

# REVISION TECHNIQUES AND ADVICE

## HOW CAN YOU REVISE?

1. Read through your books and take notes.
2. If you do not understand something, ask somebody.
3. Choose the memory tricks that work best for you.
4. Create posters to help you to organise information.
5. Create cards with key points and practice.

OR

***FREAK OUT!***



## NOTES

Your own notes are best.

Whilst revision guides can be useful, the more you personalise your revision the more effective it will be, so the notes you make are best.

The process of making the notes is part of your revision and once you “own” the work it is easier to remember.

## CHUNKING

Chunking is breaking up a big piece of information into smaller chunks rather like steps in a ladder. It can be used for numbers and words. Often, pupils use bullet points to break up information.

Try to remember this by breaking it up into chunks:

The average person can take in four numbers or words at a time, can concentrate on revision for a maximum of 45 minutes at a time and remembers information best shortly before bedtime.

# CHUNKING

## Chunked:

- ❖ **Remember 4 words / numbers at a time**
- ❖ **Revision max 45 mins**
- ❖ **Remember, best before bedtime**



## MNEMONICS

Mnemonics help you to remember by using short words that stand for something to help you. Here is a mnemonic for **REVISION**.

Rest

Exercise

Variety

Imagination

Structure

Individual

Ongoing

Not too long

# ASSOCIATION



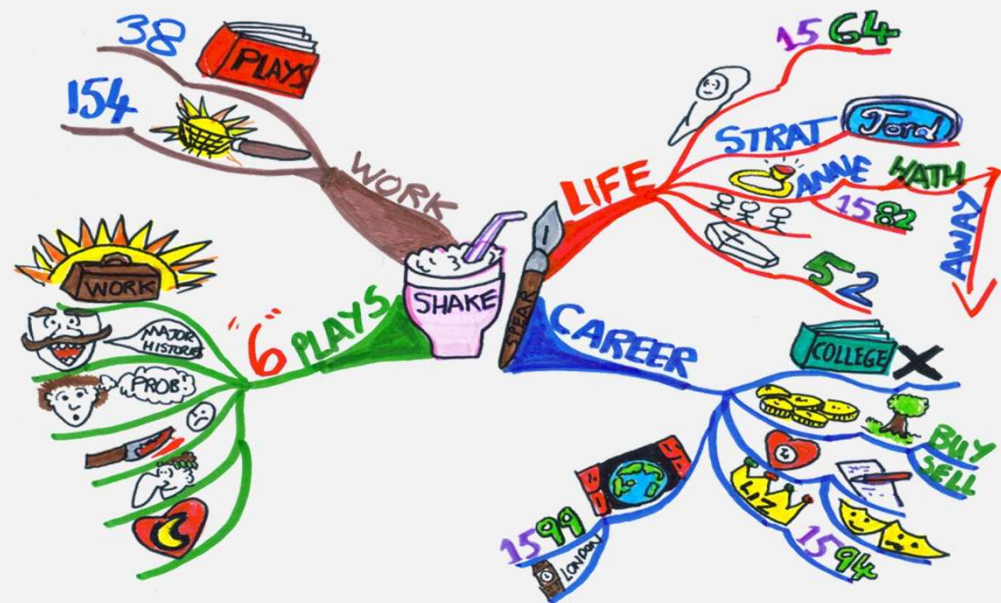
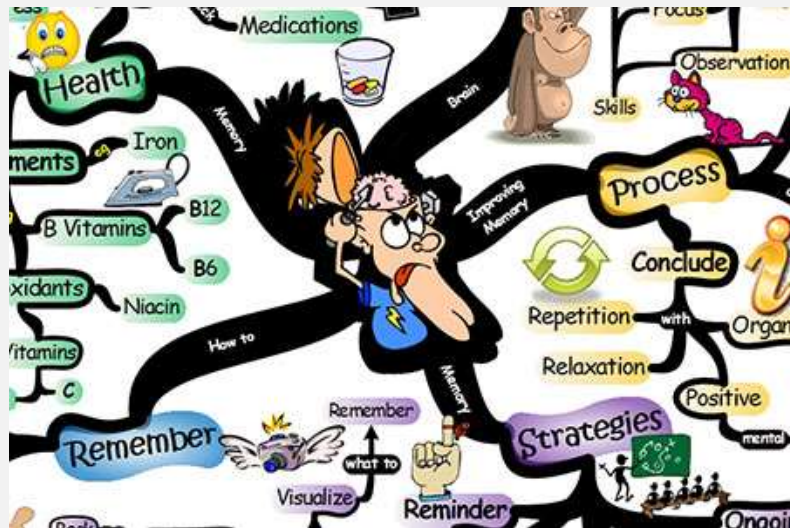
Association helps a lot of people to remember because it is much more powerful when we use our imagination. The idea is to link objects and ideas to each other in the craziest way possible.

Mind maps (also called spider grams) are good for remembering topics and sub-topics, such as characters in a book.

On the other hand, concept maps are good for remembering items where the order is important, such as the storyline (plot).

# MIND MAPS

Imagine a mind map is like a giant spider's web with all the ideas around it. The spider (or main idea) is in the middle and everything is around it. The most important ideas are in the middle and the sub-topics go out further and further.





## CARD COVER

Two ways to practice with cards:

1. Put the answers on the back, but you will need to remember more at once before you check

**OR**

2. Use a piece of paper and move down to reveal answers as you guess the contents.

**These techniques are very useful for checking that you know key facts.**

# PRACTICE

## QUIZZES

### Test Cards

1. I read
2. I cover it up
3. I test myself



## PAST PAPERS

## BY ROTE

Learning by rote is simply reading the text over and over until you remember it. It is the most basic kind of revision, but without the help of other techniques, may not be very effective and it can be boring. Some pupils have excellent auditory memories, who can learn effectively this way.



## BY ROTE

Read it again and again and again and again and again and  
again and again and again and again and again and again  
and again and again and again and again and again and  
again and again and again and again and again and again  
and again and again and again and again and again and  
again and again and again and again and again and again  
and again and again and again and again and again...



# BRAIN FRIENDLY REVISION



## Questions

Ask questions before you revise anything. Think about the topic to be studied and take some time out to think about the questions you would like to have someone answer for you. Write them down and as you read through your notes jot down any answers you find.

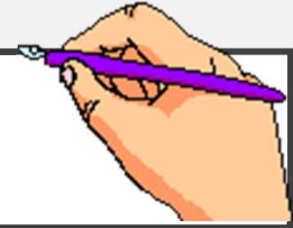
The brain likes looking for answers. Go and get help for any answers you do not find.

## Post-its

Write information on post-it notes and place them on the wall, door, large sheets of paper etc. You can then rearrange them according to a variety of ideas:

- Group various things together
- Organise them into what you know and don't know – rearrange as you learn more
- Follow trends or themes

# BRAIN FRIENDLY REVISION



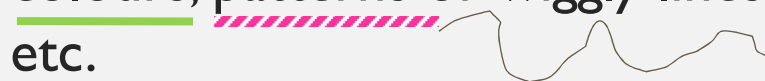
## Highlighters

As you read through your notes use different coloured highlighters to pick out key words / themes / ideas / points etc. You could try a different colour for each theme or topic.

There are revision websites where you can read revision notes and highlight as you go. You can use very small post-its to highlight things as you go along.

## Underlining

- ❖ As you read through the work in your exercise book underline key words.
- ❖ You could come up with a predicted list before you start or you could make a list of the key words at the end.
- ❖ You could underline in different colours, patterns or wiggly lines etc.



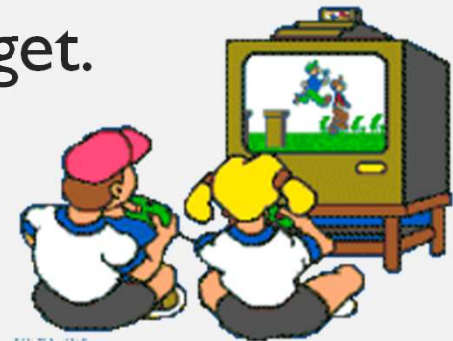
## BRAIN FRIENDLY REVISION

Re-write the topic in your own words. Find out why you are learning it - then make it interesting for you.



### Reward yourself

Once you have learned something give yourself a treat. Go out with some friends for an hour, watch TV, but only once you have reached your revision target.



## HELPFUL TIPS ON THE DAY

Make sure you have everything you need.



- ❖ A watch
- ❖ Pens, pencils (spare or sharpener),
- ❖ Ruler
- ❖ Calculator if needed and allowed
- ❖ A pen you can write with quickly, comfortably and legibly



Make the most of your short term memory. Learn the **10** most important facts whilst waiting to go into the exam and write them down as soon as you are allowed to pick up a pen.





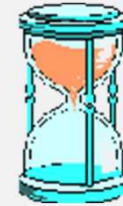
# ADVICE FOR ASSESSMENTS

Read:

- ❖ the instructions.
- ❖ all of the questions before you choose which to do.
- ❖ each question carefully.



Time yourself



Divide the time appropriately between the number of questions you have to do and watch the clock to stick to this.

Do not panic if you run out of time – but make sure you round off your answer even if facts are missing – conclusions are worth a lot.

POB LWC / GOOD LUCK!



Assessments are important in preparing you for future exam **success.**

Consider how you would like to feel when finding out your results.

