

Revision Skills Day

Friday 15th April 2016 Lesson 1

Why?

Revision skills are key to performing to the best of your ability in all tests and exams.

You have **exams** and **tests** coming up this term.

What **difference** you can make!!



“Whatever you think about, that’s what you remember. Memory is the residue of thought.”

- Daniel Willingham

Revision is **temporary**

Grades are **forever**



**IMPROVING
LEARNING AND
GRADES THROUGH
EFFECTIVE REVISION**



**NOT VERY
EFFECTIVE**

Highlighting...



Re Reading



Summarising...



Why?

- Low challenge.
- Little thinking required.
- You think you are ‘doing something’...



**MORE
EFFECTIVE**

Practice Testing

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 your learning. Some ways in which you can do this easily:

- 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**.

Past Papers – Use them effectively

- Timings of the exams... do you know?
- Question values... do you know?
- Give yourself mock exams.
- Real time.
- Check, mark, improve.

Interrogation

One of the best things that you can do (either to yourself or with a friend) to support your revision is to **ask why an idea or concept is true** – research through revision and then answer that **why** question.

For example;

- In Science, increasing the temperature can increase the rate of a chemical reaction....**why?**
- In Geography, the leisure industry in British seaside towns has deteriorated in the last 4 decades....**why?**
- In History, the 1929 American stock exchange collapsed. This supported Hitler's rise to power....**why?**

So, rather than just try to learn facts or ideas, ask yourself why they are true.

Self explanation (teaching)

Rather than looking at different topics from a subject in isolation, try to think about **how** this new information is related to what you know already.

This is where mind- maps might come in useful – but the process of producing the mind map, is probably more useful than the finished product. So, think about a key central idea (the middle of the mind map) and then how new material, builds on the existing knowledge in the middle.

Alongside this, when you solve a problem e.g. in Maths, **explain to someone the steps you took to solve the problem.** This can be applied to a whole range of subjects.

As part of the lesson you could create or use one of these revision tools:

- Quiz each other
- Create multiple-choice quizzes
- Create 'fill the gap' exercises for you and a friend to complete.
- Try an interrogation activity

Have a bit of fun with it