers so you can check you are correct as you work.

Flashcards

Use these to help you memorise key formulas that you need to know. Get someone to test you on them so you begin to know them without looking.

Social Media!

Follow Maths accounts on social media! - Consuming maths in your everyday life when scrolling through your phone is a good way to pick up on stuff often and keep it fresh in your memory. Some recommended accounts to follow on different platforms: TikTok: @freegcsemathsteacher (they sometimes do live revision streams) @gcse_maths_tutor @gcsemathssuccess, YouTube: The GCSE Maths Tutor, Hegarty Maths, Khan Academy, Maths Genie. corbettmaths.

Key Website-Dr Frost Maths

Use the Key Skills section or the search bar to find a topic that you want to revise. For each Key Skill you can look at an example question, watch a video explaining the skill or have a go at some questions yourself. Dr Frost will tell you if you are correct or will show you how to get to the correct answer if you get it wrong. Keep practising similar questions until you are confident. For in context questions or GCSE questions, you can go to Exam Q's by topic, look for the topic you want to revise and find some exam questions relating to it. You can choose the difficulty of these questions (from 1-4)



Science Revision Tips



Flashcards

After you have finished revising a concept, write down the key points in a flashcard, you can even buy pre-made packs. Try creating a pack at the end of every unit.

Ex. for GCSE AQA Biology, you can do this for the first part of Unit 1, which is all about cells and microscopy.

Then once you've done that, repeat for the next section on cell differentiation, chromosomes & mitosis. The key to revising effectively from flashcards is to put the easier topics at the back of the cards and the harder ones at the front this way you practice them more often.

Write your own questions

Most of the time, our notetaking is a passive process. We read through the chapter or use the presentation slides and write everything down.

Hint! Every time you don't know an answer to a question in class could you write it down for future revision?

Review your Practical Notes

Make sure you are comfortable with the science behind the practical you have studied. Be ready to apply what you know about the use of scientific apparatus and techniques to practical situations you may not have met before. Some questions will ask you to apply your investigative skills. Show that you understand the subject-specific language which applies when answering these parts of questions. Check that you know, and can use, the formulae needed to process the data you gather in different experiments. Past papers will help with this!

This website will also help! <https://www.youtube.com/c/Freesciencelessons>

Chunking

Chunking is about breaking down large pieces of information into smaller more manageable ones. This helps the brain remember more. A good example of chunking is phone numbers. For example, if you need to remember the phone number 07800976172, you'll find it much easier if you break it into parts like this for example - 078-009-7612. So, how can you apply this to learning science? Well, you can break up the large syllabus into smaller topics. Then break up the smaller topics into individual concepts that are easier to digest. Within individual concepts, you can use mnemonics. Things like ROYGBIV or OIL RIG are good examples of using mnemonics to remember concepts.

Practise and Plan Exam Questions

If you know the question ahead of time practise writing the question out using your notes. Use a mark scheme or ask a teacher to check your practice question. Try and use past papers or revision guides to help you help you develop your subject knowledge and identify gaps in your knowledge.

If you don't know the exact question, look through your notes at previous questions, what did you need to focus on last time? Could you plan your answer and memorise it?

This website will also help! <https://www.studymind.co.uk/resources/>



Business Revision Tips



Quizzes

In lessons we will regularly complete multiple choice quizzes to test your knowledge and understanding. Go back through these quizzes and repeat them to monitor your progress.

You could even create a quiz and complete it at a later date to check your knowledge. Work in teams or use search engines such as Google to search for quizzes on Kahoot, Blooket and Tutor2u.

Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study. Examples of helpful Business websites include:

BBC Bitesize and Seneca Learning

Mindmaps

Create mind maps on past topics such as "Topic 1.1 Enterprise and Entrepreneurship". Use the 'blurring' strategy to ensure success with your revision.

Step 1: Write the topic title in the middle of the page.

Step 2: Write the title of each lesson as a heading around the outside.

Step 3: Write everything you can remember about each lesson on your mind map.

Step 4: Check your notes and add in details that you missed in a second colour to identify key areas to focus on.

Step 5: Repeat and/or use key websites to revise content.

Flashcards

After you have finished revising a concept or key term, write down the key points in a flashcard. Try creating a pack at the end of every unit. On the front of the flashcard, write the key term and draw an icon to represent the key term. On the back:

1. Write the definition of the key term
2. Use the key term in a sentence
3. Link the key term to a context/other part of the unit.

Practise and Plan Exam Questions

Ask your teacher for some past paper questions or go search 'GCSE Business Studies Edexcel past papers'.

You could even create your own using your knowledge of command words from lessons e.g. Evaluate questions always have 12 marks and 9 mark questions always require two options.

Practise questions under timed conditions (1 minute per mark) and ask your teacher to check them and give you feedback!



Geography Revision Tips



Mind maps

Mindmap sections of the course. For example, what content do you need to know for the economic world unit? First, write down everything you can remember from the topic using the specification in the back of your books to help. Then the textbook or lesson notes to add more detail.

Practise and Plan Exam Questions (GCSE)

Planning or writing practice questions and reminding yourself of expectations for different question types.

Essay planning sheets can be collected from Miss Bracey if needed.

Miss Bracey also has a bank of exam questions you can use to support your revision if needed.

Flashcards

Flashcards are useful in Geography for revising key terminology or specific facts that relate to case studies. Make sure you test yourself/each other once you've made them. You need to make sure you have enough flashcards to review the topic in enough detail (this should be a minimum of 10-15 flashcards).

Case Studies

Make sure that you are clear on what case study is needed for each section of the course. Be able to name the 5 W's, an explanation and have a specific level of detail in your notes.

For example, Rivers: the Thames and Banbury Flooding,
Ecosystems: Svalbard and Malaysian Rainforest

Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study. Examples of helpful Geography websites include:

BBC Bitesize (AQA), Internet Geography, Time for Geography, Seneca (link is on your Teams)



History Revision Tips



Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study.

Examples of helpful History websites include:

BBC Bitesize

Spartacus Educational

Seneca History

Mind maps

What are the main topics you have learnt in your unit? Firstly, write down everything you remember from a topic without looking through your notes. Then change your colour and add more notes making sure you have used key terms and evidence such as dates, quotes, statistics and explanations.

Ex. What were the differences in the Tudor churches of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I?

Quizzes

Quizzes are an excellent way to revise for a factual recall test. You need to make sure you have at least 10-15 questions about the unit you have covered. You could create a paper quiz or even an online quiz using a website like Kahoot and get your friends and family involved!

Make sure to add key dates, terms, statistics, and factors

Ex. Name the causes of the Spanish Armada

Timelines

Timelines are a smart way to organise information you have learnt if you are learning about events over a longer period of time.

This is specifically important for GCSE and A level History students if you are completing a unit over a long period of time.

Add pictures or colour code into different categories to keep it memorable and identify change/continuity.

Practise and Plan Exam Questions

If you know the question ahead of time practise writing the question out using your notes. Use a mark scheme or ask a teacher to check your practice question.

If you don't know the exact question, look through your notes at previous questions, what did you need to focus on last time? Could you plan your answer and memorise it?

If you are at GCSE or A level, try and use past papers or revision guides to help you.



Philosophy & Religion Revision Tips



Make it memorable!

A great way to remember lists of things is to come up with a unique and silly way of thinking of something. Does the thing you're trying to remember sound like any other words? Does it make you think of a certain image? Can you come up with an acronym or a mnemonic to learn lots of things, in a way that it takes up less of your memory? Ask your teacher for help with this if you're struggling.

List Key Word Definitions

Identify key words in each topic and make a list. Then find their definitions and write them down on a Key Word Sheet. Revise key words using look, cover, say/write, check. Get someone to test you as you need to be able to recall it from memory!

Ex. What do the words Monotheist and Polytheist mean? Could you name examples of both.

Teach it!

The best way to make sure you understand something and can remember it, is by teaching someone else. Teach a parent, other family member or friend what you need to know. This process will help it stick in your memory and they might even be able to give you some suggestions about how to remember something!

Practise Questions

You should practise the skill you have learnt by writing out practice answers. Ask your teacher for some practice questions or make your own. It is important that you practise doing it from memory! If you don't have time to write out a whole 12-mark answer to an 'evaluate' question, just plan it... think of reasons for and against the statement, identify quotes to use and come to a conclusion.

Knowledge Organiser

Make a knowledge sheet for the topic you need to revise - Decide how many areas of the topic there are and split a large sheet of paper into this many sections.

For example, the unit on Concepts of God in Year 7 can be split into Christian concepts, Hindu concepts, Islamic concepts etc. Then write down the key details for each area that you need to learn. Don't stop here though, you need to practice writing out these details from memory!



MFL Revision Tips



Voice Notes

Recording yourself on your phone answering questions or reading aloud a writing piece is a great way to revise for assessments. You can keep listening to this when you're doing other tasks at home, but it will sink in!

Post-it Notes

These are a great way to revise questions and answers for a speaking assessment or split up a writing text into smaller chunks. Stick them around your house, on your fridge or bedroom mirror and you'll see them all the time!

Vocab Websites

Whether it's Memrise, Quizlet or Seneca, using online websites to practice and learn vocabulary is a great way to build your knowledge of topics. Ideally, spend 10-15 minutes a day and try to practice the words you struggle with.

Mind Maps

Take a topic area, for example ma maison/mi casa, and create a mindmap sectioning each part of the page into a different subtheme e.g. adjectives, sentence structure, tenses, questions.

Grammar Notebook

Find a small notebook and every time you learn a new grammar point, re-write your notes in your own words (with examples)! This is a great way to go over prior learning and it'll all be in one place!



Computer Science Revision Tips



Practise Programming

Practise makes perfect. Ask your teacher for a series of python programming challenges to complete. Or task yourself or a group of your peers to use python to create programmes to solve real life problems e.g. creating a programme to operate a traffic light at a busy crossroads.

Mind maps

Create mind maps on past topics such as "CPU Architecture". Use the 'blurting' strategy to ensure success with your revision.

Step 1: Write the topic title in the middle of the page.

Step 2: Write the title of each lesson as a heading around the outside.

Step 3: Write everything you can remember about each lesson on your mind map.

Step 4: Check your notes and add in details that you missed in a second colour to identify key areas to focus on.

Step 5: Repeat and/or use key websites to revise content.

Practise Questions

Ask your teacher for some past paper questions or go search 'OCR GCSE Computer Science past papers'.

You could even create your own using your knowledge of command words from lessons.

Practise questions under timed conditions (1 minute per mark) and ask your teacher to check them and give you feedback!

Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study. Examples of helpful Computing websites include:

Craig n Dave, BBC Bitesize, Isaac Computing

Quizzes

In lessons we will regularly complete multiple-choice quizzes to test your knowledge and understanding. Go back through these quizzes and repeat them to monitor your progress. You could even create a quiz and complete it at a later date to check your knowledge. Work in teams to create them or use search engines such as Google to search for quizzes on Kahoot and Blooket.



PE Revision Tips



Know-Apply-Say Why

Build on your answer in stages and expand on them.

Ex. It is not enough to say that a Badminton player needs a good reaction time to hit the shuttle - you need to expand and say why. Reaction time is the time taken to respond to a stimulus, it is hugely important to a Badminton player for several reasons. Firstly, when their opponent hits the shuttle (the stimulus) the player needs to respond quickly to where and how their opponent has hit the shuttle and move to play an appropriate shot (the response). If they were to have a poor reaction time then they might not make it to the shuttle and would lose the point, or they might not be balanced when they hit and execute a poor shot. Another reason they would need a good reaction time is...

Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study.

Examples of helpful PE websites include: BBC Bitesize, GCSE PE AQA, GCSE PE revision resources and booklets your teachers have sent out/are on your OneNote, Revision World website - click on the 'AQA GCSE Physical Education' link.

Choose the right sporting examples

Choose the right sporting example. 1. If the question already gives you the sport (Ex. Basketball) or the activity area (Ex. Team games), then make sure you relate your answer to that sport and don't randomly pick your own. 2. If you are allowed to choose any sport as an example pick an obvious one for that sport Ex. Power would be crucial to a Shot Putter...don't try and pick something that is less obvious like flexibility as it makes it harder to talk about.

Practise, Practise, Practise...Exam Questions

Go through as many exam paper questions as you can. We recommend having a go at the question, then marking it and then improving your answer. Repeat it again a few days later to see what you can remember.

Acronyms

Write/draw acronyms and things that will help you around the edge of the exam question.

Ex. for a 6/9 mark question on Components of Fitness we would write out all components of fitness to the side so you can check you have talked about them all and/or the most relevant. Another example is a question on SMART targets, write out the acronym and SPECIFIC, MEASURABLE, ACCEPTED, REALISTIC and TIME-BOUND to the side.



ADT Revision Tips



Flashcards

Flashcards are an excellent way to revise for a factual recall test. You need to make sure you have at least 10-15 questions about the unit you have covered. Make sure to add key terms and descriptions.

Ex. Explain what a smart material is.

Practise Exam Questions

Practise a range of short and long answer exam questions.

Use the mark scheme to self-mark and see where you dropped marks.

You could also add to your answer in a different colour to revise from later.

Key Websites

Use websites to complete further revision than just your class notes. Practice questions, watch videos and make notes, complete quizzes to test your knowledge and identify gaps for further study.

Key websites include:

technologystudent.com

[BBC Bitesize](http://www.bbc.com/bitesize)

[SENECA](http://www.seneca.com)

Plan out long answer questions

Plan out a range of questions, using the range of key terms that will be used such as 'describe', 'explain', 'compare'.

See if you can answer them using your notes and try timing yourself to try and write more concisely. You could also give them to a friend and see if they have anything on their plan that you do not!

Mindmaps and Flowcharts

What are the main topics you have learnt in your unit? Firstly, write down everything you remember from a topic without looking through your notes. Then change your colour and add more notes making sure you have used key terms and evidence such as materials, manufacturing techniques, key terminology etc



Dance Revision Tips



Plan it out

Find a stimulus (anything around your house). Plan how you would create a solo, duet, trio or group dance based on this stimulus. You could create a mind map explaining a motif you would create if using this stimulus. Add which choreographic devices you would use to enhance your intention. Then, add which aural setting and performance environment you would use and why.

Venn Diagrams

Pick two professional works and one feature of production (e.g., costume) to compare. Create a 'Venn diagram' - in the outer circles write the differences and in the overlapping circle write the similarities the works have with the feature of production. Repeat this with two different works and a different feature of production.

Storyboards

Re-watch one of the professional works. Create a storyboard and draw/describe one key motif from that work. Ensure you use descriptive actions, space, dynamics and relationships. Underneath your storyboard, analyse how this motif connects to the choreographic intention.

Mindmaps

Re-watch one of the professional works and create a mind map from memory. Include all the features of production (lighting, aural setting, costume, set/staging, dancers). Try to have 3 points for each feature of production. From these points, find a link to the choreographic intention.

Repeat this for all 4 professional works.

Flashcards

Create flashcards on all skills: physical, technical, expressive, mental, safe working practice.

Ask someone to test you on the definitions and explain how you would improve them or have used them in one of your solos.



Drama Revision Tips



Design

Create posters or designs for topics or performances you are learning about and label them.

For example: Design costumes for all of the key characters in your key text.

You could consider colour, garment, OPC and hair and makeup.

Research

Use websites such as BBC Bitesize and Eduqas to research different techniques or performances.

For example: research 5 different rehearsal techniques, this could be collated into a pros and cons table

Listing Key Words

List 10 key words you could use to describe the following: Lighting, Sound, Voice, Movement, Staging, Character

Use a technique such as Look, Cover, Write, Check to practice memorising them.

Reread and Analyse

Re-read your key text and after each act consider where you have seen the key themes. Find quotes to support this.

Remember to make a note of where the quote is written for reference later on.

Flashcards

Write a question or topic on one side of the flashcard. Then on the other side write your answer this could be brief notes or definitions

Run through them by yourself or with others as a test

For example: Create flashcards with information on original performance conditions of your key text.



Music Revision Tips



Key Term Sheets

Know your key terms - use the sheets provided to you. Make sure you know what the terms mean and how to use them in context.

Use a technique such as Look, Cover, Write, Check to practice memorising them.

Listen

Listen to music from the genres studied and familiarise yourself with the key features written in your notes.

Could you use a Venn diagram to show which genres have similar features and which are different?

Research

Use websites such as YouTube and BBC Bitesize to research specific genres of music and types of musical instruments (See BBC National Orchestra of Wales)

Write notes, bullet point lists, mindmaps or knowledge organisers on what you have researched.

Describe

Choose a musical element - for example, dynamics - listen to a piece of music and describe how that element changes in the music.

Quizzes

You can use a variety of websites such as Quizlet or Kahoot to create online quizzes for yourself. Alternatively, you can make a paper quiz and get someone else to test you.

Aim for a minimum of 10-15 questions to make sure you have fully covered the topic.

You can also use BBC Bitesize by reading through the pages and taking the quiz at the end. If you get less than 50% reread the page again and redo the quiz.

Top Strategies for Success

1) Pick a place and time to study

Set up a study space, make sure it is quiet, comfortable and distraction free. Find a time to study that suits you, is it first thing in the morning, straight after school, in the evening? Try and get into a routine to make studying less of a struggle.

2) Study in small chunks

It is better to study for 20 minutes a day than to cram the night before an assessment. Early in the year twenty-thirty minutes a night might be enough to stay on top of things. Later in the year, you might need to study more each day. If you find it hard to study, you may need to prioritise it by cutting back on screen time or other activities.

3) Try out different revision strategies

Becoming great at revision is all about practice and trying out different revision strategies until you find the one that suits you. Just because you did well with mindmaps does not mean you should only ever revise with mindmaps. Mix it up and try a new strategy until you find ones you feel you are the most successful with!

4) Plan your time effectively

Make the most of the time you have!

Set alarms to remind you and keep you on track, use a planner, calendar, or a revision schedule to know what you need to revise and when

Create a list of the things you need to revise, or tasks you need to complete and be clear on what needs to be completed and when.

Top Strategies for Success

5) Take breaks

It is important to take breaks while you're studying, especially if you are feeling tired or frustrated. Working too long on a task can decrease your motivation and retention of knowledge. When you take a break, move away from your study space. You could walk around, complete a different activity, grab a snack—sometimes a break can help you look at a problem in a different way and help you to solve it.

6) Ask for help

If you're stuck on something, or something just doesn't seem to make sense, you can always ask for help. Talk to your teachers about the things you don't understand. Talk to your friends too as they might have a solution to the same problem!

7) Stay motivated

When you are revising keep in mind the reasons you are working so hard, that could be that you want to beat your last test in school, to make progress, or towards a higher goal such as GCSEs, A levels or a career in the future.

8) Look after yourself

You will study better and do better on any assessment if you take care of yourself. Make sure you eat well, exercise (even if it's just walking around) and get enough sleep. Don't reward yourself with too many sugary snacks or stay up too late at night. You also need to make sure you drink plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated and stop yourself from getting headaches.