



Key stage 4 examination tips: *A 'How to Guide' to Revising the Right Way*

General Tips:

Effective revision is **just** re-reading and highlighting



Effective revision involves retrieval practice, success relearning, assessing and testing your knowledge **too!**

Revision is **individual** – find out what works for you; this might be different to what works for someone else!





Keeping Track:

- Keep a record of everything that you revise
- Make a really clear plan before you start
- Allows for coverage of all subjects
- **STAY MOTIVATED!**
- Reward yourself – take proper breaks and do something for you
- Short bursts of revision – **little and often** is best
- Look for gaps and plan how to fill those in

Week Beginning

Eng Lang	Eng Lit	Maths	Science	Geog	Food Tech	PE	Spanish	RE
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on schedule!

	Session 1 Duration: 1-2 hours	Session 2 Duration: 1-2 hours	Session 3 Duration: 1-2 hours
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday			

Subject
I.e. English

Topic
I.e. "An Inspector Calls"

ReVISION



Use the Specification:

2 examples of an EQ
Haiti (LIC) and Christchurch
(HIC)
Effects
Responses

Key idea	Specification content
The <u>effects of, and responses to, a tectonic hazard vary between areas of contrasting levels of wealth.</u>	Primary and secondary effects of a tectonic hazard. Immediate and long-term responses to a tectonic hazard. Use named examples to show how the effects and responses to a tectonic hazard vary between two areas of contrasting levels of wealth.
<u>Management</u> can reduce the effects of a tectonic hazard.	Reasons why people continue to live in areas at risk from a tectonic hazard. How monitoring, prediction, protection and planning can reduce the risks from a tectonic hazard.

3Ps
Link to reducing effects

Learn what is in the exam

Develop knowledge of the 'language of the exam'

- What are the command words?
- How will they phrase the questions
- What are the key terms to look out for?

Specifics are sometimes given in the specification

Then you can make up a practice question using the words of the specification:

*'The effects of tectonic hazards are worst in poorer areas'
To what extent do you agree? (9 marks)*



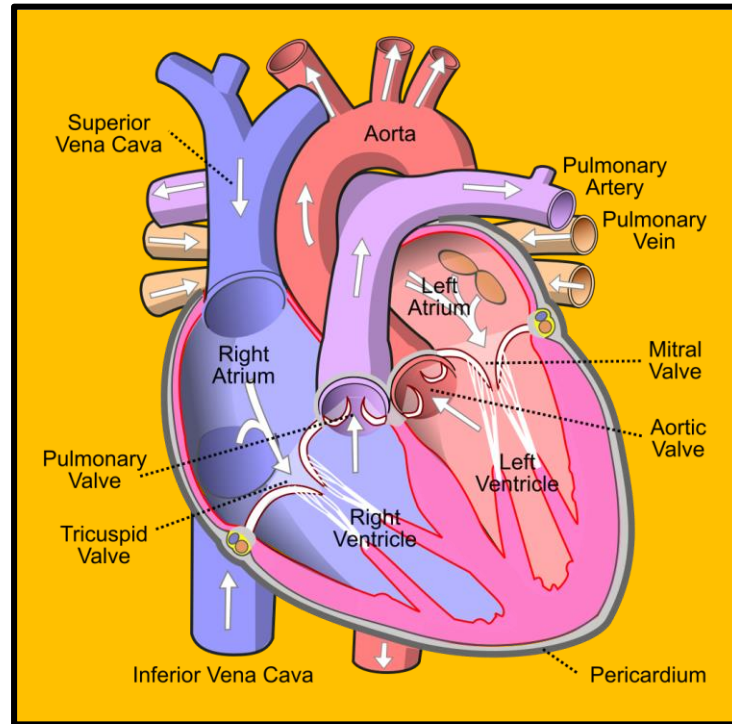
Set Clear Targets:

'I am going to revise the heart'

OR

Look at the specification and see what is required...

'I'm going to draw and label the heart to show the flow of blood around the body'

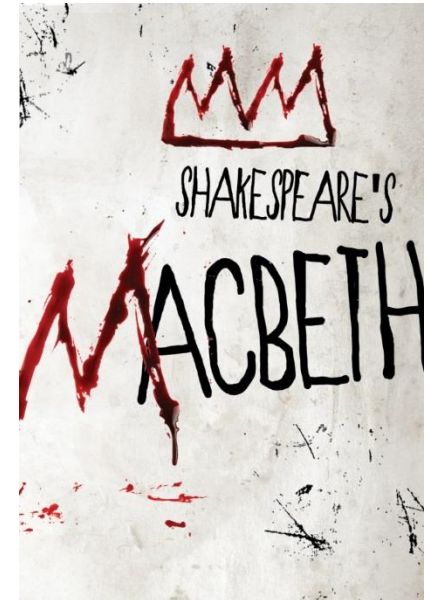


'I am going to revise Macbeth'

OR

Look at the specification and see what is required...




'I'm going to revise the key themes and characters from Macbeth'





Create a Checklist:

Taken from the specification

Topic	What have I done?			
Causes of WW1	Revision Clock Practice Qs		✓	
WW1: Stalemate	Revision Clock from memory			✓
End of WW1	Spider diagram Practice Qs	✓		

A range of activities including practice and knowledge recall

Pay extra attention to the **RED** – complete activities to move it to amber/green

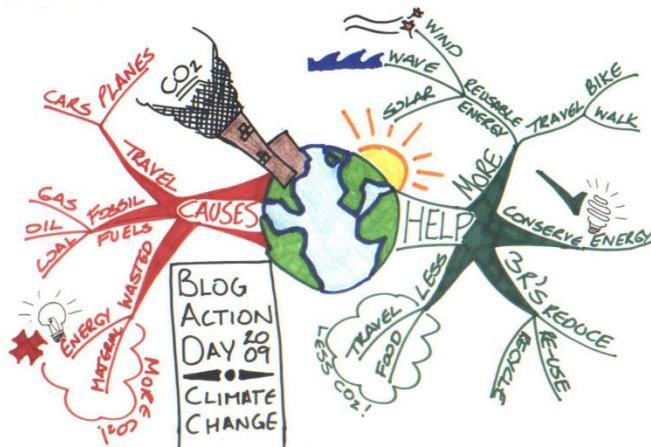
This is a really easy way to keep track of what you have done for each subject. You should feel confident that you have revised a full subject when you complete a subject checklist!



Information Gathering:

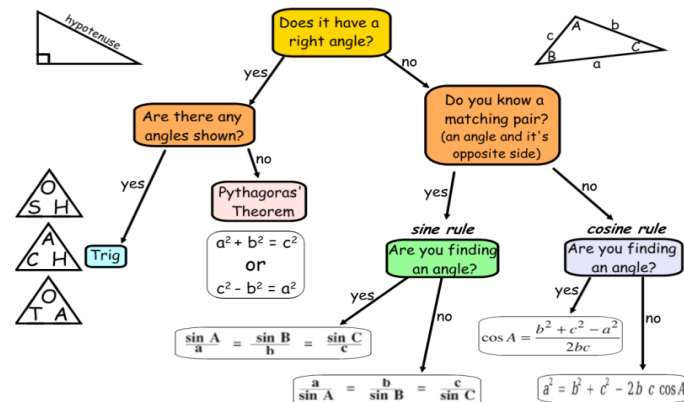
1. Mind Maps

- Name of the topic in the middle (taken from the specification)
- Add different parts of the topic to it
- Use images/colours/highlighters



2. Flow Charts

- Particularly useful in subjects like Science, Maths and Geography
- Shows understanding of processes
- Breaks a subject down into small steps



3. Mnemonics

- Form associations with information that is difficult to recall.
- Create vivid mental pictures
- Make up stories to remember a sequence of information

Glacial Features....'Chap Rut'

C orrie
H anging valley
A rete
P yramidal peak

R ibbon lake
U shaped valley
T runcated spurs

Reduce and Transform:

'**Sustainable communities** are places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment, and contribute to a high quality of life. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run, and offer equality of opportunity and good services for all.'

Reduce this definition of a *sustainable community* into 10 words. What features of New Islington fit this description?

Transform Seamus Heaney's '*Storm on the Island*' into images to show the **key themes**



Storm on the Island by Seamus Heaney

We are prepared: we build our houses squat,
Sink walls in rock and roof them with good slate.
This wizened earth has never troubled us
With hay, so, as you see, there are no stacks
Or stooks that can be lost. Nor are there trees
Which might prove company when it blows full
Blast: you know what I mean - leaves and
branches
Can raise a tragic chorus in a gale
So that you listen to the thing you fear
Forgetting that it pummels your house too.
But there are no trees, no natural shelter.
You might think that the sea is company,
Exploding comfortably down on the cliffs
But no: when it begins, the flung spray hits
The very windows, spits like a tame cat
Turned savage. We just sit tight while wind dives
And strafes invisibly. Space is a salvo,
We are bombarded with the empty air.
Strange, it is a huge nothing that we fear.



Practice:

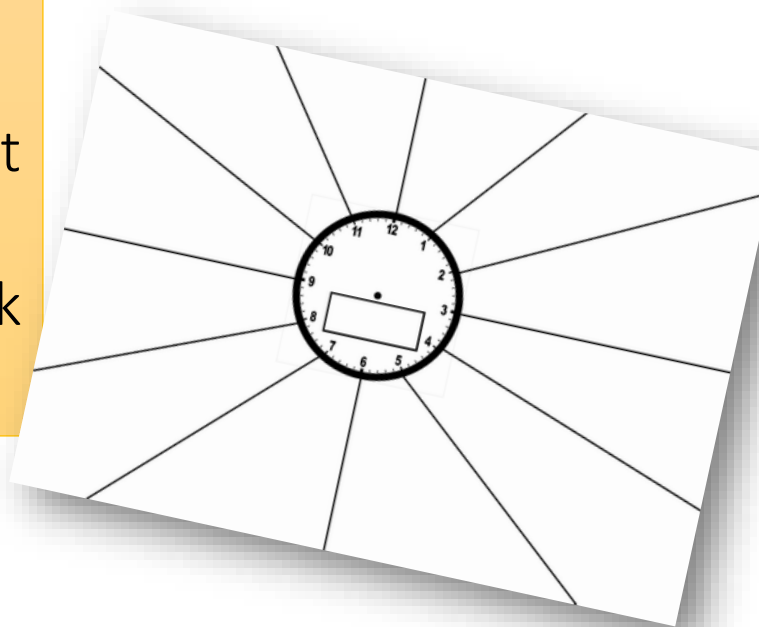
- Revision needs to be **active**
- *For example:*
 - Complete a revision clock,
 - Have a break,
 - Complete a timed exam question on what you have just revised,
 - Use your revision clock to mark your exam question



Know the **timings** of the **exam**

If you have 30 mins to complete 30 marks, spend about 1 min per mark – eg 9 mins for a 9 mark question

Practice these timings at home



To practice **recalling knowledge:**

Try completing a revision clock from memory

Then using a different colour fill in what you have missed with your exercise book and revision guide



Active Revision:



This is the key to revising the right way!

Some other top tips:

- Go back over your old assessments/tests
 - Can you redo a question?
 - Look at the SMART marking targets – are they complete?
- Go back through your exercise books – have you completed all your SMART targets?
- What would be the worst question to come up? Write it out and plan an answer
- Spend some time practicing what you have learnt
- Revisit revised topics a few days later to see what you can remember

- Past Papers – these can be found on the website for the exam board
 - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/assessment-resources>
- Quizzes- BBC Bitesize / Seneca Learning
- Quick questions – eg 'Tell me 3 things about...'
- Regular assessments - PRACTISE

Revision should not be an overwhelming task – it might seem like it at the beginning BUT with clear planning, focus and motivation revision will be effective and help students to feel **confident and prepared!**