

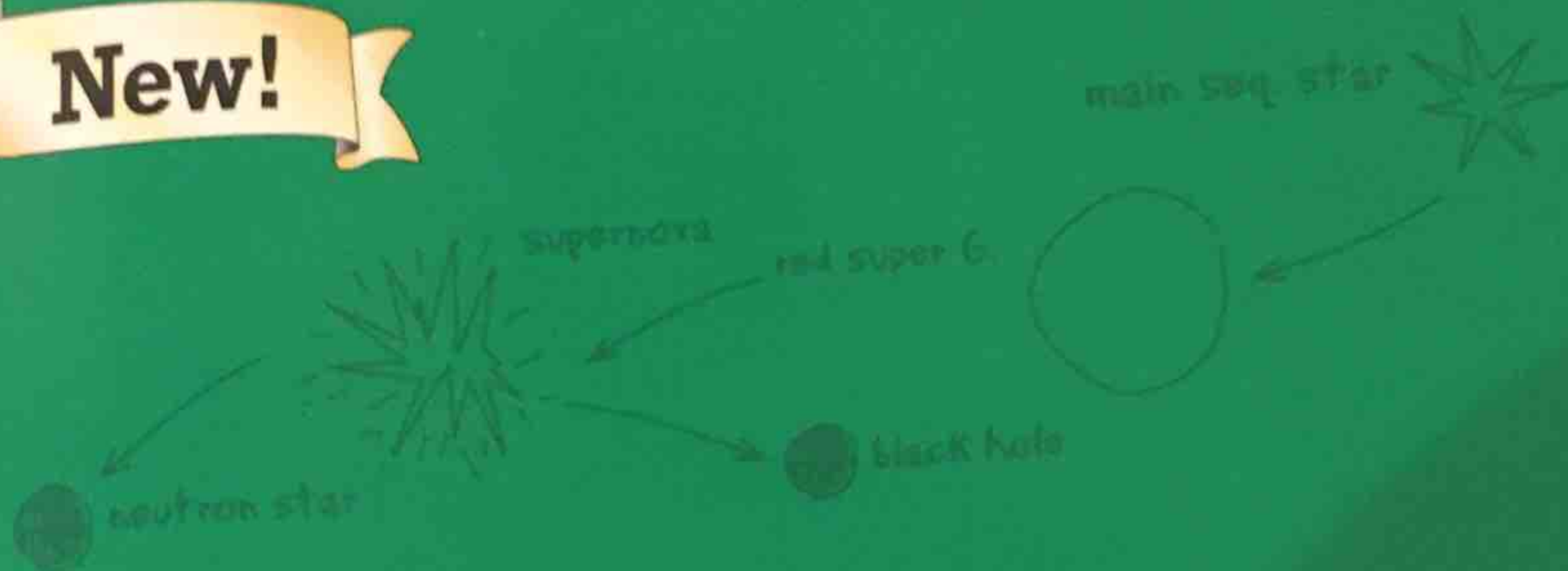
CGP



How to Revise

for GCSE

New!



Study Skills &

Revision Planner

Unbeatable advice from the revision experts!

How To Use This Book

It's hard to know where to start with revision, but like a good blanket this book has you covered. Below you'll find all the goodness contained within these pages that will help make your revision less daunting.

Read the *First Half* for *Revision Advice*

The first half of this book gives you guidance and strategies on how best to revise:

Making a Start

This section gives you general advice on how to get yourself ready to revise.

Get to Know the Exams

You'll learn all about what to expect in your exams in this section — this will help you get ready for them in your revision.

On The Day

The last section talks you through how to prepare and cope with exam day.

Revision Techniques

This section gives you plenty of ideas for different ways to revise.

Know Your Subject

The fourth section gives you subject-specific revision techniques.



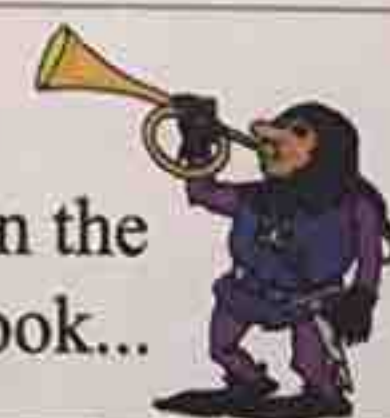
Use the *Second Half* to *Plan Your Revision*

- 1) At the back of this book are an exam timetable, topic planners and revision timetables for you to fill in.
- 2) There's also step-by-step information on how to plan your revision so you use your time wisely.
- 3) Once you've read the book and filled in your revision timetable, you'll be all set to start revising.



Go forth brave adventurer — your revision journey is about to begin...

Revision is difficult, but to get on top of it you have to put the effort in. Becoming the greatest reviser in the land requires dedicating time to learning the best ways to revise — oh and this book, don't forget this book...



Motivation and Procrastination

Let's address the elephant in the room — you'd probably rather be doing anything other than revising (even reading about how to revise). But thinking about how revision can help with your future goals may (hear me out) make it seem less terrible.



Knowing *Why* You're Revising Can *Motivate* You

- 1) Think about why you want to do well in your exams. It may be:
 - to get into a good sixth form or college after your GCSEs
 - to help you one day get your dream job
 - to prove to yourself and others that you can do it
- 2) Whatever your goal, it's best to start revising as soon as possible.
- 3) Be positive about revision — it can be tough, but it'll really help when exams arrive.
- 4) Focus on your goals and don't compare yourself to other people.

It's best to start revising early, but even if you're reading this a week before your exams, it's not too late for your revision to make a difference.

Five Top Tips For Staying Motivated

1. Set small targets with rewards (see p.4).
2. Remind yourself of your long-term goals.
3. Plan a big treat for after your exams.
4. Use a topic planner so you can see the progress you've made.
5. If you're dreading a particular topic, start with some easier topics first.



Procrastination *Wastes* Valuable *Time*

- 1) Procrastination means putting off a task that needs doing.
- 2) You need to avoid procrastination to make the most of your revision:

- Turn off your phone, television and other distractions.
- Give yourself regular breaks — it'll help you keep focused when you're revising.
- Break up your revision into small chunks so it's not one endless slog.
- Start with something small — this will ease you into focusing on your work.



This climb takes the biscuit...



Organisation and Planning

Some things are best when you dive straight in — revision is not one of those things. Making a plan means you can spend more time revising and less time worrying you've forgotten something.

Planning Will Make You Feel in Control

Spend time on a solid revision plan, but don't spend so long that you don't have time to revise.

Reasons to Plan

- You know you have time to cover everything
- You won't forget any topics
- You can prioritise early exams or tricky subjects
- It reduces stress
- It's more efficient

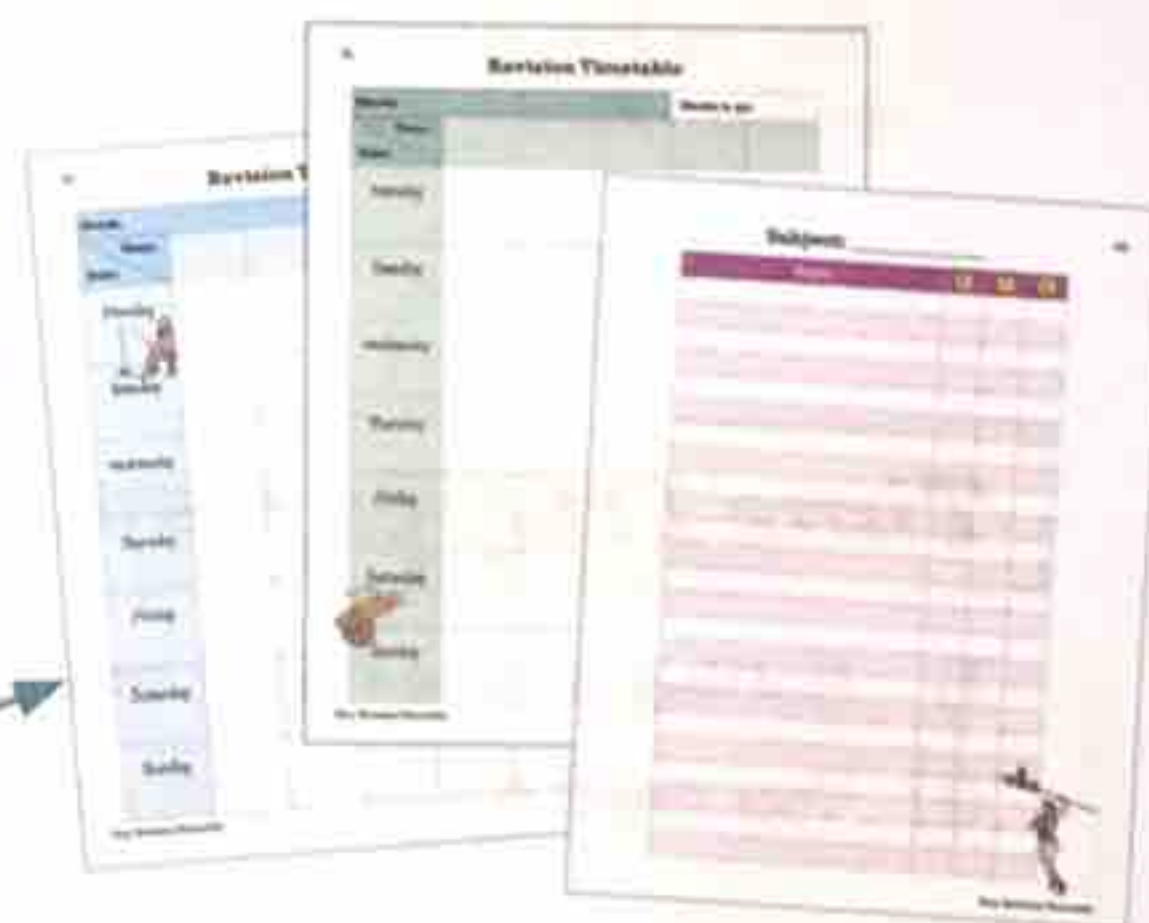
What Happens Without a Plan

- You'll waste time deciding what to revise each session
- You might not allow enough time to revise everything
- You can't easily check what you've already revised
- You may forget some topics



Timetables Can Help You Plan Your Revision

A revision timetable and topic planner will help you schedule your revision and see how you're progressing. You can find handy versions ready to fill in at the back of this book on pages 53-85.



Being Organised Will Save Time

- 1) Organise your notes and books for each subject to make it easier to find information.
- 2) Write a to-do list, then prioritise which tasks need to be done first.
- 3) Make sure you have all the stationery you need (lots of paper, pens, a calculator etc.) so you can crack on with your revision without a fuss.

To-Do List

- 1 • Buy pens and a new protractor ✓
- 3 • Tidy desk ✓
- 2 • Organise Physics notes folder ✓
- 4 • Clean boots for rugby practice ✓
- 5 • Write the most hilarious, side-splitting joke to round off the 'Organisation and Planning' page.

Did you hear the one about

Planning your revision will help you



remember to get every little last thing done. Eventually...

Setting Targets

Knowing what you want to achieve in each revision session is important — it keeps you on track.

Make Targets *Small and Realistic*

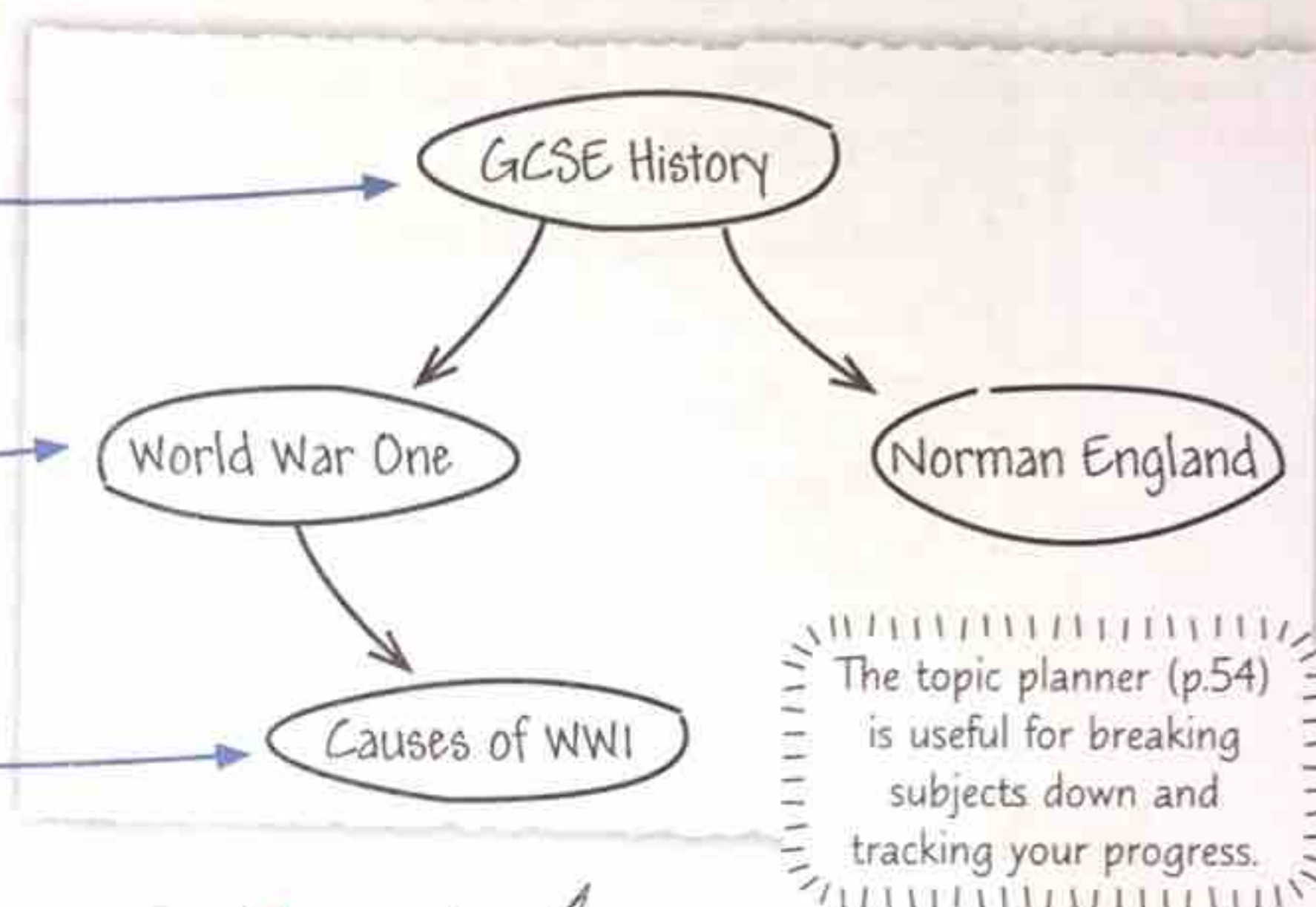
EXAMPLE:

Imagine you are revising GCSE History. Here's how you could set targets for your revision session.

A target to revise all of GCSE History is too large — split it into smaller chunks so it's easier to track your progress.

This is still too big — it's too much to revise in one go.

Set yourself manageable targets, e.g. by the end of today, I'll learn the causes of World War One.



Time Frames Can Help You to be Efficient

- 1) Setting a time frame to achieve your targets helps with motivation.
- 2) You need to be realistic though. For example:

- Two weeks for fractions — this is too long on a small topic.
- An hour for all of chemistry — you'll either have too little time or rush through it.

- 3) Generally, it's better to give yourself slightly more time than you think you'll need.

Reward Yourself For Hitting Targets

- 1) An incentive could encourage you to work hard to hit your targets.
- 2) You might plan a reward for finishing a tricky topic or doing a practice paper.
- 3) Your rewards should be simple and help you relax — e.g. some TV or a walk.
- 4) Plan a large treat for after your exams as something to look forward to.



Your Revision Environment

To be productive, it's important to know what environment you revise best in. For example, that gymnast in your class may find it easier to work in a completely different way to you...

Different Places Work Best for Different People

There's no one right place to revise. Based on how you **work best**, you'll find some places make you feel **more productive** than others:

Library

- ✓ Lots of **books** about subjects you're revising
- ✓ Access to the **internet** for research
- ✓ **Fewer distractions** than at home or with friends
- ✗ It may be **busy** and hard to get a desk
- ✗ It can involve time **spent travelling**

Bedroom At Home

- ✓ You can **set up** your **study space** as you want
- ✓ You can shut yourself away for **privacy**
- ✓ It's easy to get **healthy snacks** and **drinks**
- ✗ You may get **distracted** by your **family**
- ✗ **Television** and **games** are easy to find

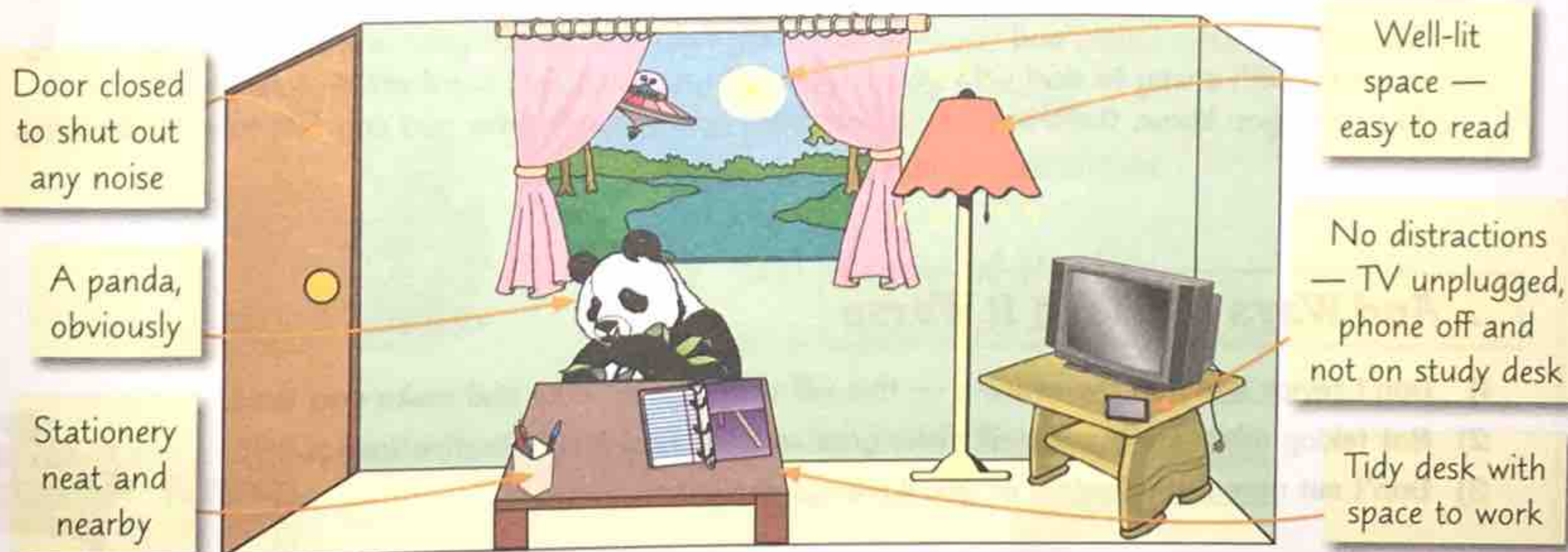
Friend's House

- ✓ You can **discuss revision** problems with your friend
- ✓ You and your friend can **test** each other
- ✗ You and your friend could **distract** each other
- ✗ You may become **disheartened** or **stressed** if your friend seems to know more than you



A Tidy Study Space is Important

You'll find it **easier to revise** if your study space is **free of clutter**. Here's one we made earlier:



My astronaut friend loves this page on study spaces...

Piles of books and folders make it hard to get to notes quickly — if you can, use a bookshelf to keep them tidy and accessible. Also avoid clutter and rubbish on your desk, as important things can get lost when everything is too cluttered.

Coping with Stress

Exam periods can be stressful and it's normal to feel some nerves when you have an exam approaching. Luckily there are ways to cope so stress doesn't affect your revision or your health.

Exams are Stressful for *Everyone*

- 1) You won't be alone in feeling under pressure about exams — it's likely your classmates are also finding this time stressful.
- 2) A small amount of stress can be good for you — it can motivate you to do better or help you focus on overcoming a difficult situation.
- 3) However, too much stress can negatively impact your health. It's important to recognise the signs of stress so you can do something about them.

Signs of Stress include:

- A loss of appetite
- Sudden weight loss or gain
- Feeling anxious
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feeling emotional
- Struggling to sleep

There Are Ways to *Help* With Stress...

- 1) Go outside for exercise and fresh air — it will help you clear your head.
- 2) Set aside time to meet up with your friends where you're not revising.
- 3) Give yourself relaxation time — listen to music, watch TV or doze outside in the sun.
- 4) Keep up with your hobbies and doing activities you enjoy.
- 5) Eating and sleeping well can also help with reducing stress (see p.7).

11.45am- 12.45pm	12.45pm- 1.30pm
Lunch with Annie and Abed	Maths - Algebra



Talk about how you're feeling

Talking to friends, family and teachers can really help you air out your anxieties and come up with a way to deal with your stress. If you don't feel comfortable talking to people you know, there are support services and helplines who you can talk to confidentially.

...And Ways to Make it *Worse*

- 1) Don't revise late into the evening — this will affect your sleep and make you tired.
- 2) Not taking adequate breaks will make your revision time less effective (see p.48).
- 3) Don't set unrealistic targets or you'll always disappoint yourself.



Bottling up your stress is no laughing matter — *tell people how you feel...*

Exams are important, but they're not worth affecting your health. Make sure you take time out from revision to do things you enjoy — not only will this make you happier, it'll also make revising easier.

Sleep and Diet

Ah, my two favourite things in the world — snoozing and food. Getting a healthy amount of both these things will keep you at peak condition when you're revising and make it easier to take in information. Yum.

1) Don't Skip Sleep to Revise

Sleep helps you process what you've learnt.

2) Avoid Pricking Your Finger on a Spindle

Otherwise you'll sleep for a hundred years... wait, that's for a different book...



3) Do Something Relaxing Before Bed

Avoid caffeine, strenuous exercise and looking at your phone.

4) Sleep on Your Revision Notes

You'll revise through osmosis. If you don't know what osmosis is, sleep on a biology book tonight...

5) Keep Your Phone Away From Your Bed

It'll disrupt your sleep if it keeps going off.

6) Eat Plenty of Fruit and Veg

Yes, even broccoli (honestly, you grow to like it).



7) Don't Skip Meals

It makes it difficult to concentrate.

8) Get Plenty of Protein

Oily fish are great to eat (but hard to catch).

9) Only Have Sweets and Chocolate as an Occasional Treat

This was harder for me to write than it was for you to read.

10) Drink Lots of Water

From a glass, from a mug, from a bowl if you're a maverick.



Learn, Revise, Test Yourself

This process is super important. You can't revise what you don't understand, or practise what you don't know, so don't skip out steps — there's no time for monkeying around.



LEARN

The learning process starts in school and with homework, but sometimes you might have to do some extra research too.

Before you start revising a topic, you need to make sure that you understand it.

If there's anything you're not sure about, you could:

- look back over your notes carefully and read the textbook again.
- do some research, in the library or online.
- ask your teacher.



REVISE

When you're happy that you understand a topic, you can move on to revise it.

Revising is the process of going back over what you've learnt so that you're ready to answer questions on it in an exam.

There are many different ways to revise — here are just a few examples:

- condensing your notes (see p.10-11)
- flow charts (see p.14-15)
- mind maps (see p.12-13)
- flashcards (see p.16-17)

Don't worry if you find something you don't understand — just go back and learn it again.

To make a topic stick, test yourself on it at increasing intervals after revising it, e.g. after half an hour, after two hours, after a day etc.



TEST YOURSELF

Once you're happy that you know a topic, it's time to test yourself:

- You could start by doing some quick fact recall questions, and then go on to some practice exam questions.
- It's really important to do some realistic exam practice — some questions will ask you to apply what you've learnt in different ways so it's good to know you can do this.

If there's something you can't remember, go back to your notes and revise it again.



Condensing Your Notes

Now you know how to get started, it's time to get cracking. The first step is to get your notes into order — you can't learn every word you've ever written so you need to condense them. Here we go...

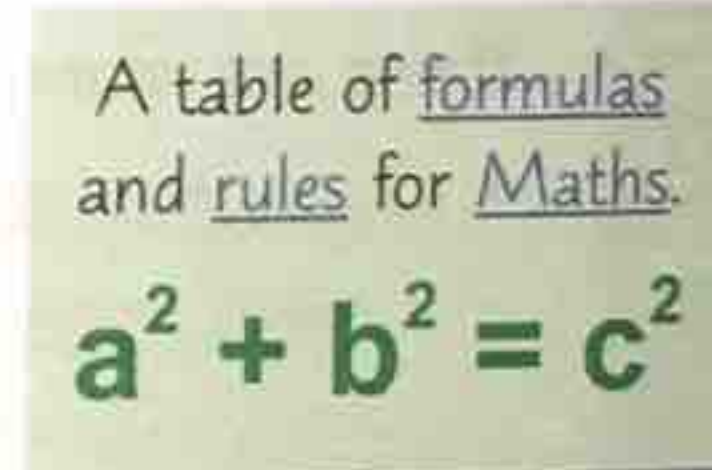
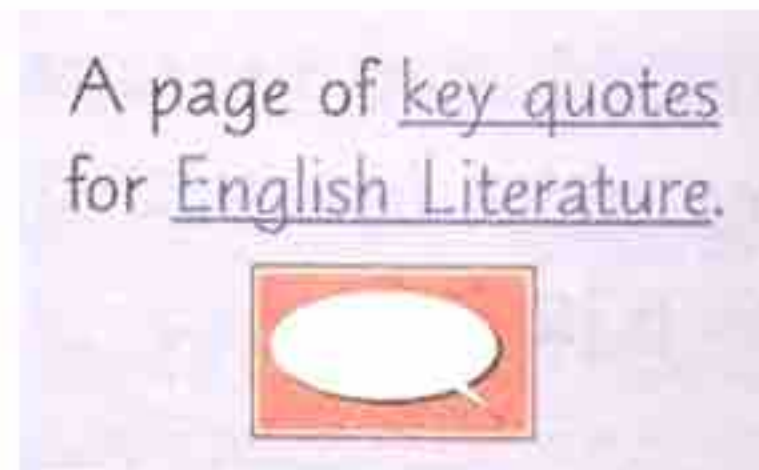
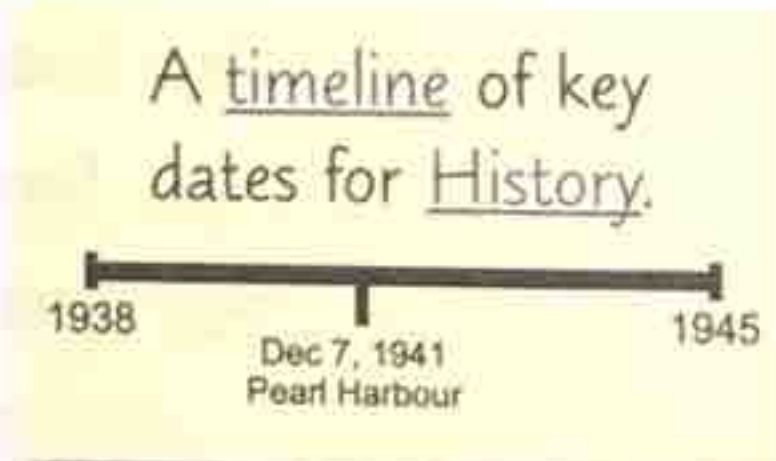
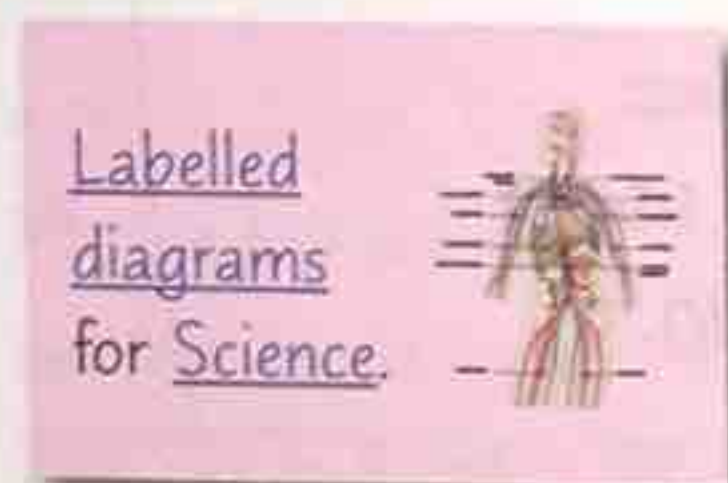
Start With Your Notes

- 1) You'll need to start off with some high-quality notes, including:
 - A CGP Revision Guide (the perfect revision companion, of course)
 - your class notes
 - text books
 - revision sheets from your teacher
- 2) Read over them and make sure you understand what you've read — simplifying a topic into key points won't help you if you don't understand your original notes.



Condense Them In Your Own Words

- 1) You'll want to simplify and summarise your notes into key points so they're easier to revise from.
- 2) Aim to get each topic onto a single page. Cut out the waffle and pick out what's important.
- 3) Try to reorganise the material in some way, e.g. by grouping it differently or linking topics together.
- 4) How you present your notes might depend on the subject. For example, you could make:



- 5) Condensing topics makes your revision interactive — it's better than just re-reading your notes again. Plus, you're more likely to remember your own words than something someone else has written*.

Test Yourself On What You've Covered

When you've simplified a topic, it's time to test yourself:

- 1) Cover up your notes and write down as much as you can remember.
- 2) Compare what you've written to your notes then fill in any gaps — use a different colour so you know which bits you missed.
- 3) Keep doing this until you remember everything on the topic.

It's a good idea to come back and test yourself again later, to see what you can still remember. (See more about spaced practice on p.50.)

***apart from my words — you'll definitely remember my words...**

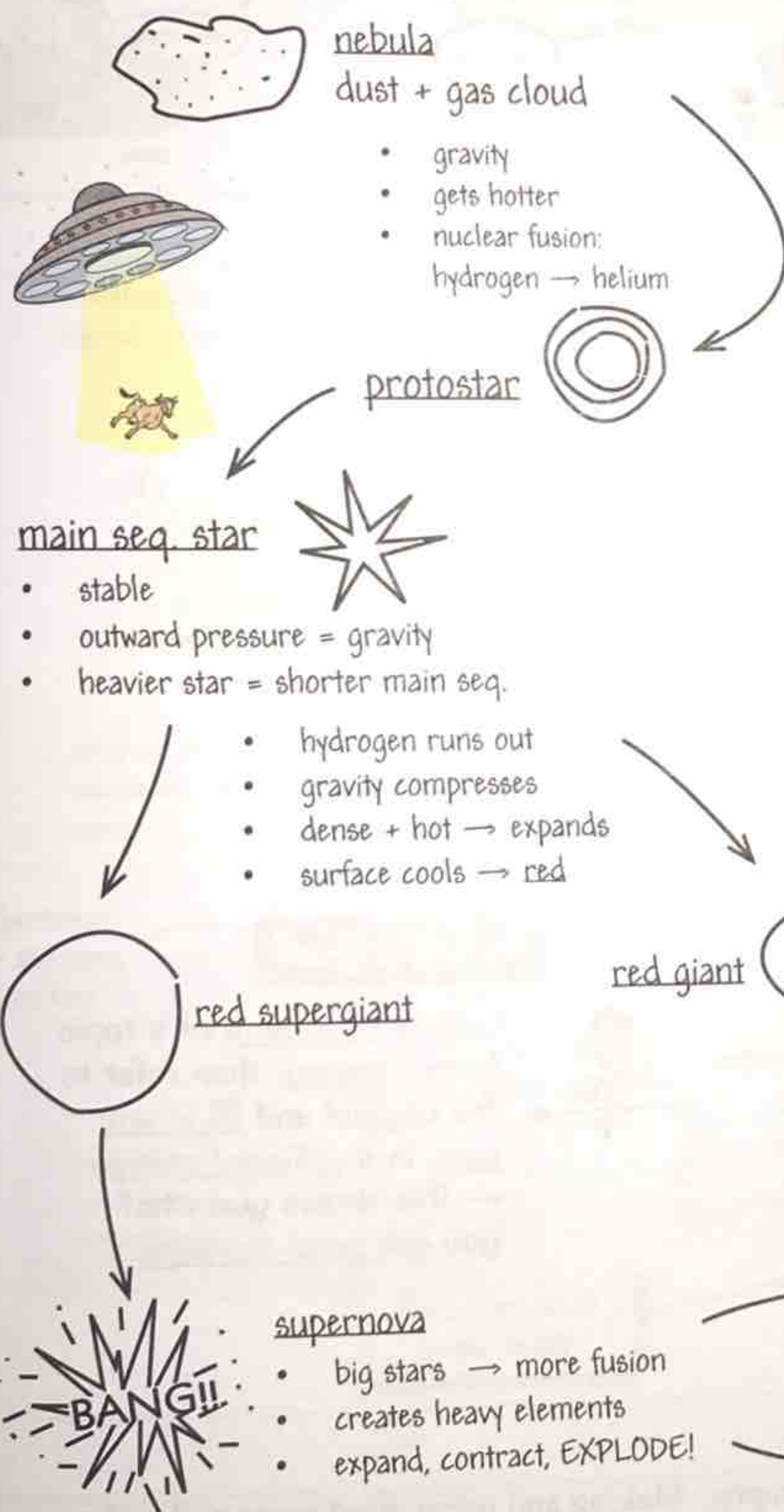
The key to condensing is to pick out the right points. If it helps, you might want to go through and highlight the important bits before you start writing. There's no 'right' way of doing it, just the way that works for you.

Condensing Your Notes

EXAMPLE:

Here is a page on The Life Cycle of Stars, from a CGP GCSE Physics Revision Guide.

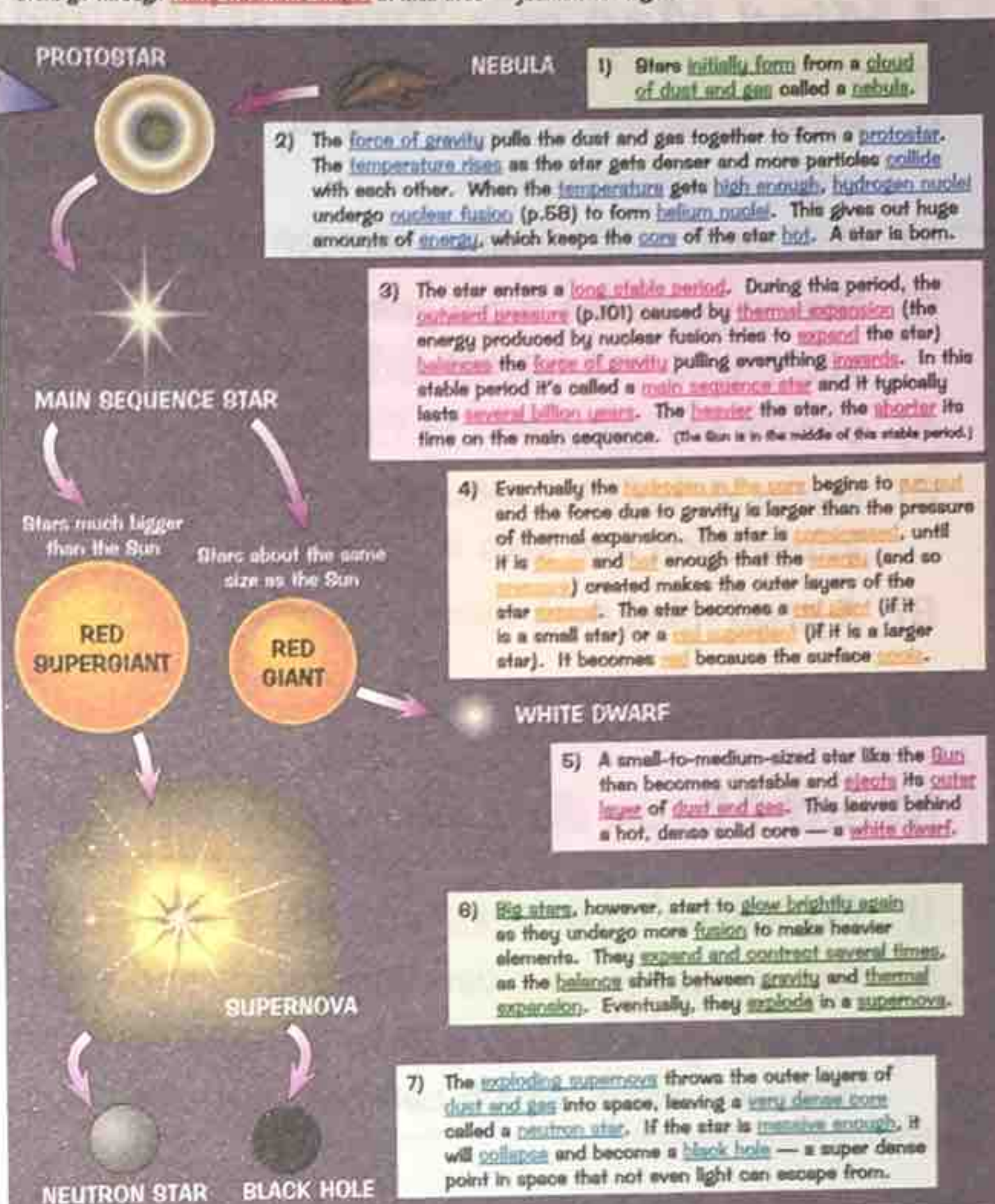
Here is an example of how you could condense the info down into the key points:



32

The Life Cycle of Stars

Stars go through many traumatic stages in their lives — just like teenagers.



It's the beginning of the world as we know it...

Pretty neat, seeing how stars like our Sun — which all of us rely on — were made all those years ago.

Q1 Describe the life cycle of a star much larger than our Sun, beginning from a nebula.

[6 marks]

Section 3 — Radioactivity and Astronomy

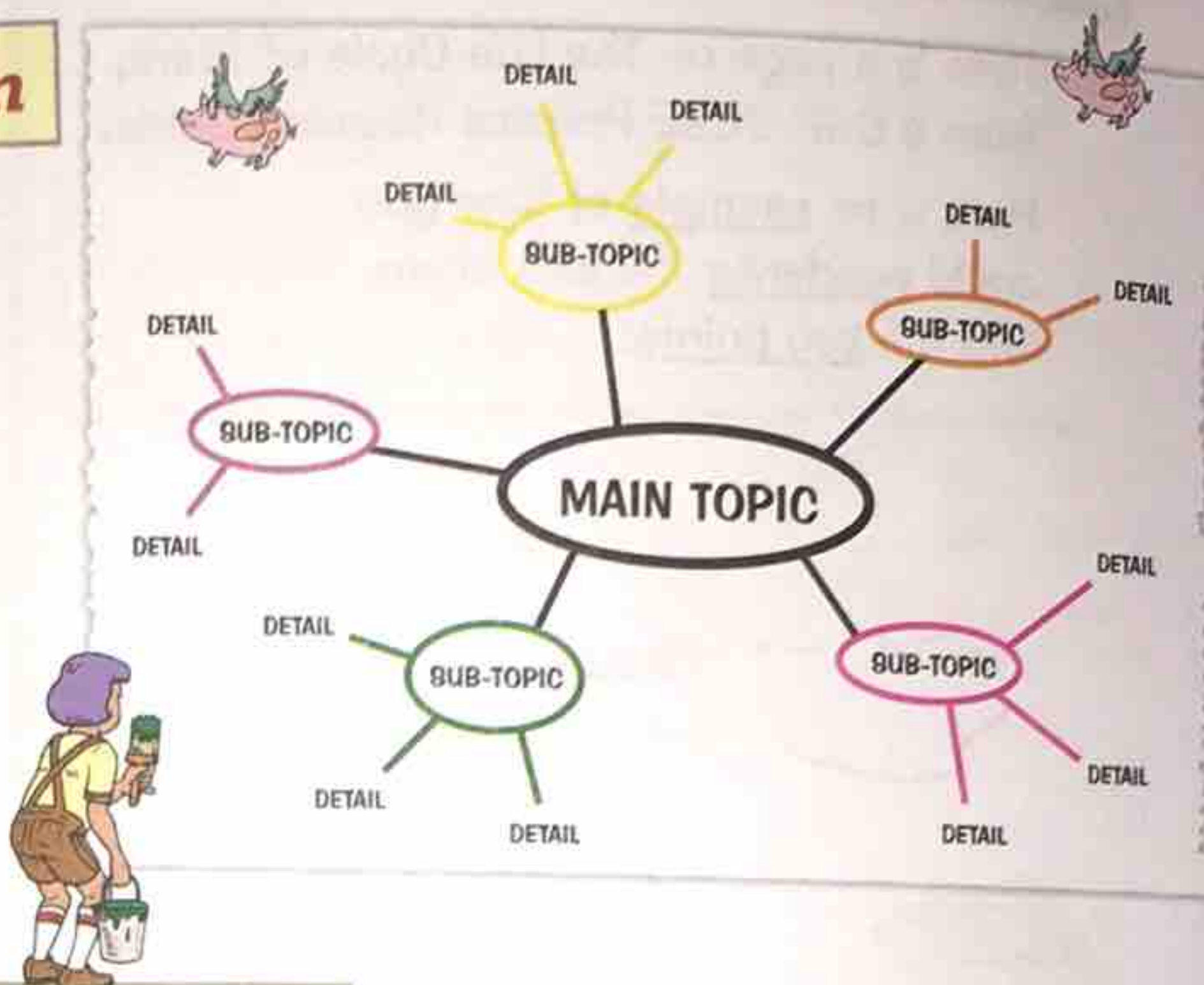


Drawing Mind Maps

If you say 'mind map' as fast as you can 40 times while looking at a topic, one will draw itself...

A Mind Map is a Type of Diagram

- 1) Mind maps are a visual way to organise information.
- 2) One mind map usually represents one topic.
- 3) The name of the topic goes in the middle, with sub-topics and further detail added around it.
- 4) Details are short and to the point.
- 5) Boxes or bubbles around some of the information can help it stand out.
- 6) A good mind map uses colour and images.



Mind Maps Are Great For Revising Topics

- 1) Organising material visually can make it easier to recall in an exam.
- 2) Colour and images can help topics and information to stick in your memory.
- 3) Mind maps can help you to identify the key ideas of a topic and find links between them, which can help you see the topic in different ways.

You Can Use Them Throughout Your Revision

Mind maps are really useful for subjects where there are lots of links between ideas (e.g. History or English) but less useful for learning a list of formula or a vocab list.

At the start

Use your notes and other resources to draw a mind map of a topic — it's a great way of revising key information.



During revision

You could pin your completed mind maps up in your revision space so that you see them regularly.



To test yourself

Draw a mind map of a topic from memory, then refer to the original and fill in any gaps in a different colour — this shows you what you still need to revise.

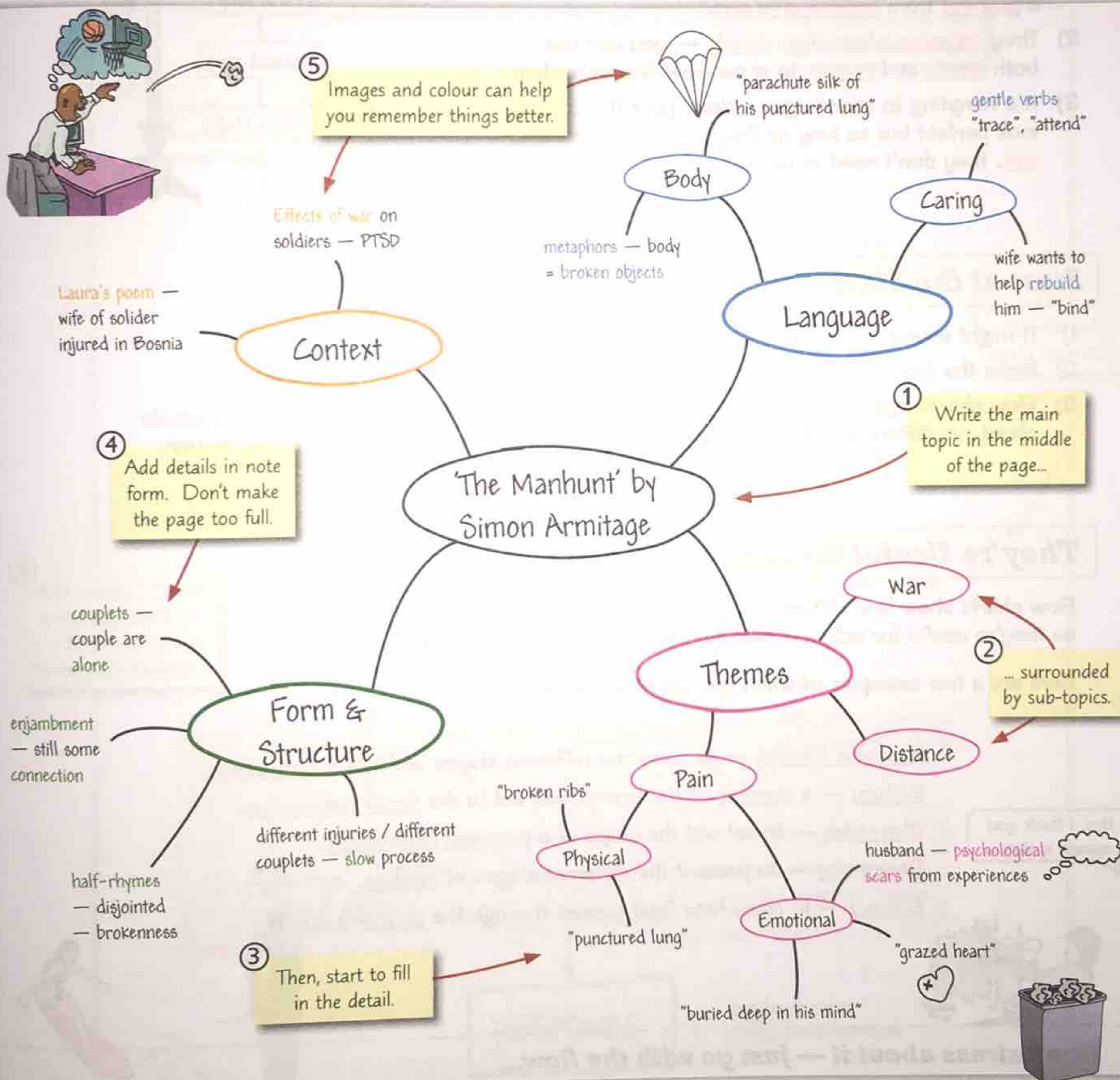
They told me to mind my own business...

... so I minded my business, my history, my maths, my geography. Making and using mind maps will make your revision really effective (and *deep breath* enjoyable...) so grab your compass and go exploring.

Drawing Mind Maps

EXAMPLE:

Here is an example of a mind map for the poem 'The Manhunt' by Simon Armitage. It isn't complete, but it gives you an idea of where to start.

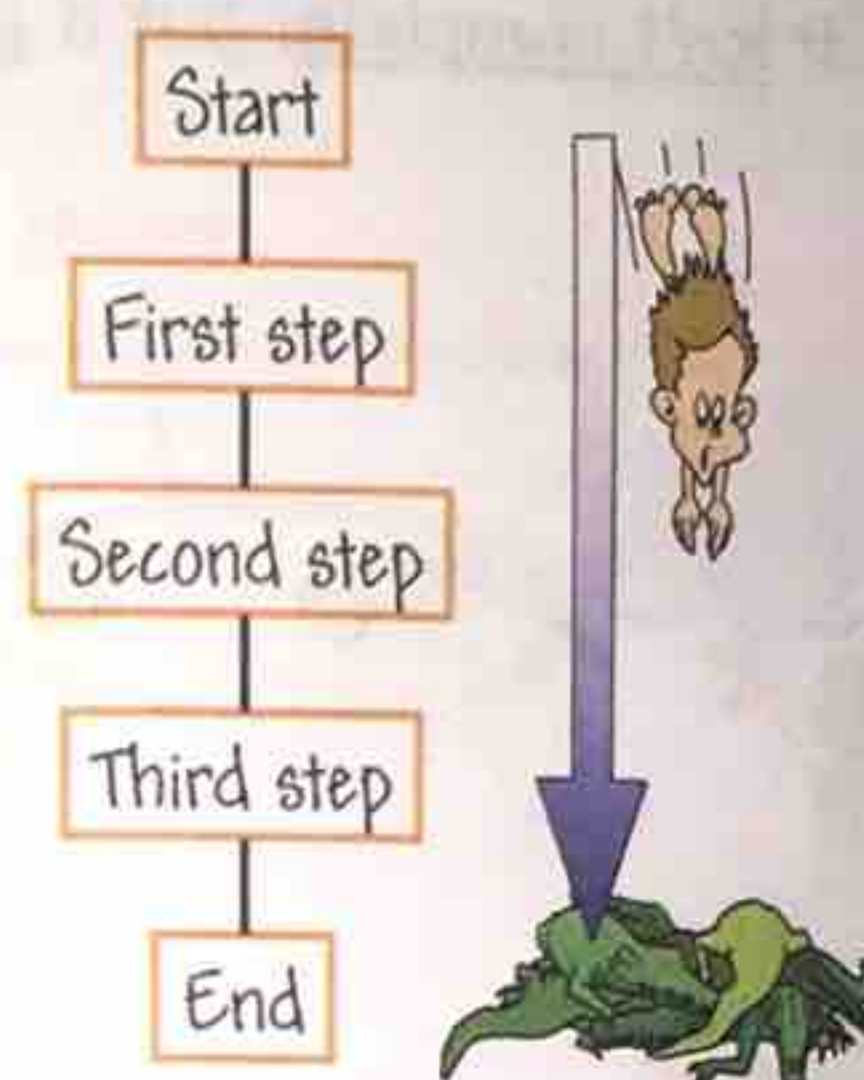


Making Flow Charts

Flow charts are the next big thing. The talk of the town. Everyone's mad about them, haven't you heard? Don't just take my word for it though, read on and see for yourself... (gotcha, they're all my words too.)

Flow Charts Take Topics *Step By Step*

- 1) Flow charts are a type of diagram that show a process from beginning to end.
- 2) They organise information clearly — you can use both words and images to show what happens when.
- 3) It's tempting to spend ages making your flow charts look perfect but as long as they're clear and easy to use, they don't need to be fancy.



Start at the Start

- 1) It might sound obvious, but order is really important in flow charts.
- 2) Write the first step in the process at the top of the page and work downwards.
- 3) Flow charts highlight the main steps in a process, but if it helps, you can add key points about the different steps to jog your memory — keep them short and concise though.

They're Useful for *Lots of Subjects*

Flow charts show how different stages or events are linked together, so they're useful for subjects that include sequences or processes.

Here are a few examples of when you might use them:

Business Studies — to show the different stages within a supply chain.

History — a timeline of the events that led to the Great Depression.

Chemistry — to set out the steps of a practical experiment.

Geography — to present the different stages of erosion.

Biology — to show how food passes through the digestive system.

Um, I think you missed a step...



Don't stress about it — just go with the flow...

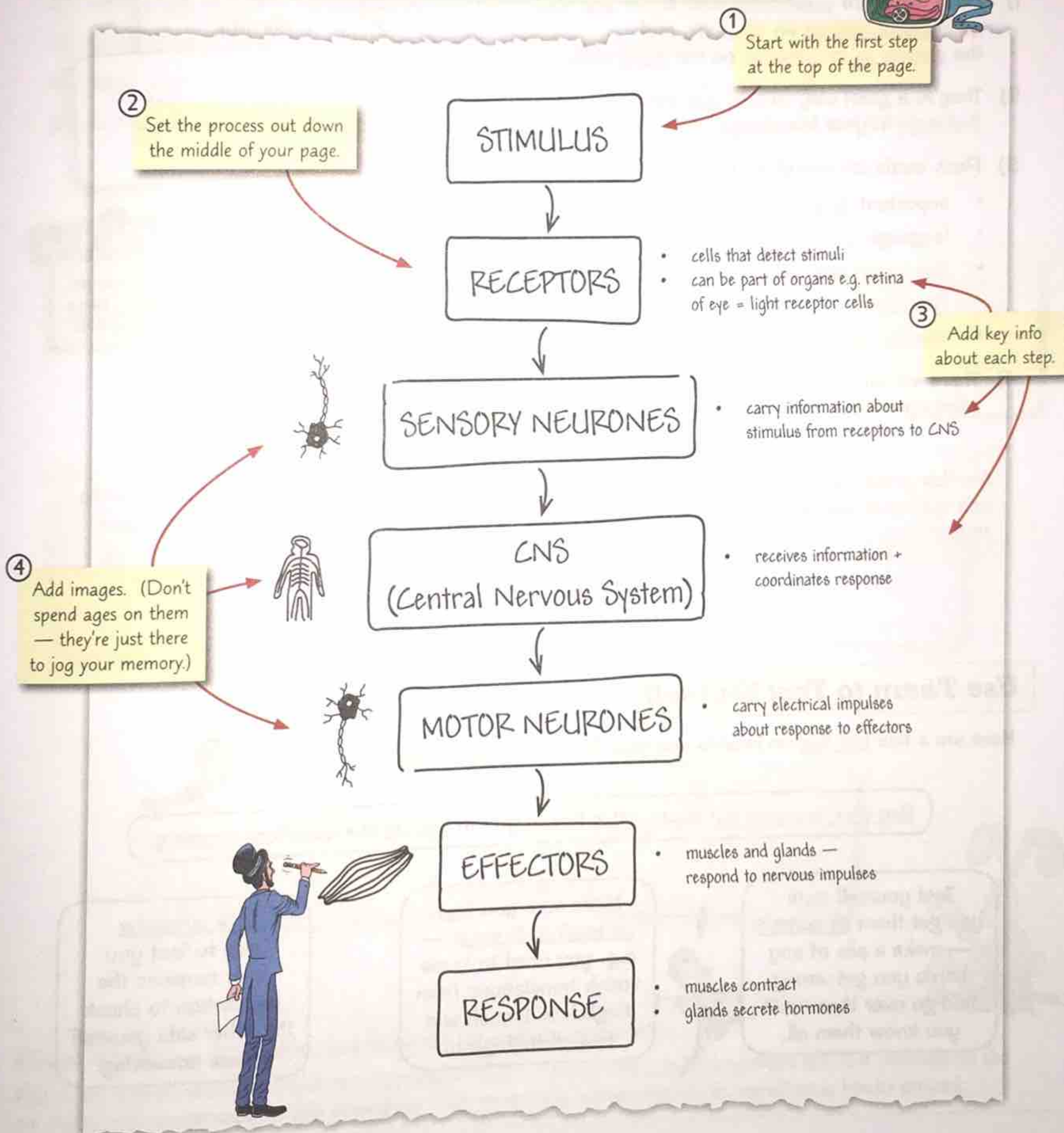
Flow charts are a great way to mix your revision up and keep it engaging. Using the same techniques all the time is snoring (snore + boring, come on... keep up) and it's much harder to make information stick in your mind.



Making Flow Charts

EXAMPLE:

This is an example of a flow chart you could make for Biology, showing how the Central Nervous System responds to stimuli. It doesn't show everything about the whole topic but it shows you how to get started.

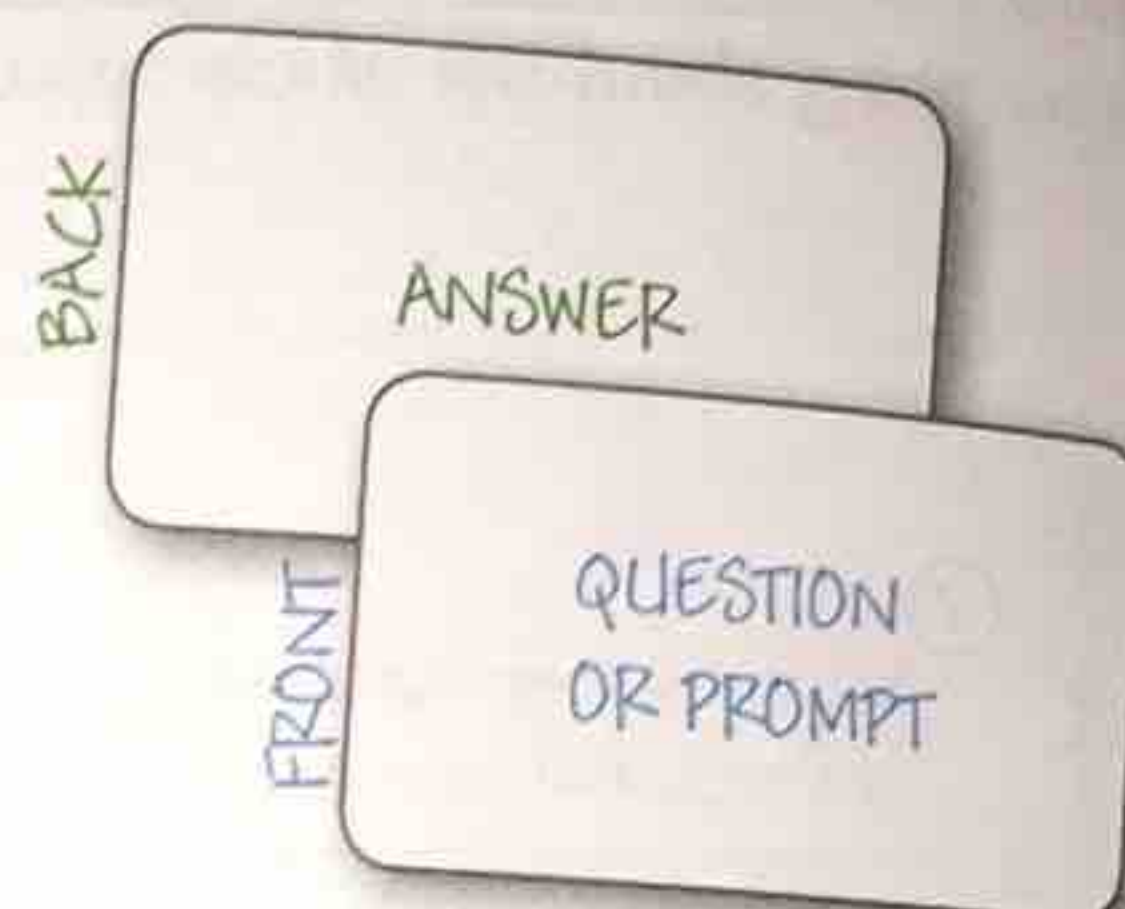


Using Flash Cards

Flash cards are one of the simplest, but most effective, revision tools. You might not be able to play solitaire or snap with them, but with a little patience, they'll help you bridge any gaps and get you to *número uno*.

Flash Cards Are a Great Revision Tool

- Flash cards are small cards with a question or prompt on one side, and the answer or information on the other side.
- They're a great way to test yourself and find gaps in your knowledge.
- Flash cards are useful for learning things like:
 - important dates in History
 - language vocabulary
 - key words and definitions
 - formulae
 - labelled diagrams



Flash cards aren't so good for learning things like processes and more complex information that can't be easily split up — take a look at the rest of this chapter for ideas on how to revise these.

- There are lots of flash cards available online but it's a good idea to make your own. Working through your notes and picking out information is part of the process of revision.

Another great way to use flash cards is by filling one side with example questions about a topic, and the other side with the answers. This can be useful after you've revised a topic and want to test yourself on it. (I hear CGP do a pretty awesome range of Science question cards...)

Use Them to Test Yourself

Here are a few top tips on how to use your flash cards effectively:



Say your answers out loud — this forces you to answer the questions properly.

Test yourself until you get them all correct — make a pile of any cards you get wrong and go over them until you know them all.



Make sure you test yourself both ways — e.g. you need to know vocab translations from English to French and French to English.

Ask someone else to test you — it removes the temptation to check the other side yourself before answering.

Using Flash Cards

Flash Cards are *Easy to Make*

Anyone can make good flash cards (with not a magic trick in sight...) — here's how:

- 1) Write a question or prompt on one side of the card.
- 2) Add colour and any quick pictures that might help you recall the information.
- 3) Complete the other side with the answer or piece of information.
- 4) Keep your flash cards simple and stick to one piece of information per card.
- 5) And voilà! You have made a flash card appear and there's a rabbit somewhere out of a job...



EXAMPLE:

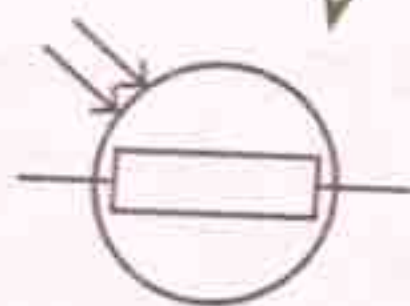
Here are a few examples of some flash cards you could make (front and back). They should be clear and easy to read:

Different colours for different subjects, e.g.

- blue for History
- pink for Physics
- orange for French

One piece of information per card.

Light-dependent resistor in a circuit



The Wall Street Crash

What happened in America in 1929?

Fun picture associations can really help you remember things — they don't have to make sense to anyone else, as long as they help you!

a Kiss



une bise



Flash cards — lighting the way to revision success...

Flash cards are so useful because they're pocket-sized — you can take them anywhere and test yourself on the go, really making the most of any time away from your desk without having to lug all your books around.

More Revision Tips

Don't panic about what other people are doing, do what works for you. Be a revision warrior not a worrier — face your revision head on and be proactive. Repeat after me: I can do this. I can do this...

Revise With a Friend

- 1) Test each other on different topics, e.g. using flash cards.
- 2) Try speaking for a minute on a topic, then get your friend to ask you questions on it.
- 3) Come up with funny pictures or stories to help you remember information. Get creative!



- Revising with a friend can be useful, but it's best not to do it all the time — it can be distracting and it's important to do your own revision too.
- Don't chat while you're revising. Take regular breaks, as you would if you were revising alone and save your chatting for then.

Say It Out Loud

Saying things out loud is a great way to engage with topics — it stops you skimming over details. You could incorporate this into your revision by using these ideas:

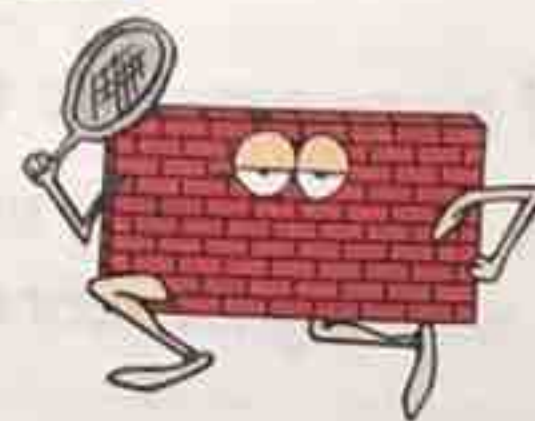
- Record yourself reading the key points of a topic and then listen to the recording regularly. Say the points out loud as you listen to them.
- Change the lyrics to some of your favourite songs to be about topics you need to remember — challenge your friends to do the same and share them.

Exercise Your Mind and Your Body

Incorporating exercise into your revision routine can really pay off because exercise stimulates your brain. There are lots of different ways of doing it, for example:

To help with language revision, you could hit a tennis ball against a wall, reciting a different part of the verb table every time it bounces.

Play catch with a friend and say a fact about a topic or the next step in a sequence when the ball comes to you.



Know What You'll be Tested On

No one knows the future — except me. If you learn what gets tested, you'll know just how to get marks.

Learn These Three Rhymes to Prepare for What Exams Test

CHECK the SPEC

- 1) Look at the exam board specifications and past papers for all of your exams.
- 2) Specifications tell you what you need to know and how you'll be tested.
- 3) Past papers show you the types of questions that could come up.

KNOW the AOs

- 1) Assessment Objectives are broad statements about what you need to show in your exams.
- 2) They differ for each GCSE, but include things like subject knowledge and analytical ability.
- 3) You should find out exactly which AOs are tested in each of your exams.



Get HYPED for Question TYPES

- 1) Different question types come up in different exam papers (e.g. you might get an extract in one English exam but not the other).
- 2) Make sure you know which types of questions to expect.

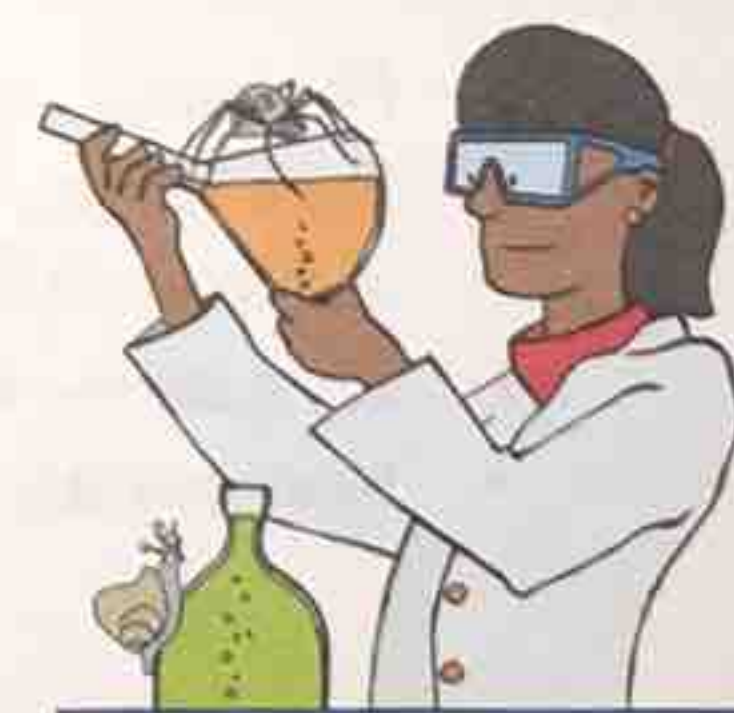
You can find specifications and Assessment Objectives on exam boards' websites. (Ask your teacher which ones you need.)

Find Out What You'll Get Marks For

It's important to know exactly what to aim for to earn those all-important marks. Here are a few ways to leave the examiner giddy with delight:

For maths questions, make sure you know when to show your working.

Use specific vocabulary and examples where possible (e.g. dates / locations in History.)



In science and maths, make sure answers are realistic and in the correct units.

Check your writing — some humanities exams give marks for SPaG.

Be prepared for questions about 'working scientifically' in science exams.

My Geography teacher tried testing me on a volcano, but my pens melted...

I know, I know, you thought learning all your subject content was enough, and here I am telling you to learn about the exams too. Well, you've come this far, so take a breath and go check out some specs.

Make the Most of Practice Papers

While paper makes a rock-beating weapon, practice makes perfect — so it's important to get some done.

Do as Many Practice Questions as You Can

- 1) The key to successful revision is to ~~use a crystal ball~~ be well prepared for the exam. To do this, you need to know what exam-style questions look like.
- 2) Do as many practice papers as you can. CGP have plenty of practice papers — but they'll also be on exam board websites.
- 3) You can warm up by using your notes to help you, but it's also important to practise under exam conditions.



CGP's Practice Paper Top Tips

① Practise under exam conditions ^{sssh}

- Get the right equipment out.
- Time yourself.
- Find somewhere quiet, with no distractions.
- Don't use your revision notes to help you.

② Use the mark scheme ✓

- All practice papers should have mark schemes.
- These tell you how marks are allocated and how to get the right answer.*
- Compare the mark scheme to what you wrote.
- Mark yourself, correcting what you got wrong.

*Unfortunately, they don't tell you the meaning of life.

③ Check out examiner's reports 🔍

- These tell you what people struggled with, and the things examiners look for (besides love).
- Putting yourself in an examiner's shoes helps you see how to improve your answers.

④ Do it all again ↻

- Once you've marked your exam and figured out where you went wrong, take a break from it.
- After a day or two, do the exam again.
- This helps the right answer stick in your head.

⑤ Don't panic!!!!

- If you don't get a high mark at first, don't worry — the idea is to get a bit better each time.

Exam practice is just like washing your hair — you have to rinse and repeat...

... if you want to improve (/ have minty-fresh follicles). It's the same with jokes. I keep writing them so that one day I'll be funny. Your exams are no laughing matter though, so read the tips above and bust out a practice paper.

Command Words

Stop. Sit. Read. Follow these command words and you'll soon know all about the ones in your exams.

It's Important to **Read the Question Carefully**



Read the question a few times (or until you understand it).

Use the number of marks available as a guide for how long to spend on a question.



Underline or circle key phrases and command words.

Command Words are **Key** — They Tell You **What to Do**

Common **Science & Maths** commands:

Command

Meaning

- Describe → talk through a process or trend
- Outline → state information about...
- Suggest → give possible causes for...
- Calculate → complete a calculation
- Show → prove something is true / false
- Explain → give reasons for something

Common **English & Humanities** commands:

Command

Meaning

- Discuss → talk about key points in detail
- How far do you agree? → give your opinion (and why)
- How important is... → discuss the significance of...
- How useful is... → weigh up the pros and cons of...
- Use evidence to show... → support a view with examples
- Explain → give reasons for something

EXAMPLE:

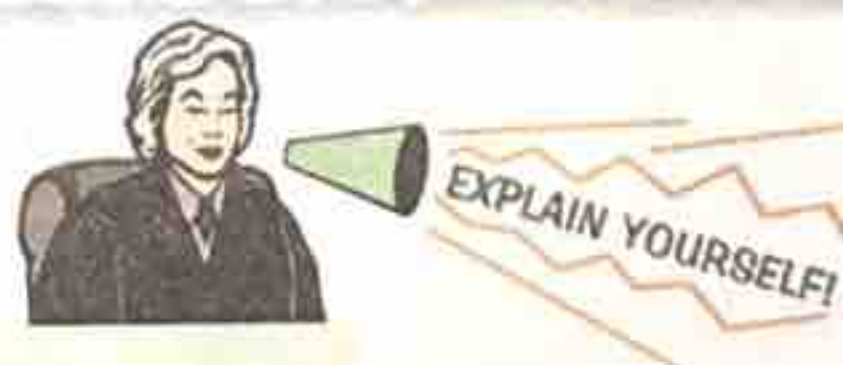
Here are some example questions that use command words.

Calculate the value of 'x'.

The command word here is 'calculate', so you need to work out a value.
E.g. " $x = 5$ ". Remember to show your working if the question asks you to.

Discuss the theme of creation in *Frankenstein*.

The command word here is 'discuss', so you know this requires a longer answer that wants you to use several different opinions or bits of information.



Essay Skills

Right, it's time to look at the most useful skills in the world (apart from juggling of course). Here we go...

Take Some Time to Plan Your Answer



Planning helps you get your ideas in order, so you don't run out of things to say once you start writing.

For each essay question you get:

- Read the question carefully.
- Read every text or source you need to.
- Check you know how to answer the question.

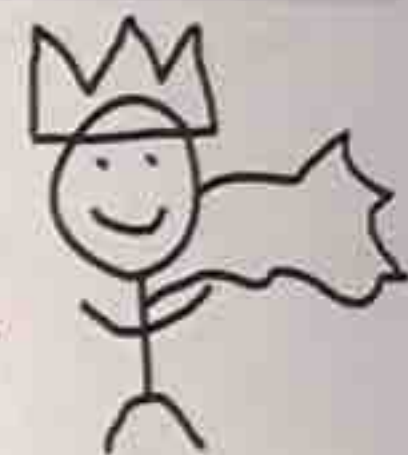
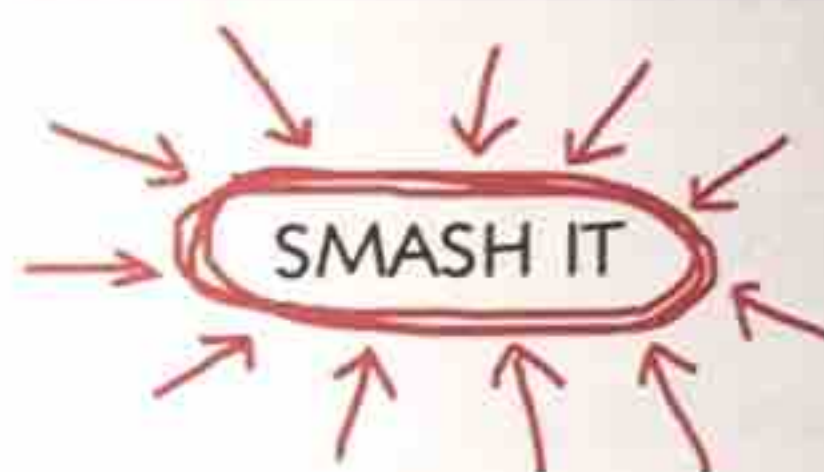


Now make a quick plan:

- Jot down your main ideas.
- Link your ideas by topic or theme.
- Outline the structure of your answer.

And remember:

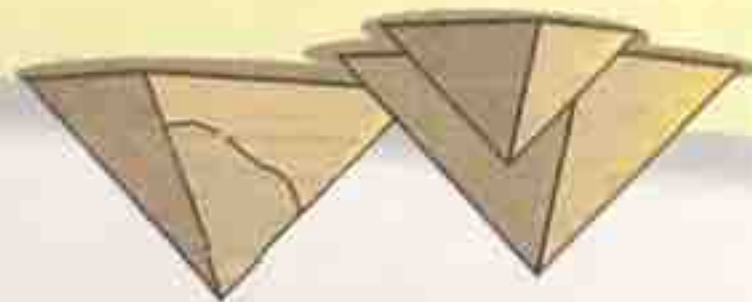
- Don't spend too long planning.
- Neatly cross out your plan when you finish.



Write Well to Get Marks in Essay Questions

Structure Your Writing

- Use paragraphs to organise your points and link ideas.
- Link your paragraphs using phrases such as 'on the other hand' and 'in addition'.



You should aim to:

- Start with a short introduction.
- End with a brief summary / conclusion that clearly reminds the reader of your main argument.

Write Clearly

- Don't make your sentences too complicated.
- Check your argument is easy to understand.
- Use specific examples and precise quotes.



If you make a ~~mistake~~ ^{mistake}, neatly cross it out and write the correction above.

Answer the question:

- Make sure you aren't just waffling.
- Make sure everything you write is relevant.
- Keep your ideas clear and to the point.



Essay Skills

Remember That You are Writing For an Examiner

Standard English

Make sure you write properly:

- Avoid informal words.
(Romeo's mate Mercutio) ✗
- Steer clear of slang.
(The poem made me LOL) ✗
- Don't use filler words.
(Pollution is, like, bad) ✗



Standard English
helped FleeFlorib
fool his examiners...

Explaining Phrases

Explain things clearly
using phrases like:

- this signifies that...
- this highlights...
- this suggests that...
- furthermore...

These will keep your
answers easy to follow.

Linking Words



Link ideas and points
with words such as:

- however
- in contrast
- similarly
- alternatively

They will make your
answer flow nicely.

Don't Forget to Check Your SPaG

Some GCSE exams give you marks just for the quality of your Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) — so it's well worth getting it right.

Recipe for Perfect SPaG:

- 1) Avoid common spelling mistakes
(e.g. mixing up 'there' and 'their').
- 2) Use punctuation properly —
remember to check it's all correct.
- 3) Don't change tenses by mistake —
it's confusing and won't make sense.
- 4) Watch out for double negatives —
avoid them in your essays.
- 5) Start a new paragraph for a new point —
don't just write in one block of text.
- 6) Leave time to quickly check your answers.
Take 5 minutes to fix any silly mistakes.



If you want to really master
spelling, punctuation and grammar,
take a peek at CGP's SPaG range.



All this talk of SPaG should help you pasta exams...

Writing clearly and having good SPaG is really important for essay questions. If you don't tick those boxes, then you aren't making it as easy as possible for the examiner to understand your answers (and give you mega marks).

Maths

Additional revision tips coming your way, divided into different subjects. You might wish you could subtract Maths from your life, but these handy tips will give you warm, fuzzy feelings for it that will only multiply.

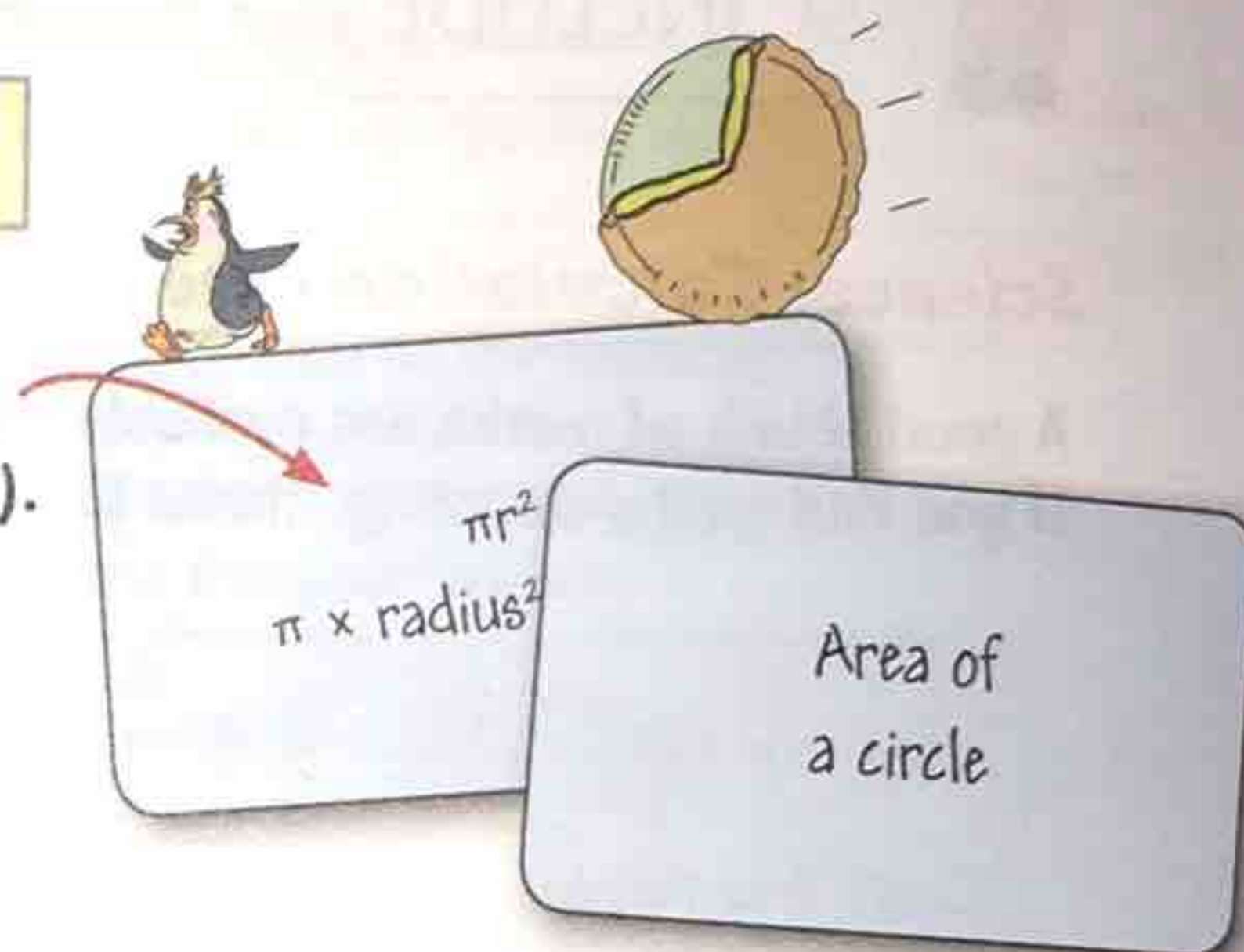
Practice is the Best Revision

- 1) The best way to revise maths is by doing practice questions.
- 2) Start by practising questions on specific topics once you've revised them.
- 3) Then do practice papers to test a mixture of topics — this will help you identify weak areas (see p.22).

Remember Formulas with Flash Cards

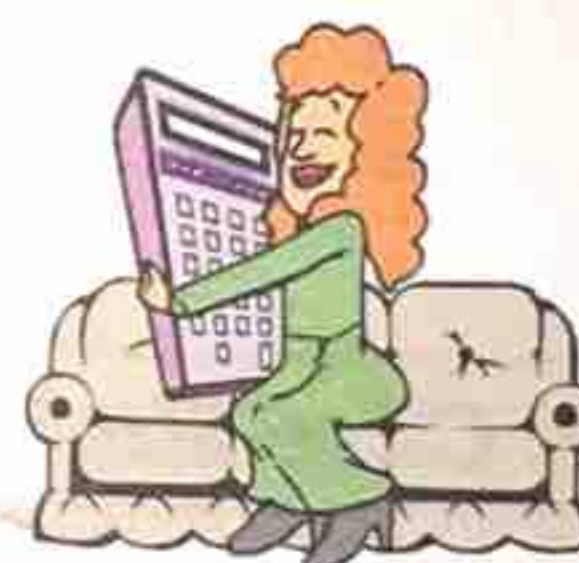
- 1) Flash cards are good for learning formulas.
- 2) Write a prompt on one side of the card, and the formula on the other side (see p.16-17 on how to use flash cards).
- 3) Some formulas aren't given in the exam so you need to learn those formulas as part of your revision.

Check with your teacher to see which formulas you need to learn.



Get to Know Your Calculator

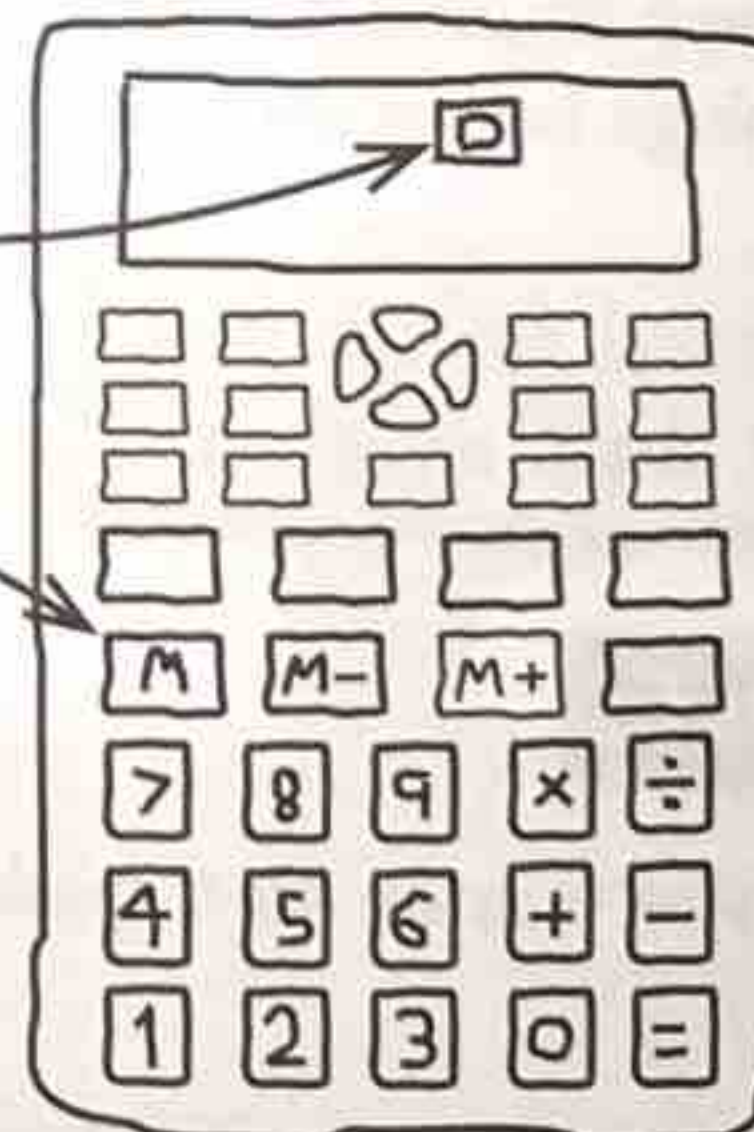
Practise using the calculator you'll use in your calculator exam(s).



Make sure it's set to 'degrees' mode. There should be a 'D' or 'DEG' written in the display window.

Know how to use the memory functions to store answers during multi-step calculations.

M, STO and RCL are popular memory function buttons.



Use memory functions to avoid rounding too early

If you get an answer with lots of decimal places during a multi-step question, use the memory function. You can then use that number for the next step instead of rounding, which may affect your final answer.

Maths

Understand What a Question is Asking

- 1) Know what each **command word** wants you to do.
- 2) Use the **number of marks** as a guide to **how much time** you should spend on a question.
- 3) Show your **working out** — marks are given for it.
- 4) Answer in the **correct units**, or to the correct number of **significant figures** or **decimal places**.



Command Words

- **Write down/state** — give a brief answer
- **Calculate/find/solve** — show your working out
- **Explain** — give a written reason for your answer

EXAMPLE:

Take a look at this exam question. There are plenty of ways to avoid losing easy marks.

- 11 The formula for the period, T seconds, of a pendulum of length l metres is given by:

$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$

At the equator, $g = 9.78 \text{ m/s}^2$.

- (a) **Find** the period of a pendulum, of length **30 cm**, at the Equator. Give your answer to **3 significant figures**.

The command word is 'find' so you need to show your working out.

Make sure you round your final answer to 3 significant figures.

You're given a length in centimetres, but the formula uses lengths in metres. You need to convert 30 cm into metres.

You need to answer the question in seconds.

$T = \dots\dots\dots$ seconds [2]

Check Your Answer Makes Sense

- 1) Make sure your answer is **sensible** — a person can't be 22 m tall.
- 2) Check for **silly mistakes** — 3×3 is not 6.
- 3) If you've solved an equation, put the **answer** back **into the equation** to see if it's correct.
- 4) **Expand factorised brackets** to check they give you the original expression.



I always check every page I write for chicken silly mistakes...

One of the (many) great things about GCSE Maths is that most questions have definite answers, meaning you can check whether you've got the right answer. Maths gets a bad rap sometimes, but it's actually very generous.

Science

You and revision probably have quite the chemistry now, so you'll be glad to hear there are things you can do together to help with your science exams. Not that you two need an excuse to spend time with each other...

Match Pairs to Learn Key Terms

- 1) Write key terms and their definitions on separate pairs of cards. Then jumble and sort the pairs.
- 2) When you can sort them all, try recalling the definitions based on the term only.

Heart

Pumps blood around the body

Unit of Resistance

Ohms



Universal Indicator Paper



Shows how acidic or alkaline a solution is by changing colour

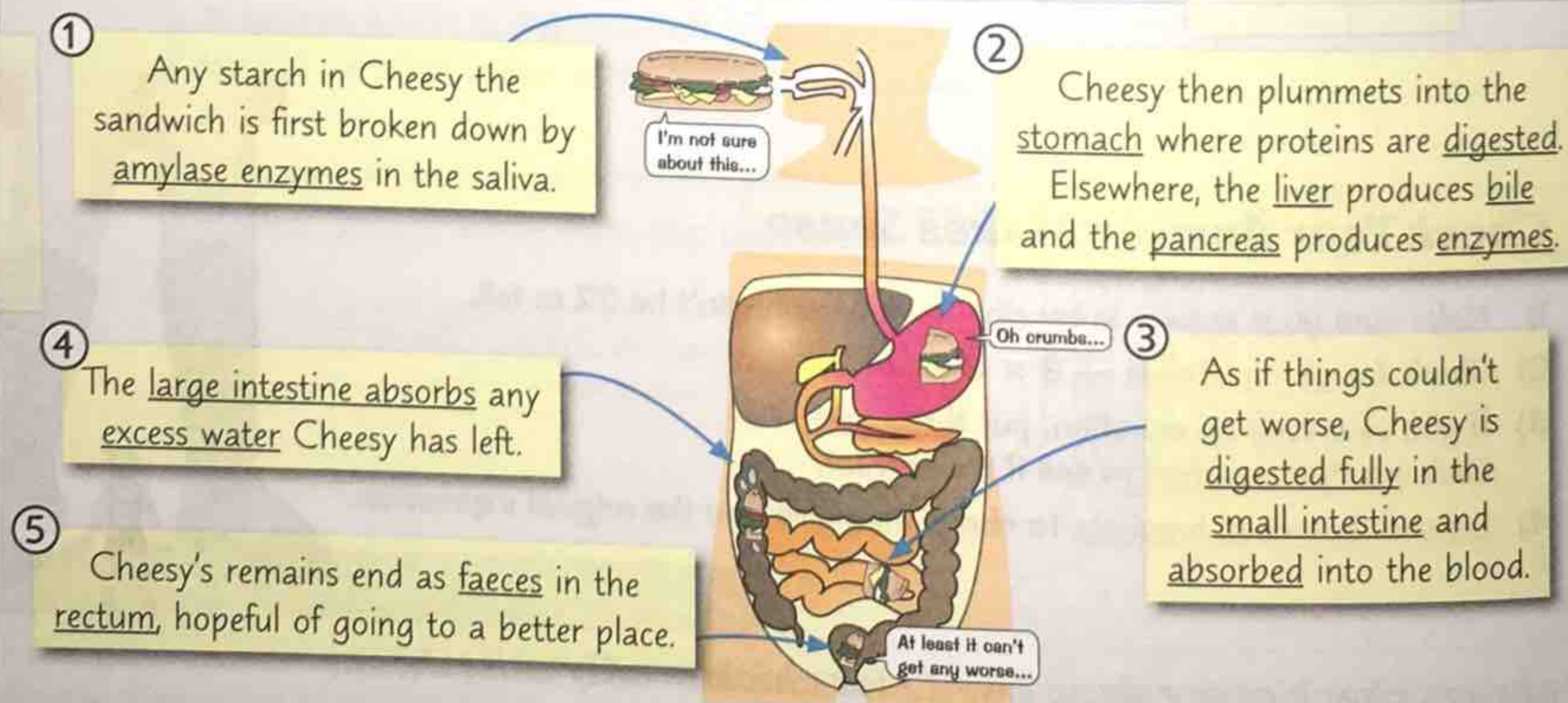
Remember Scientific Processes With Storyboarding

To help you remember processes with many steps, you could create stories.

EXAMPLE:

You could storyboard the digestive system like this:

You can't describe processes in an informal way like this in the exam — you need to use scientific language and terminology.



Science

Get to Grips with *Practical Skills*

Set aside time specifically for revising practical-related skills:

- 1) Learn the names of equipment and how to improve the quality of the data obtained.
- 2) Be familiar with how to record data — e.g. don't include units in the main body of a table.
- 3) Practise drawing graphs, using a ruler and sharp pencil for accuracy.

EXAMPLE:

Take a look at this practical skills exam question.

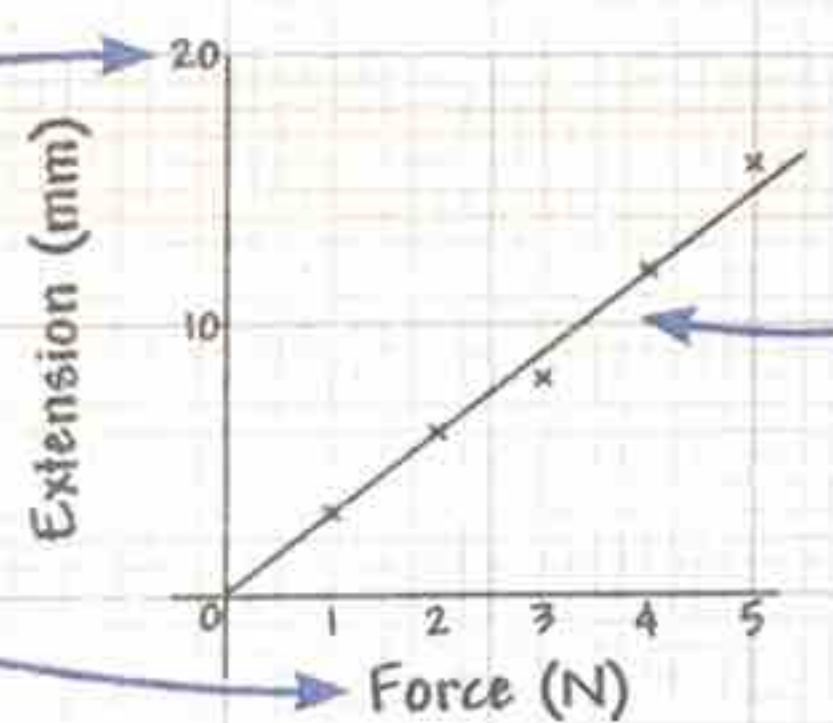
- 3 A student investigates how a spring extends when a force is applied to it. They record their results in a table.

Force (N)	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00
Extension (mm)	3	6	8	12	16

- (a) Plot the results on the graph paper. Draw a line of best fit.

Sensible scale used.

Axes are clearly labelled with units.



Points and line of best fit plotted accurately with a sharp pencil.

[3]



Know Which *Formulas You Need to Learn*

- 1) You're only given some formulas in the exam — you need to learn the ones that aren't given.
- 2) Practise using every formula so you can use them all confidently in the exam.

Get *Key Vocabulary* into Your Answers

- 1) Marks are awarded for using correct terminology.
- 2) Make sure you learn key words and their meaning as part of your revision.
- 3) In the exam, check that you've used relevant scientific terms correctly.



I don't trust atoms — I hear they make everything up...

But you won't when you've revised properly — here's a pretty useful formula to start you off: $\text{GO}_2\text{D PL4N}_2\text{ING}$.

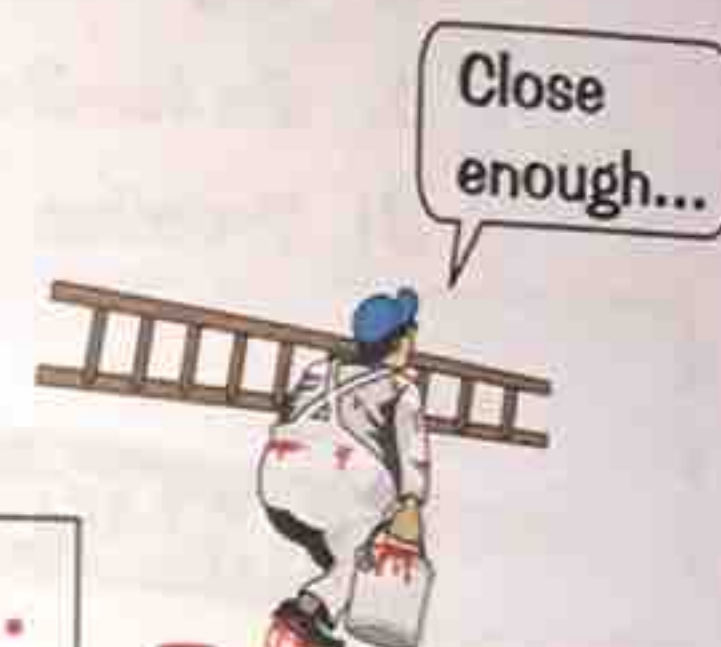
English Literature

Fun fact — pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis is the longest word you'll find in a dictionary. Fortunately, revising for your English Literature exam isn't nearly as daunting as trying to write that word.

Organise Your Revision for *Each Text*

- 1) Make a separate folder for each text you're studying throughout your GCSE.
- 2) When you finish reading a text, write a short summary of what it is about.
- 3) For longer texts, note down important plot points or passages too.
- 4) You can then look back at these notes when you start revising.

PNEUMONULTRAMICROSCOPIC...ETC.



Get to Know a Text with *Cue Cards*

- 1) Cue cards have more information than flash cards and are used for quick reference.
- 2) For every text you study, make the following cue cards:

Card	Details
List of Characters	Names and brief description of who's who.
Main Characters	List each main character's characteristics and a quote that sums them up.
Themes	Include key points and quotes.
Context and Audience	When and why the text was written, and how the context affects the text.
Writer's language	Language techniques used by the writer and quotes that show these being used.



Much Ado About Nothing Beatrice:

- Witty/Intelligent
 - Outspoken
 - Confident
 - Loyal to Hero
 - Annoyed by gender stereotypes
 - Reluctant to marry
- "she mocks all her wooers out of suit"

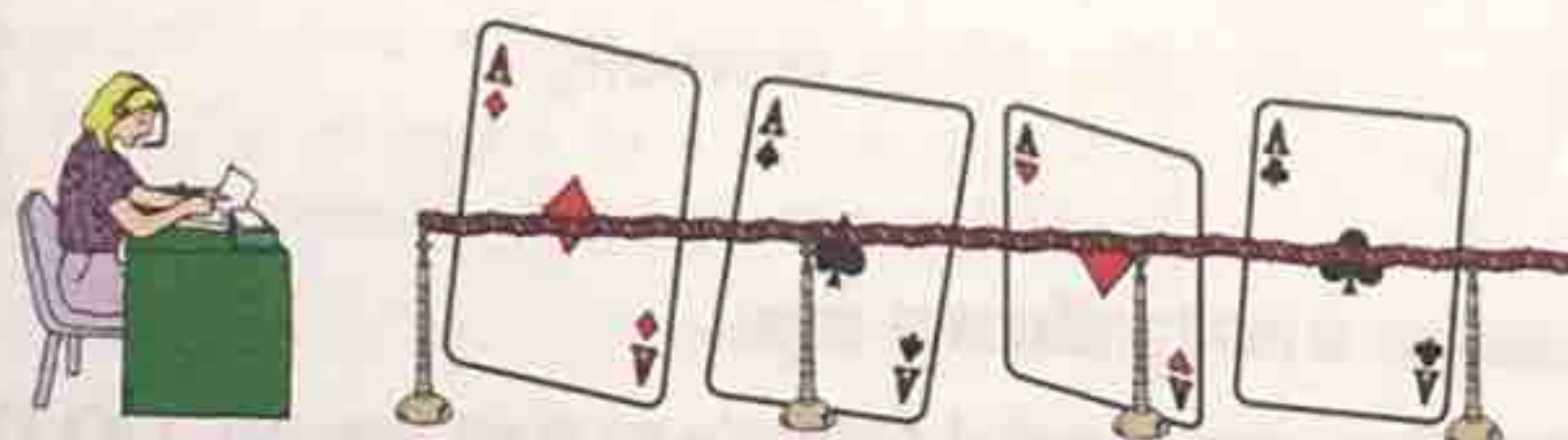
Make sure you only answer questions on the texts you've studied.

A Christmas Carol Theme — Family:

- Happiness — Belle's family full of "joy, and gratitude".
- Loneliness — Scrooge was "a solitary child".
- Scrooge's change — becomes a "second father" to Tiny Tim.

- 3) You can use cue cards to revise a text in different ways:

- Read a set of cards for a different text frequently, e.g. each day.
- Put the cards somewhere you'll see them, e.g. on the fridge.
- Get a friend or family member to test you using your cards.



English Language

Language is a super word — there aren't many words that end in 'uage'. Jeune is also a great word — it means uninteresting, but this page isn't jeune. It's anti-jeune, jeuneless, jeune-free. I could go on...*

Read (and do) Practice Papers




- 1) Get used to the type of questions you'll be asked.
- 2) Practise planning and writing answers out in full.
- 3) The exam involves analysing unseen texts. Make sure you:

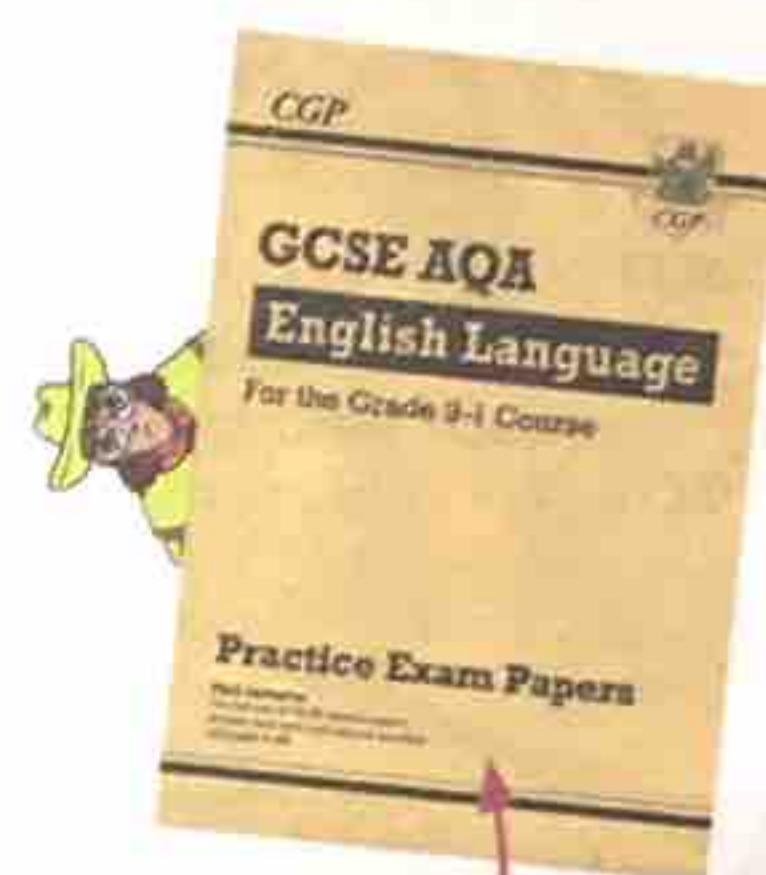


- READ the text carefully.
- UNDERLINE key words as you read the text.
- NOTE the writer's view after reading the text.



- 4) You'll need to show the following skills when answering questions:

- ⑥ Write critically and clearly 
- ⑥ "Use quotes to back up your points"
- ⑥ Analyse language, form and structure 
- ⑥ Show you understand how context affects the text 



- 5) You can find past papers for your exam board online (CGP do some practice papers too. Just sayin'...)

Creative Writing will Help for the Exam

- 1) You need to practise writing both fiction and non-fiction texts.
- 2) You also need to practise writing for different audiences and purposes. For example:

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you explain your point of view.

Write a speech for a debate at your school in which you argue for or against a statement.

- 3) To get top marks, your writing needs to be interesting, accurate and well organised.
- 4) Get someone to read your writing so you can get feedback.

Look at past papers for writing prompts to get your creative juices bubbling.



***This page is jemarch, jeapril, jemay, but absolutely not jeune...**

Be aware that English Literature and Language exams have different question types. You don't want to spend weeks practising writing *A Christmas Carol* fan fiction when you won't get asked to write one in either exam.

Before the Exam

It's what this whole book has been preparing you for — the big exam day. However, to make sure you're in tip-top exam-slamming condition, here are some last-minute things you can do.

Do Final Preparations the *Night Before*

Spend time the night before the exam making sure you're prepared:

- 1) Eat a balanced meal (see p.7).
- 2) Get anything you're taking into the exam ready to go.
- 3) Double check where and when your exam is.
- 4) Do something relaxing or some gentle exercise.
- 5) You could read over some notes, but don't cram all night.
- 6) Try to get a good night's sleep (see p.7).

Exam Kit Checklist

- Multiple pens and pencils ☒
- A rubber and sharpener ☒
- A clear pencil case ☒
- A clear water bottle with no labels ☒
- A watch (not a smart one) ☒
- Subject-specific stationery, e.g. ruler, calculator etc. ☒

Wake Up at a *Sensible Time*

Set an alarm to make sure you wake up.

- 1) Give yourself time to wake up and get ready for your exam.
- 2) Eat a healthy breakfast with a glass of water and fruit.
- 3) If you have time, look over your notes at any key definitions, formulas, facts and quotes.
- 4) Don't revise anything new — save your energy for the exam.



Arrive at Your Exam in *Plenty of Time*

- 1) Leave home with more time than you need to get to your exam.
- 2) But try not to arrive too early — you don't want a long, nervous wait.

Waiting with other people

If people outside the exam hall seem stressed when you arrive, try to stay calm and not let their worries affect you. It's okay to ask to be left alone if that's what you need to mentally prepare yourself.



I brought pens to my exam — I couldn't take the sheep and pigs in though...

If you struggle to get a good night's sleep or eat a big breakfast because you're nervous, don't panic — it's not the end of the world. You can still perform well in your exam as long as you keep calm and stay focused.

During the Exam

Whenever I entered an exam hall and took my seat, I always imagined an orchestra playing an epic soundtrack as if it was the climax of an action movie. I also did other, more helpful things too...

Organise Your Desk Space

While you're waiting for the exam to start:

- 1) Get your pens and stationery out.
- 2) Place your water bottle and watch on your desk.
- 3) Take some deep breaths to calm yourself.
- 4) Fill in the front of your exam paper.
- 5) Listen to instructions given by the invigilators.



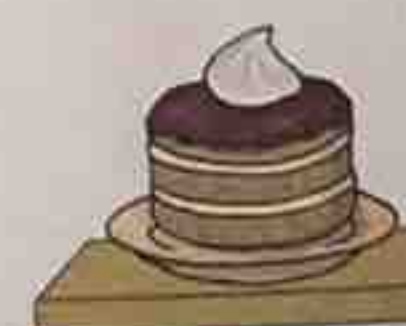
Focus on What You're Doing During the Exam

- 1) Read each question carefully.
- 2) Read each question carefully — seriously, you might miss something if you rush.
- 3) Answer every question that you need to — and don't answer any that you don't.
- 4) If you're not sure of an answer, make an educated guess.
- 5) Keep an eye on the time so you stay on track (with time to check your answers).
- 6) Judge how long to spend on a question based on how many marks it's worth.
- 7) Don't get distracted by what others are doing.



Dealing with FEPs (Frequent Exam Panics)

- ★ If you can't answer a question...
Move on to the next question and come back to it later.
- ★ If you're running out of time...
Answer questions which require short answers to pick up as many marks as possible.
- ★ If you realise halfway through a question that you've got it wrong...
Cross out what you've done and write your new answer beneath it.
- ★ If you realise that cake you left on the side is at the mercy of your sibling...
Silently bid farewell to your lost dessert and then refocus on the exam.



After the Exam

Whether it's the first exam or the fifteenth, and whether you think it went well or not, congratulate yourself on getting a step closer to the end. All that's left to know is what to do after you step out of that exam hall.

Worrying Won't Change Anything

- 1) You might find it stressful to talk to friends about the exam — it's okay if you don't want to.
- 2) Try not to worry about your answers — you can't change what you wrote in the exam.
- 3) Learn from the experience for future exams. For example:

If you ran out of time, think about how you could manage your time differently.

If you felt tired, consider how to improve your routine the night before.

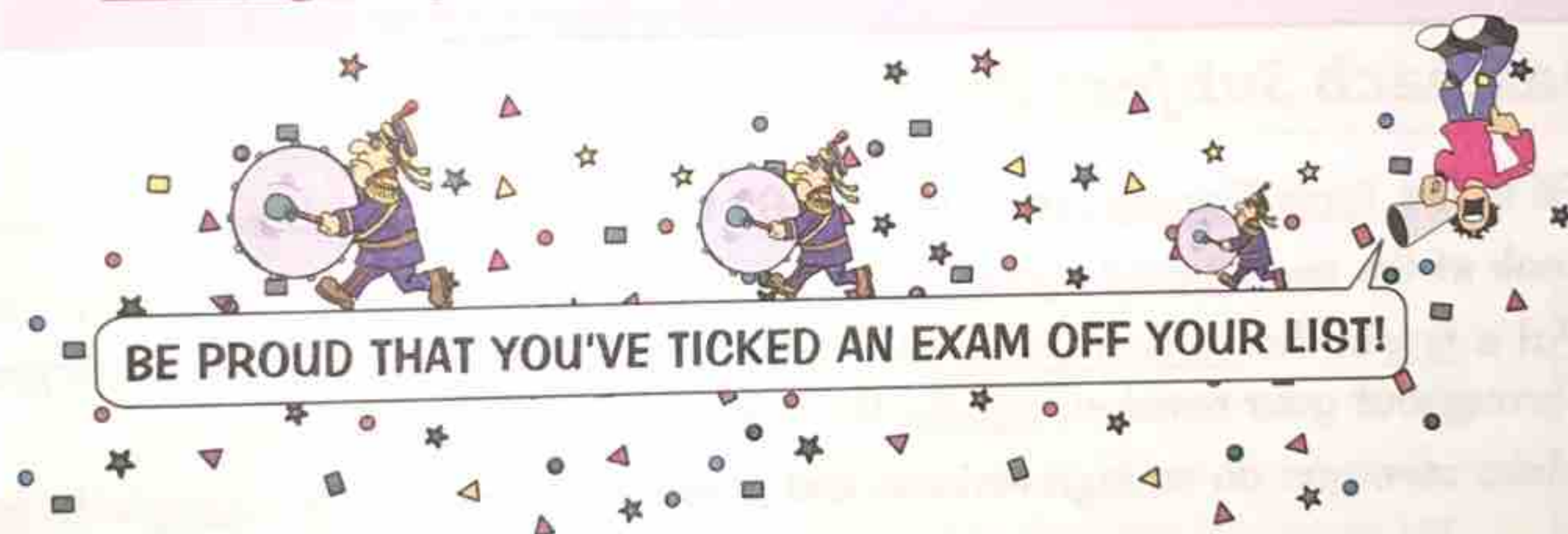


Take Some Time Out to Relax

- 1) Exams are tiring — try to relax after the exam or do something fun.
- 2) If you're feeling frustrated or anxious, doing some exercise could help.
- 3) If you have another exam later the same day or the next day:

- You may want to have a quick look over some notes.
- But be sure to have a break between looking at any notes and the exam.
- Don't forget any final preparations for the next exam (see p.43).

- 4) And finally...



Scream and Dance Around Unwind After Your Last Exam

- 1) When all your exams are over, store your revision notes out of sight (but don't throw them away).
- 2) Celebrate your hard work — have a nice dinner, go on a trip or spend time with friends.

To fill the revision-shaped hole in my life, I memorised cereal ingredients...

Try to put exams to the back of your mind and not worry about results day. Enjoy the well-earned free time you have, maybe by learning a new party trick — wholegrain wheat, sugar, barley, salt, iron, vitamin B6...

Make A Revision Timetable

The last part of this book is a revision planner (all paper-based I'm afraid — we had a bit of a struggle finding a personal assistant who would fit). It'll help you get organised and as ready as can be for all your revision.

Your revision planner and timetable can be found on pages 52-85 of this book. There are spaces for you to fill in all of your exams, other commitments and planned revision sessions.



1) Write Down when all your Exams are

- The first step is to fill in the Exam Timetable on page 52.
- You should refer to this regularly, so you can see at-a-glance which exams you've got coming up. It'll help you stay focused.

EXAMPLE:

Exam Timetable

Subject	Paper	Date	Time
Maths	Paper 1 (non calc)	May 15 th (Mon)	9:00
Biology	Paper 1	May 17 th (Wed)	14:00
French	Reading	May 22 nd (Mon)	14:00
French	Listening	May 23 rd (Tue)	9:00
Biology	Paper 2	May 26 th (Fri)	9:00



2) Break each Subject Down into Topics

- Fill in the Topic Planners on pages 53-67 for each of your subjects (see below).
- Look at the exam board specification for each subject to find a list of topics, or ask your teachers.
- Put a tick in the correct column to show how happy you are with each topic. Throughout your revision, update the table as you feel more confident.
- Make sure you do enough revision and practice so that you're happy with each topic.

EXAMPLE:

Biology

Topic	☹	😊	😄
Cells	✓		
Microscopy	✓		
Cell Differentiation and Specialisation	✓	✓	
Stem Cells	✓		
Chromosomes and Mitosis	✓		
Binary Fission	✓	✓	
Culturing Microorganisms	✓		

Don't worry if you're unsure about a lot of your topics at first. The whole point of revision is that you get more confident as you go on.



Make A Revision Timetable

3) Start Filling in your *Revision Timetable*

- Write down all your **exams** in the correct days on your **timetable**.
- Start from the **end** — write down your **last exam** on the **last page** of the timetable, then **work backwards**, filling in the dates and other exams until you get to your **first exam**.

EXAMPLE:

Say your last exam is French Speaking, on the morning of Wednesday 28th June. You'd follow the instructions shown below, in the correct order.



① Write in the month.

There's more info on p.48-51 about filling in your timetable properly.

Weeks to go:

Month: June	Time:	Date:
Monday	Biology Paper 2 9 am	26th
Tuesday	Physics Paper 2 2 pm	27th
Wednesday	French Speaking 9 am	28th

② Add in the date of your last exam.

③ Pencil in your exam. Try to put it in the correct square for the time of day. This exam is at 9 am, so the first box is a good bet. (If you use pencil, you can always rub it out if you get it wrong.)

④ Work backwards, adding in the other dates.

⑤ Add in your second-to-last exam...

⑥ And the one before that, and so on...

- ⑦ Once you've done the last page, move to the previous page. Carefully working backwards, fill in all the dates next to Sun, Sat, Fri etc. Continue backwards, dating the pages until you get to the date you're starting your revision. (Just make sure you use the correct number of days for each month.)



Make A Revision Timetable

It might seem like a lot of organisation that isn't getting any of the subject stuff in your head, but good planning now will save all sorts of time later — time that can be spent, y'know, revising.

4) Divide Your Time Into Sessions

- 1) The revision timetables in this book are split into five sessions — the time spaces have been left blank so that you can choose them yourself.
- 2) To help you divide your day into revision sessions, think about:
 - what time of day you work best
 - how long you'll revise each day
 - when you get up and go to bed
 - fitting in sensible breaks
- 3) It's up to you how long each session is.
- 4) You don't need to use every session each day — you'll be in school some days so cramming five revision sessions into the evening might be too much.



A good rule of thumb is to break for 10 minutes every hour — either in one chunk, or split into two 5-minute breaks.

5) Fill In Your Commitments

You can't revise all the time — you need to keep time for your other commitments. Your revision could become stressful if you overload yourself (see p.6 for advice on this).

- 1) Go through your revision timetable, adding in the time for things like:
 - hobbies and regular exercise
 - time with friends and family
 - holidays and birthdays
 - part-time jobs
- 2) It's also a good idea to keep some time free in your plan in case something unexpected comes up — there may be things that you can't plan for, so if there's a few gaps, it'll make it easy to adapt.



You may need to cut back on some things — revision is still your priority.

EXAMPLE:

This timetable uses 50-minute revision sessions, with 10-minute breaks after each one.

Start at a sensible time, based on your daily routine.

Month:	Weeks to go:				
Time:	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5
Date:	10.00-11.00	11.00-12.00	12.00-13.00	14.00-15.00	15.00-16.00
Monday					Swimming
	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
Tuesday					
	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK

Leave a gap for lunch.



Add your commitments and activities.



Make A Revision Timetable

6) Add Your Subjects

1) Decide how much time you'll need to spend on each subject by thinking about:

- which you find the hardest
- which have more content
- which you will be examined on first

2) Add your subjects into the timetable, working backwards from the exam.

3) Make sure you allow enough time for each and space them out over the time you have (see p.50 for more on this).

EXAMPLE:

Month:		Weeks to go:				
Date:	Time:	Session 1 10.00-11.00	Session 2 11.00-12.00	Session 3 12.00-13.00	Session 4 14.00-15.00	Session 5 15.00-16.00
Monday		Biology	French	Maths	History	Swimming
		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
Tuesday		English Lit	Geography	Biology	French	History
		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK

Colour-coding your timetable by subject makes it clearer.



7) Add Your Topics

- 1) For each subject, look at the topics in your topic planner — think about which you should prioritise (like you did with your subjects) and add those first.
- 2) Aim to include topics multiple times to give you a chance to revise them thoroughly and more concisely each time, e.g. by using a range of the techniques covered in Section 2 (p.9-20).
- 3) Make sure you leave plenty of space for all your topics — you might want to write in pencil to start with.

You don't have to do this step straight away — you might prefer to fill in the topics at the start of each week once you know how you're getting on. Don't be afraid to edit your timetable as you go along, depending on what's going well and what you feel less confident with. Just make sure you leave enough time to cover every topic in enough detail.

EXAMPLE:

Month:		Weeks to go:				
Date:	Time:	Session 1 10.00-11.00	Session 2 11.00-12.00	Session 3 12.00-13.00	Session 4 14.00-15.00	Session 5 15.00-16.00
Monday		Biology - Cell Biology	French - Speaking Practice	Maths - Algebra	History - The Great Depression	Swimming
		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
Tuesday		English - Poetry	Geography - Tropical Rainforests	Biology - Infection and Response	French - Past tenses	History - Elizabeth I
		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK



Add topic detail under each subject.

Space It Out and Mix It Up

Think About *S p a c i n g* As You *Plan Your Revision*

Revisiting a topic several times, with gaps in between, is more effective than trying to revise it all in one go. It helps the information sink in better so that it's easier to remember in the exam.

- ① Space out your revision for a topic across the time you have available — make sure you leave enough time to go over a topic more than once.
- ② Don't be tempted to cram a whole subject into a day — your revision won't be as effective.
- ③ It's okay to cover different topics from the same subject on the same day, just make sure you don't do it too often — keep your revision varied to keep your brain engaged.

Make Sure You *Mix Your Subjects Up*

- 1) Include a good mix of subjects every day — don't cover all your languages or sciences in one go.
- 2) Split your revision of each subject into short, focused chunks spread over different days and several weeks — leaving a gap between them will help you retain the information better.
- 3) It's not a good idea to spend a week revising just Maths and then a week on English — the information just won't stay in your brain in the long-term.

EXAMPLE:

Month:				Weeks to go:	
Time	Session 1 10.00–11.00	Session 2 11.00–12.00	Session 3 12.00–13.00	Session 4 14.00–15.00	Session 5 15.00–16.00
Date					
Monday	Biology	French	Maths	History	Swimming
Tuesday	English Lit	Geography	Biology	French	History
Wednesday	Maths	Run with Dad	Spanish	English Lit	Physics
Thursday	← Trip to town →			Chemistry	History
Friday	French	English Lit	Physics	English Lang	Maths
Saturday	History	Swimming	Spanish	Chemistry	Physics
Sunday	Tennis	Chemistry	English Lang	Spanish	English Lit

This example spaces subjects out well and mixes them up, with regular gaps in between. You'd just need to add in your topics and short breaks...



My timetables are so good, people call me a revisionary...

Oh come on, that was a good one. Speaking of good ones, you should have a pretty gosh darn good timetable in front of you by this point. Just a couple more things before you go...



Checking Your Revision Timetable

Hey, you, I see you about to skip this page — before you race off excitedly to start using your shiny new timetable, it's a good idea to spend a few minutes checking you haven't anything important.

Check Your Timetable

- 1) Run through the checklist below and compare each point with your timetable.
- 2) If there's anything missing, go back and fill it in.



1. Have you included all your exams for every subject?
2. Have you added in topics for at least the first few weeks?
3. Have you double-checked the dates?
4. Does the timetable cover a mixture of subjects each day?
5. Have you planned in regular breaks?
6. Have you left time for things you enjoy doing?
7. Have you left a few gaps to change things if you need to?

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Stick To Your Timetable — but be Flexible

It's all well and good making yourself a great timetable, but it's no use to you unless you follow it.

- 1) Use your revision timetable alongside your topic planners to keep track of your progress.
- 2) Don't be afraid to adapt the plan as you go — if you know your German tense endings better than you thought but need to spend more time on quadratic equations, just swap things around as you need to.
- 3) If something doesn't go to plan one day, don't panic — just fit any missed revision into the gaps you've left in the timetable and carry on.



Revision Timetable

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Month:

Weeks to go:

Time:

Date:

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

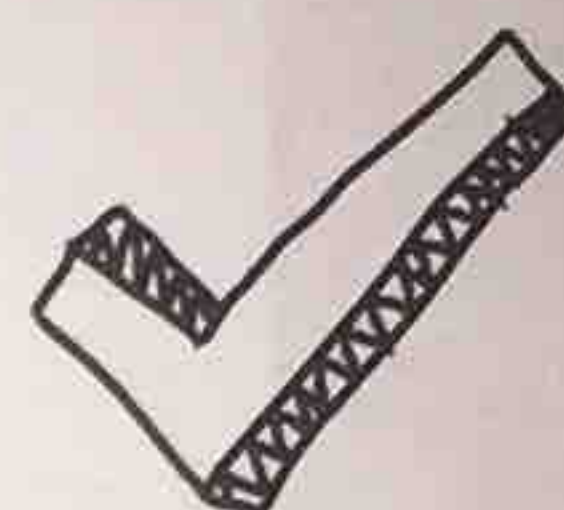


Your Revision Timetable

Top 10 Ultimate Revision Tips

Here are the absolute must-know, save-your-life-in-a-fight-with-a-zombie-exam-paper, ultimate revision tips.

- Start revising **as soon as possible**.



- Plan your revision using a timetable.

- Set up a **tidy study space**.

- **Revisit topics** several times with a gap in between.

- **Vary** your revision with different activities.

- Do lots of **practice papers** and questions.

- Set aside time to do fun things.

- Keep your ~~phone~~ and other ~~distractions~~ away.

- ^{zzz} Sleep and eat properly.
mmmmmm

- Don't panic! **Plan your work and work your plan** and you'll be eating your eggs-ams for breakfast!

