Ely College

10%

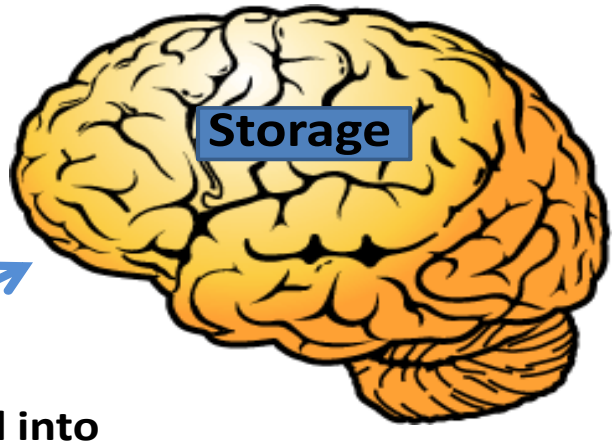
The MAIN thing right now…

‘Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you’ve imagined’ **Henry Thoreau**

10%

How do I revise!?

Where does it go wrong?



Putting the word into memory

Retrieval

What are these GCSE worth to you?

Education level reached:	Median hourly rate of pay (on average):
Degree =	£16.10
Higher education =	£12.60
A Levels =	£10.00
GCSE grades A*-C =	£8.68
Other qualifications =	£8.07
No qualifications =	£6.93

£1,000,000 over a working life!
£148,720 (or 17%) more money than if you DON'T get your 5 A*-Cs including English and Maths

‘When you *know* better, you *do* better’
– Maya Angelou

- Revision is probably not glamorous – it is head down, focused work.
- Revision is not **new** – it is revisiting work, knowledge and ideas already covered to embed.
- Knowledge is power and hard work carries rewards.
- Your teachers do not need to give you new materials every time you sit down to revise – **you** need to re-visit what you have and make sure you understand it thoroughly.
- If you’re in a group, unless you all have a specific focus and an objective, you’re not learning.

10%

The grades of students who slept **seven hours** each night during the exam period were nearly **10 percent higher** than those of students who got less sleep - Dr. Stijn Baert, (Ghent University).

Students who extended their sleep duration from **six to seven** hours saw an average increase of 1.7 points (on a scale of 20) for each exam.

EXCUSES:

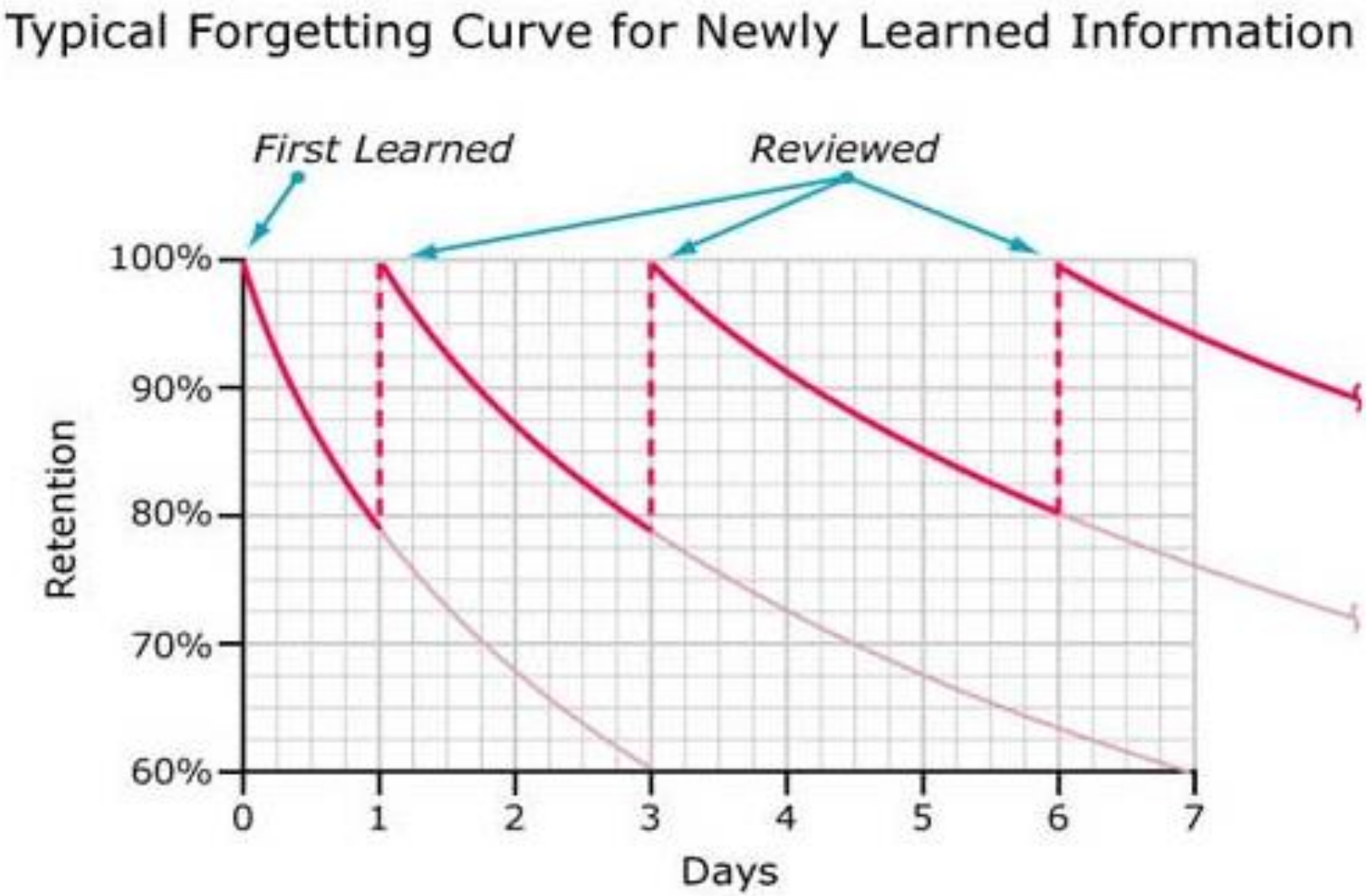
- **I don’t know HOW to revise!**
- **I don’t have the right books!**
- **Sir/Miss never covered this.**
- **I was away when we did that.**
- **I’m rubbish at…**
- **I learn best alone…**
- **I can’t concentrate at school…**

SOLUTIONS:

- **I can try one of the ideas Mr Spencer suggested!**
- **I can look under my bed/organise my folder/borrow from a friend/ask my teacher**
- **I can make sure I catch up or borrow the notes. I can attend the revision session. I can ask Sir/Miss to explain.**
- **If you really are rubbish at it (doubtful) – then the only answer is to practice!**
- **Move yourself away from your group. Go to the library, work in a quiet classroom. Attend session 6!**
- **Yes, really, you can.**

What does your timetable look like?

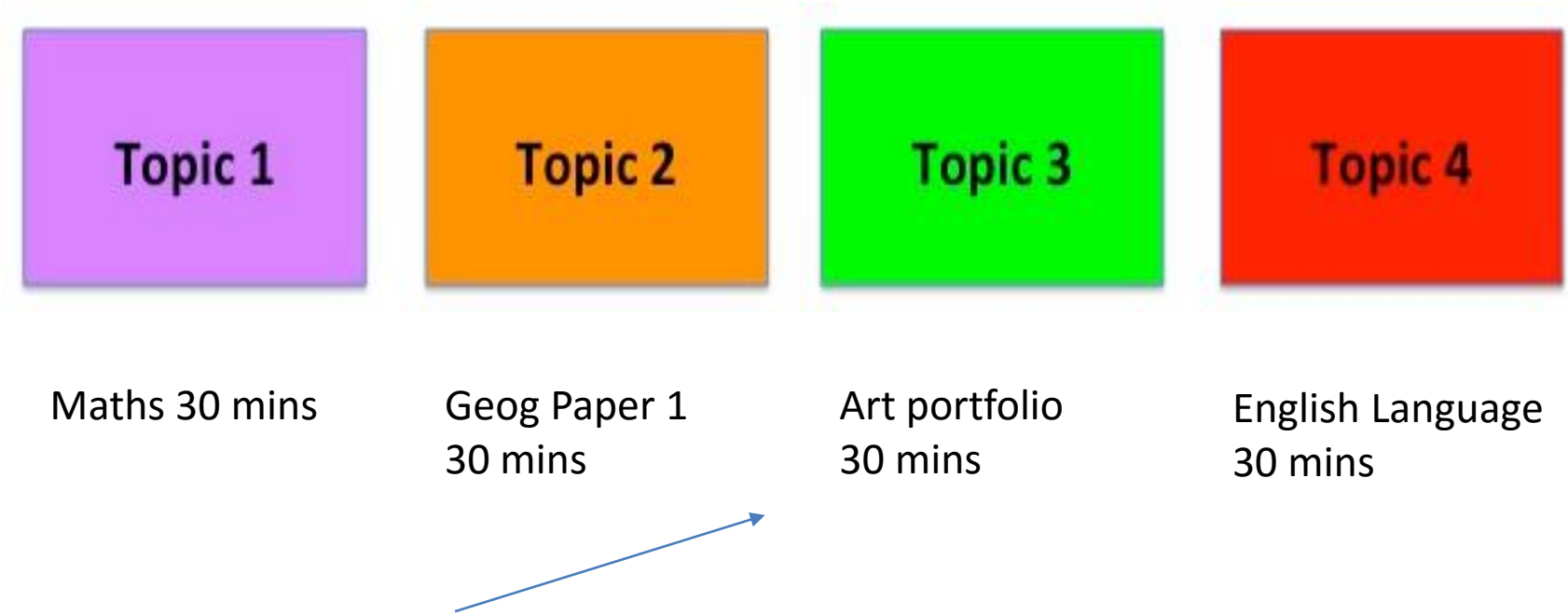
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		15th April	22nd April	29th April	6th May	13th May	20th May	Half Term
2	Monday							
3	4.30-5.00pm	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	
4	5.30-6.00pm	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	
5	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Eng Lit - Practise question	Latin	Physics	Eng Lit - Practise question	English Lang re-sit	Latin	
6			Latin	Physics			Latin	
7	8.00-8.30pm	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	
8	9.00-9.30pm	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	
9	Tuesday							
10	4.30-5.00pm	French	French	French	French	French	French	
11	5.30-6.00pm	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	
12	6.30pm - 7.30pm	English Lang re-sit	Eng Lit - Practise question	English Lang re-sit	Latin	Eng Lit - Practise question	Biology	
13					Latin		Biology	
14	8.00-8.30pm	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	
15	9.00-9.30pm	RE	RE	RE	RE	RE	RE	
16	Wednesday							
17	4.30-5.00pm	French	French	French	French	French	French	
18	5.30-6.00pm	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	
19	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Latin	Maths - Practise paper	Eng Lit	Maths - Practise paper	Physics	Maths - Practise paper	
20		Latin	Maths		Maths	Physics	Maths	
21	8.00-8.30pm	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	
22	9.00-9.30pm	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	
23	Thursday							
24	4.30-5.00pm	French	French	French	French	French	French	
25	5.30-6.00pm	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	
26	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Chemistry	English Lang re-sit	French	English Lang re-sit	Latin	Eng Lit	
27		Chemistry		French		Latin		
28	8.00-8.30pm	RE	RE	RE	RE	RE	RE	
29	9.00-9.30pm	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	
30	Friday							
31	4.30-5.00pm	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	History Paper 1	History Paper 2	History Paper 3	
32	5.30-6.00pm	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	
33	6.30pm - 7.30pm	French	Biology	Stats	Chemistry	French	English Lang re-sit	
34		French	Biology	Stats	Chemistry	French		
35	8.00-8.30pm	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	
36	9.00-9.30pm	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	
37	Saturday							
38	Hour 1	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	Stats	



Repetition is key – you're likely to have forgotten something a few days later unless you keep coming back to it to REVIEW and TEST yourself again!

Interleaved Practice

When you are revising a subject, the temptation is to do it in ‘blocks’ of topics. Like below:



Possibly NOT a sensible model…

‘Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out’ – **Robert Collier**

The revision ‘power’ hour – 60 minutes well spent…

5 mins	15 mins	10 mins	15 mins	15 mins
Re-cap Test What do I remember from the last session? • Attempt a question. • Reproduce your new knowledge. • Transfer knowledge gained into a new form.	**Topic 1** Mind Map Repetition Condensing Exploding Listing Cue Cards **BIOLOGY – B2.3 Photosynthesis**	**Rest, then test** Drink Eat Music YouTube FB, Twitter <u>Don’t</u> move! THEN… 5 minute re-cap test of Topic 1	**Topic 2** Mind Map Repetition Condensing Exploding Listing Cue Cards **Chemistry – C2.6 Acids, bases and salts**	**Test, Save and Share** Attempt a question. Reproduce your new knowledge. Transfer new knowledge into a new form. • Send your notes to a friend with a 50 word précis. • Save them in your file. • Self assess against mark scheme.

Answer **all parts** of the question.

If you're really stuck, try and write ***anything*** rather than nothing, even if you know it isn't 100% correct - a few marks are better than none!

If you finish early, check the front page instructions. You might have missed something!

10%

Check and Change! Read your answer and correct your own mistakes.

You'll be surprised what you miss when you're in a rush. Examiners have to award marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar. Simple mistakes can influence the way an examiner views a candidate. Should an A grade student 'forget' to use a capital letter for a name?

Do not rush. Plan your time!

Question 1 (8 marks)	**5 mins**	**15 mins**
Question 2 (16 marks)	**15 mins**	**15 mins**
Question 3 (32 marks)	**30 mins**	**20 mins**
Question 4 (8 marks)	**5 mins**	**10 mins**
	5 mins Checking	

64 marks – One hour

If you finish check the front page instructions and correct any simple errors!

Getting CREATIVE with revision…

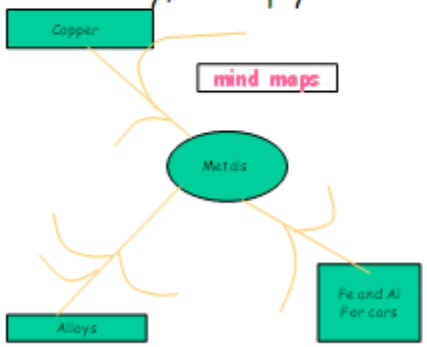
- T-Shirts! Buy some fabric pens.
- Revision songs
- Post-it frenzy!
- Use of wiki-spaces/social media to share
- Using unusual ICT packages like prezi. Screenr or Sparkol to create interesting and creative presentations to keep and share.

Good, sensible advice…

1. MIND MAPPING

Produce a mindmap

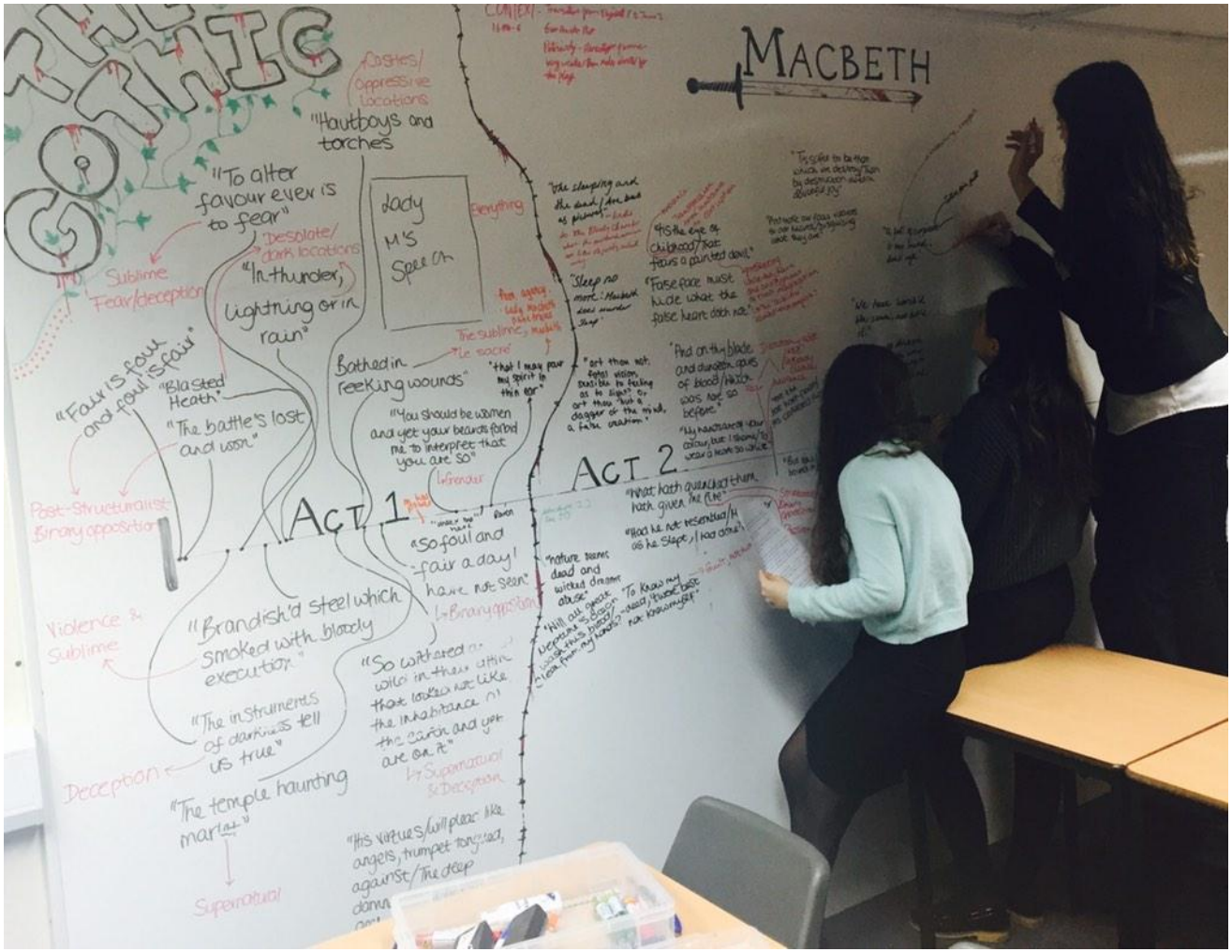
- Work in *pencil*.
- Topic name in the *centre* (small)
- Draw one *branch* away from the centre for each sub-topic.
- Write the sub-topic prompts at the ends of each branch.
- Add in the *detail*, as branches use pictures, funny or cheeky, to help you remember(should look organic)



2. REDUCE

Take your topic

- Read through each section and pick out the important bits (underline).
- Put it into fewer words,
- Draw simpler diagrams.
- Make up pictures to show bits of info (don't need to be good, so long as YOU know what they mean).
- Number points so you know how many bits to remember (great for chunking).
- Look up words you don't understand (explain them in your own words).
- *GET IT ALL ONTO ONE PAGE.*



Create a revision wall or window using massive sheets of paper, a board or even a window (be careful – ask permission and take photos to save your notes!)

4. EXPLODING

Why? It makes you go over every topic again; to jog and test you plus it gives you everything you need to cover on one sheet of paper – what a bonus!

- Show all the wads of info for a *TOPIC* on one page.
- Explode the subject, same as above but shows the whole subject in a *MONSTER* picture.

Extension: Draw arrows to connect bits of the whole subject that go together. It may look messy but it will get your brain working!

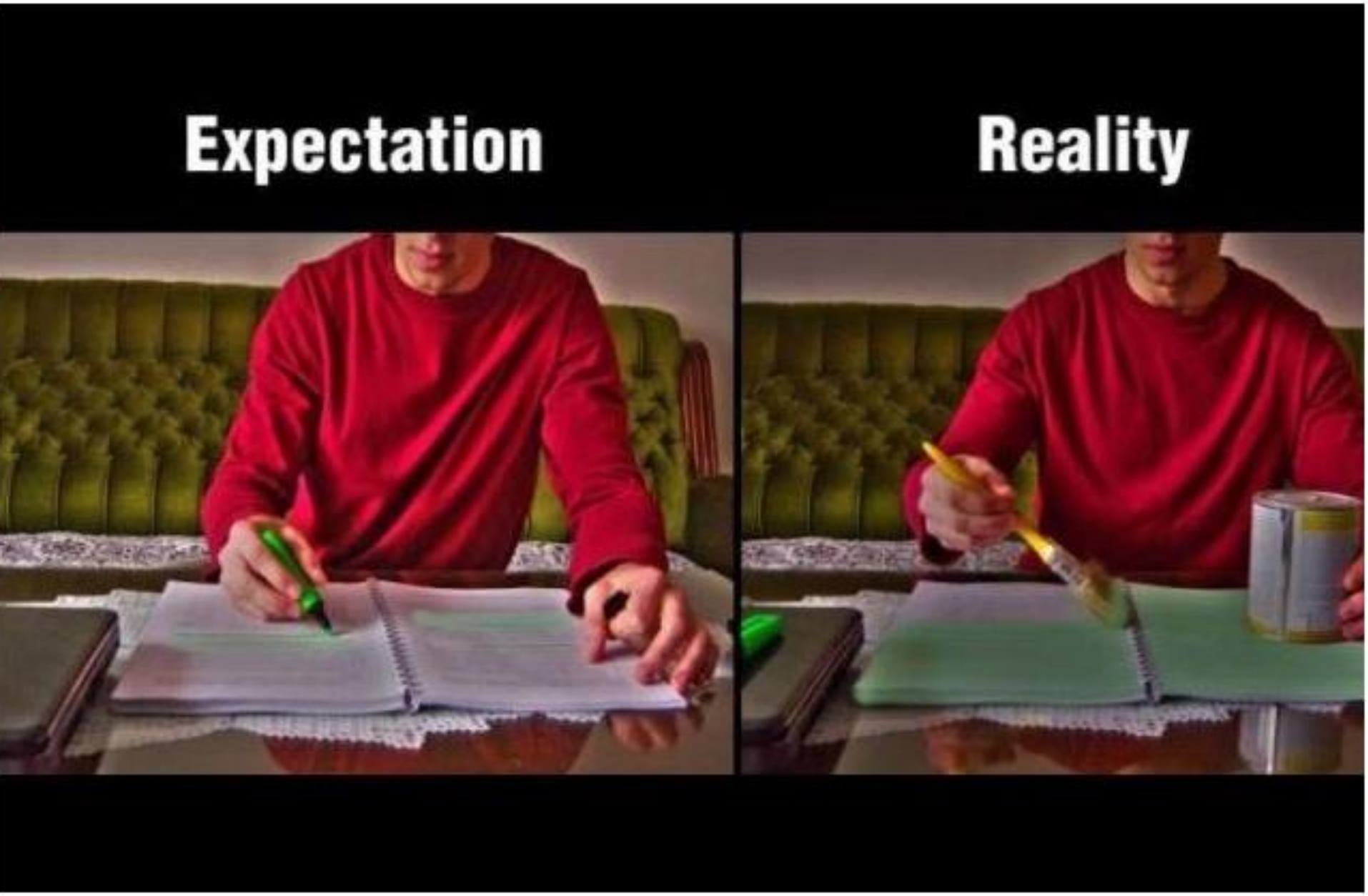
5. CUE CARDS

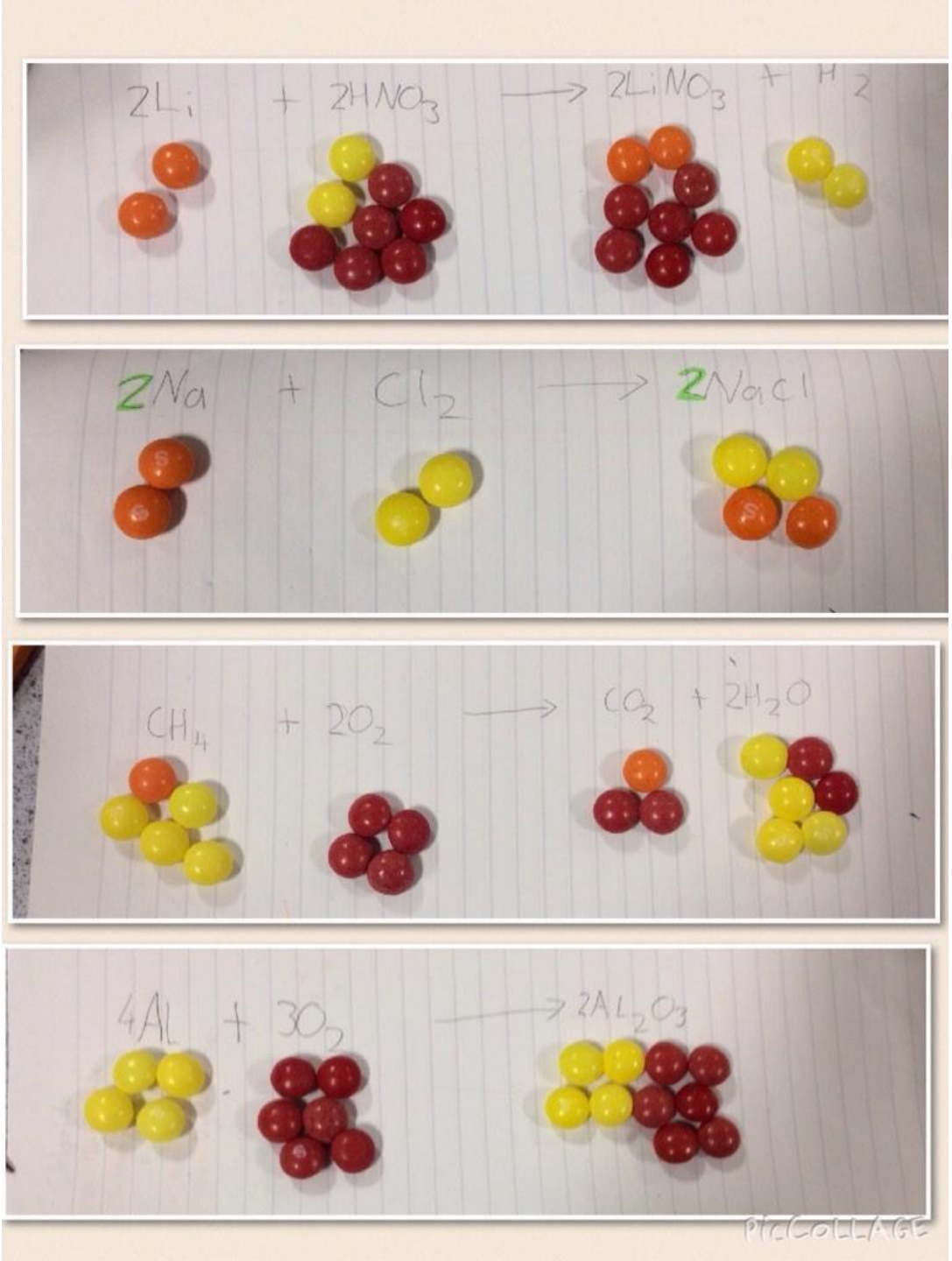
Produce a cue card using one or more of the following techniques

- Mindmap
- Devise questions – Separate answers to questions on the back (less likely to cheat)
- Reduce information onto a card (don't just write smaller). Simplify on the reverse information using code or shorthand.
- Quiz with Clues on the reverse.
-

HINT When reading always think 'what am I supposed to do with this info?' – turn it into 5 quick questions.

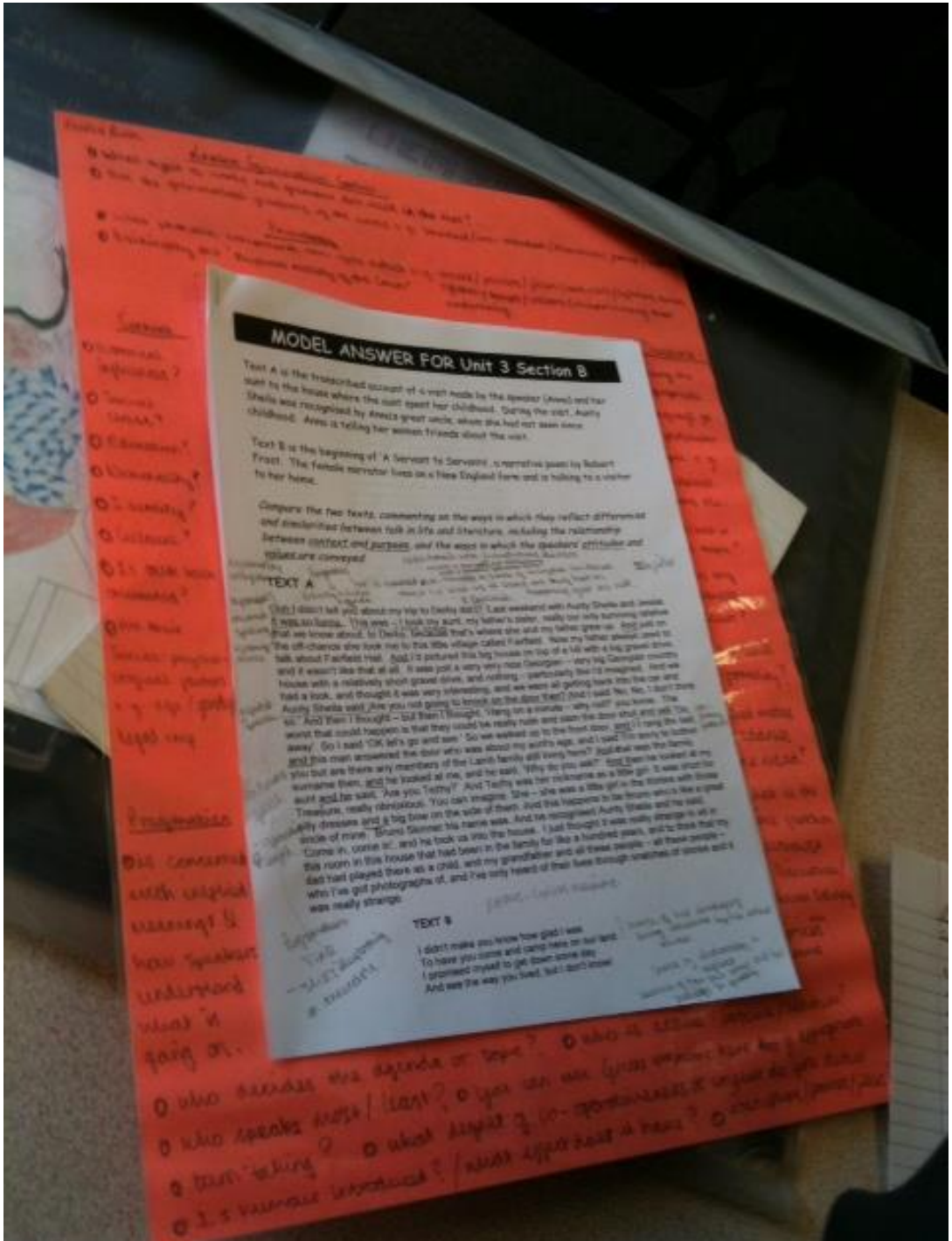
Highlighting
Re-reading
Summarising


Expectation
Reality



Skittle revision

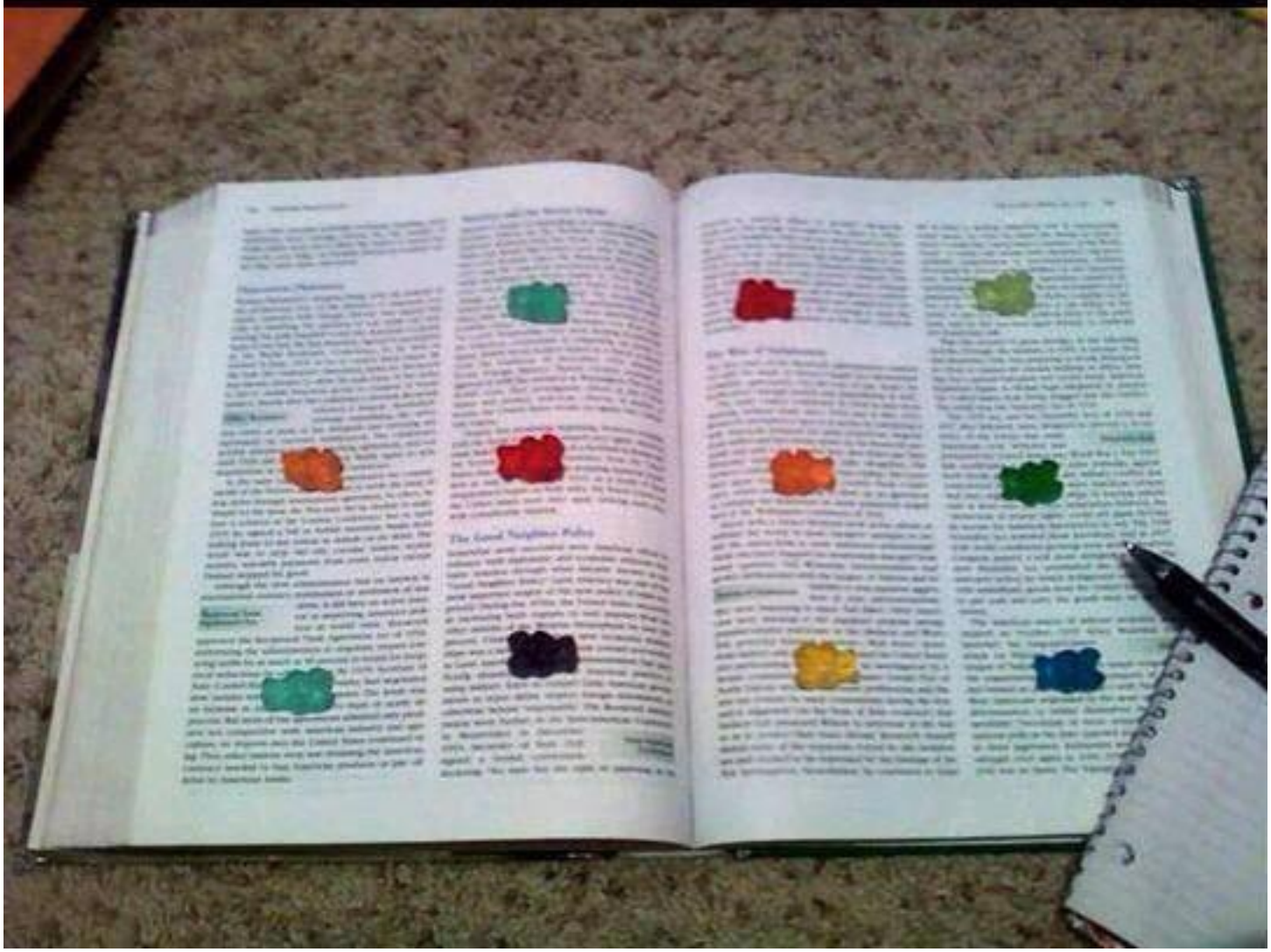
Use skittles to represent different topics (in this case elements of a formula), themes, subjects or ideas. Eat your skittles once you feel confident!



Revision mats

Use an A3 sheet as a mat to place your A4 exam question on – record notes, key words, formulas or spellings around the edge to help you plan and remember the most important ideas or information before attempting a practice question. Laminate!

STUDYING INCENTIVE: WHEN YOU REACH A GUMMY BEAR, YOU GET TO EAT IT. I'VE BEEN STUDYING WRONG MY WHOLE LIFE.



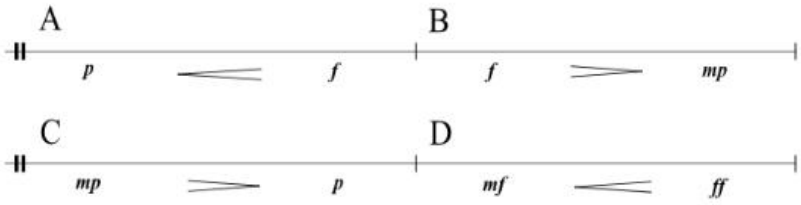
Revision T Shirts

Either buy some cheap plain white T Shirts or use an old one you don’t use anymore (be careful!). Use fabric pens to record key words and information onto different parts of the shirt to help you remember and select the important information.

Practice Testing

This technique is pretty straightforward – keep testing yourself (or each other) on what you have got to learn. This technique has been shown to have the highest impact in terms of supporting student learning.

(c) Which of the following shows the correct dynamic changes in sections 1 + 2 of this excerpt? **[1]**



(d) **Section 3.** Tick the box next to the term which best describes this section. **[1]**

cadenza	
bridge	
coda	
introduction	

How can I keep testing myself?

- Create some flashcards, with questions on one side and answers on the other – and keep testing yourself.
- Work through past exam papers – many can be acquired through exam board websites.
- Simply quiz each other (or yourself) on key bits of information.
- Create ‘fill the gap’ exercises for you and a friend to complete.
- Create multiple choice quizzes for friends to complete.

REVISION TIPS

Create and use a revision planner

Plan out your revision timetable. How long have you got before each exam? Which exams require more revision time?

Set an alarm and start early!

The morning is the best time to revise and remember the sooner you start the sooner you're finished.

Find a nice space to revise in

Some where bright, tidy, comfortable and free of distractions.

Be ready and prepared to revise

Create a checklist of things you need Pen ✓ Paper ✓ Ruler ✓ Post notes ✓ Revision guide ✓ Drink & snack! ✓

Limit distractions

Keep possible distractions to a minimum

Switch your device to flight mode

(You can check if its a reward later)

Revise, Repeat, Remember

Everyone revises and learns differently. Find the system that works best for you and stick with it

Revise, Repeat, Remember

Prioritise your time

Give extra time to subjects and areas you're struggling with.

Set a target!

Finish the next three pages of notes
Revise for an hour
Complete an past exam paper

Use a mind map

Mind maps are a brilliant visual tool for remembering facts and dates.

Use a post-it note

Struggling to remember a key fact? Jot it down on a post it note and stick it around the house. Try the mirror, on the fridge or the back of the toilet door!

Question the question

Is there a better, more precise way to answer the question? Now is the time to think of and revise your answers.

The more you put in the more you get out!

Reward yourself once you meet a revision target.