



Planning

Planning out revision is not a quick task. Take some time to get it right. Make it flexible so that you do not get caught out. This may take a bit of time to finalise, but it will be worth it later on.

Create a Revision Timetable

Building a revision timetable can add structure to your revision and helps you to be proactive and methodical in your approach to revision. Creating a revision timetable is a great way to organise your study time, plus it also helps boost your motivation to revise for your exams.

Regular Study Breaks

Do you feel stressed, tired and that no new information is entering your head? There is no point forcing yourself to study for hours upon hours as this will not result in a positive outcome. Taking regular study breaks and exercising is proven to be engaging your brain in studying and improve your exam performance in the long-run.

Mind Maps to Connect Ideas

Mind maps are a simple way of breaking down and then learning a dense group of facts. They are a good way to revise and prepare for any subject where you need to learn fact-based information, e.g. English (learning facts about characters in a text), Science, Geography, History, etc. To make a mind-map:

1. Write out all the key facts that you want to learn about a topic.
2. On a new sheet of paper, write the topic name in the centre.
3. Draw 'branches' off the centre for each sub-topic or group of facts.
4. Draw 'twigs' off each branch for every individual fact.
5. At the end of each twig, write a key word.

If you can, add a simple image or visual cue to help you remember the fact.

To use the mind-map:

1. Everyday, go through the mind-map. Follow each branch and say the facts back to yourself, using the visual cues to help you remember.
2. When you feel confident remembering, write some test questions to check- have somebody else test you- first with the mind-map in front of you, and later without it.

Understand your mind

Everyone thinks that there is a best way to study but the reality is that each person is different. Practice will tell you if you work better studying during the night or in the morning/daytime, what time are you most open to understanding new ideas and when is it better to just set tasks for memorisation.



Practise

One of the biggest recommendations that past GCSE students recommend is to do as many past exam papers/questions as you can. Practising past papers will help you get familiar with the exam format, question style, time pressure and overall improve your ability to retrieve information quicker. Practice GCSE/ A 'Level exam questions are easily accessible online.

Variety

Mix up your study habits and methods by listening to podcasts, watching videos or documentaries, moving to new study area or even something as simple as using different colours for your study notes. This is different to the other GCSE/A 'Level revision tips mentioned here as it encourages you to try a few different things to see what fits for you. Your brain will recall where you were or how you revised for a topic which will help you remember more information. Give it a go!

Adapt for Different Subjects

It may seem obvious but many students try to study for different subjects using the same study methods. Your revision should take account of the difference between your subjects and the challenges they represent.

For example, Flashcards are an ideal study aid to help you prepare for a Spanish, French, German and exam such as GCSE Science where you need to remember key definitions. An Online Quiz is a great way to test your GCSE Maths skills while you would highly benefit from using a Note to study English.

Once you understand that your subjects need to be approached differently, there is no stopping you!

Revision is not an exact science. There are many factors that go hand in hand for the final result. Work hard, take breaks, look after yourself, and most importantly make time for prayers and ask Allah Almighty for his blessings and InshaAllah you will succeed.