



BELVOIR
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Year 9 Exams Revision

The Rules!

- You will decide which subjects to revise on which days, and then which topics to focus on. **Do your best to stick to it.**
- Each session needs to be a minimum of **30 minutes** with NO distractions. Put your phone in another room, turn the TV off and tell your family you are revising.
- Your sessions should be **5 mins self-quizzing, 20 mins active revision, 5 mins writing a quiz for next time.**
- Revision sessions need to be **active**. This means NOT just reading and highlighting. Do something with the information – turn it into pictures, summarise it onto revision cards, test yourself or get someone to test you.
- After each session, have a **20 minute break**. Do something different – go outside, talk to your family, eat a snack, get a drink.
- Set yourself a day off each week. Remember this can be flexible each week depending on your plans, but you should be **revising for six out of seven days.**

Active vs Passive Revision

Cognitively active revision is where the revision activities you are doing make your brain work. They require you to think about the information, to recall it and to actively do something with it.

Cognitively passive strategies like highlighting are much less effective because you are not doing anything with the information.

How many examples of ACTIVE revision can you think of?

Make a mind map of the most important information		
Rewrite the information from memory, then check to see how much you remembered		
Turn the information into a song, rap, TikTok etc		

Add revision strategies into this table to turn these passive strategies into ACTIVE strategies:

Rereading the text	
Looked through your exercise book	
Copied out of the text book	
Highlighted key information in a text	
Watched a revision video on YouTube	
Looked at the text book	

TOPICS TO REVISE

English	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Fred and Scrooge's relationship (Stave 1 p3-6)2. Scrooge and Fan's relationship (Stave 2, p25-30)3. Scrooge and his fiancé Belle, (Stave 2, p33-38)4. Bob Cratchit and his family's relationship (Stave 3, p46-52)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Fred at Christmas (Stave3, p55-60)6. Dead Scrooge with no family (Stave 4, p71-72)7. Dead Tiny Tim and Bob (Stave 4, p73-76)8. Scrooge and Fred (Stave 5, p83-84)9. Scrooge and Bob (Stave 5, p84-85)	
Maths	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Straight line graphs2. Forming and solving equations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Testing Conjectures4. Three dimensional shapes5. Constructions and congruency	
Geography	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Map skills2. Analysis skills3. Development topic (development indicators, categorising development, the Sustainable Development Goals, strategies for improving quality of life)4. Africa today: the role of colonisation; Africa's physical geography, population density, levels of development, opportunities and challenges today)		
History	<u>Suffragettes:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Women's rights before 19002. Differences between suffragists and suffragettes3. Role in ww14. Can they be seen as terrorists?	<u>WW1:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Causes of the war2. Enlisting3. Life in the trenches4. Soldiers of the empire5. Battle of the Somme6. Treaty of Versailles	<u>Russian Revolution:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Causes of the revolution2. Impact of the Revolution
RE	<u>Use of Animals:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Animals for food - including vegetarianism2. Religious Food Laws3. Animal Experimentation - medical and cosmetic4. Ethics of animals in sport5. Animal rights and law around animals	<u>Ethics</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Absolutism and relativism2. Utilitarianism	

Science	<u>Biology</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Microscopes 2. Animal and plant cells 3. Eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells 4. Specialised cells 	<u>Chemistry</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Atomic structure 2. Separating mixtures 3. Atomic theory 4. Electron arrangement 	<u>Physics</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generating electricity 2. Energy resources 3. Density 4. Changes of state
Drama	<u>Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theatre terminology 2. Costume design 3. Vocal skills 4. Physical skills 5. Themes and plot of the play 		
Music	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Film music (how to create emotion in music) 2. Music theory (treble clef, note values) 3. Instrument sounds 4. MAD T SHIRT 		
French	<u>Food:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food items 2. Opinions 3. Verbs like I drink/I do not drink 4. Comparatives 	<u>Holidays:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Countries 2. Means of transport 3. Comparatives 4. Weather 5. Activities in the present, past and future tenses 	

How should I revise?

For memorising simple facts, definitions of key words etc	Dual coding, revision cards using the Leitner method, post-it notes, Copy Cover Check
For memorising processes, cause and effect, procedures	Post-it notes, revision cards, online, dual coding
For learning about a topic that has lots of different parts	Mind maps, revision cards, self-quizzing
For learning how to answer a specific style of exam question	Self-quizzing, practice papers
For exploring two sides of an argument/topic	Post-it notes, revision cards, self-quizzing
For developing deeper understanding of WHY or HOW	Self-quizzing, practice papers, online

<u>Exam Checklist</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Maths</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>Geog</u>	<u>History</u>	<u>RE</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>Music</u>	<u>Drama</u>
I know the date and time of my exam in this subject.									
I know how long my exam is and how long I should spend on each question/section.									
I know how many marks the exam paper is worth and how these marks are divided between questions.									
I have broken this topic down into sections or chunks so that I can revise it in smaller pieces.									
I know what the questions or tasks on the exam paper will look like.									
I know how to revise for this exam.									

Week 1

Monday 5th Dec	Tuesday 6th Dec	Weds 7th Dec	Thursday 8th Dec	Friday 9th Dec	Saturday 10th Dec	Sunday 11th Dec

Week 2

Monday 12th Dec	Tuesday 12³^h Dec	Weds 14th Dec	Thursday 15th Dec	Friday 16th Dec	Saturday 17th Dec	Sunday 18th Dec

Week 3

Monday 26 th Dec	Tuesday 27 th Dec	Weds 28 th Dec	Thursday 29 th Dec	Friday 30 th Dec	Saturday 31 st Dec	Sunday 1 st Jan

Week 4

Monday 2 nd Jan	Tuesday 3 rd Jan	Weds 4 th Jan	Thursday 5 th Jan	Friday 6 th Jan	Saturday 7 th Jan	Sunday 8 th Jan

Notes on how to revise

<u>Dual Coding</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw simple pictures to illustrate a key fact. • Make sure the images are meaningful to you, they don't need to make sense to anyone else as long as you understand them! A good way to revise is to explain your images to another person to see if they can see your connections. • Your brain remembers pictures and words in different ways, so this doubles your chance of remembering the information. • Use symbols like arrows, plus/minus signs etc to show the relationship between ideas. • Quiz yourself by seeing if you can remember the words that match the picture, then swap round.
<u>Graphic Organisers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphic Organisers are visual ways of representing a lot of information. See page 10 for examples. • You will have used a lot of types of graphic organisers before, this won't be unfamiliar to you. • You can make these diagrams from your notes to organise all of the information into one place that is easy to read. • Once you've revised a topic, you could try to create a graphic organiser from memory to see how much you have learned.
<u>Quizzing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An effective quiz has a mixture of different question styles to prompt you to think about a topic in different ways. • Use the question grid on page 9 to help you create a range of different question styles. • In order of difficulty, the question styles are FACTUAL, ANALYTICAL, PREDICTIVE, APPLICATION/SYNTHESIS. • Once you have designed a series of questions, plan your answers to them, swap with a friend and see if you can answer each other's questions or save them for the next time you revise this topic.
<u>Revision Cards</u>	<p><u>Ways to make revision cards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a key word on one side, then the definition on the other side. • Write an example exam question on one side, then the key ideas you would need to answer that question. • Write a key word or topic on one side, then make links to other key words and topics on the other side. • See also page 12. <p><u>Once you have made the cards...</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz yourself on your cards or get someone else to quiz you. • Use the Leitner method of three boxes to structure your use of the cards (you can find explanations of this method on YouTube).

Factual	Predictive	Analytical	Application/Synthesis
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	Is/Are	Did/Do	Can	Would/Should	Will	Might/Could
What						
Where						
When						
Who						
Why						
How						

Graphic Organisers

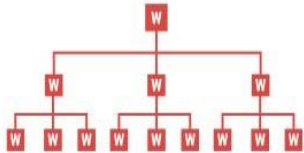
Container – info that stays the same (compare, describe, explain)

Path – info that changes (process, cause and effect, time sequence)

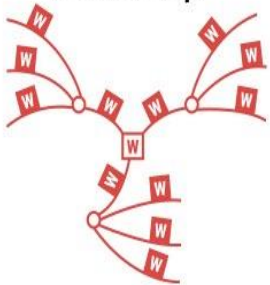
CONTAINER MODEL

CHUNK

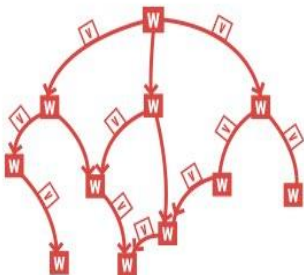
Tree Diagram



Mind Map

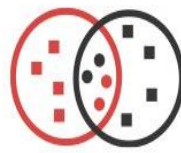


Concept Map

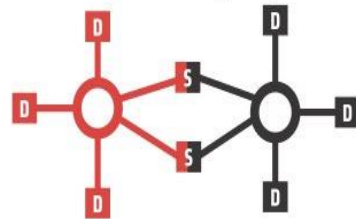


COMPARE

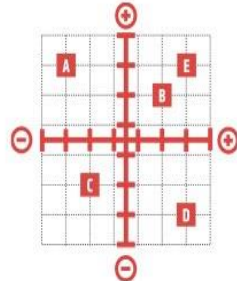
Venn Diagram



Double Spray



Crossed Continua



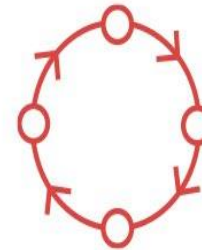
PATH MODEL

SEQUENCE

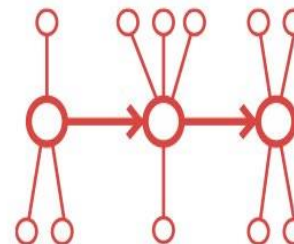
Flow Chart



Cycle

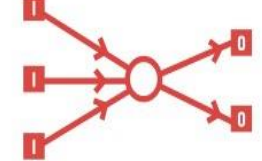


Flow Spray

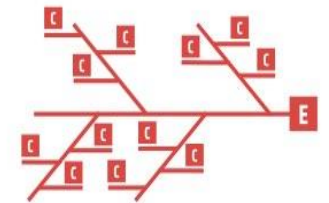


CAUSE & EFFECT

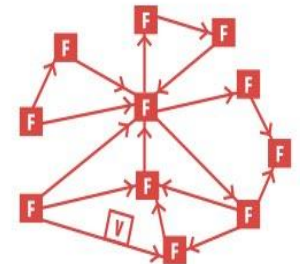
Input-Output Diagram



Fishbone Diagram



Relations Diagram



How Do I Revise?

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mind maps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start with a large piece of paper. • Revise a topic or a sub-topic. • Use a selection of words and diagrams. • Use colour, shapes, symbols, pictures and cuttings to bring the information to life. • Use lines and arrows to connect ideas. • Stick your learning map on your wall/door, anywhere it can be seen easily and often. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Revision Cards</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the information from one sub-topic to key points/bullet points. This could build up into a little booklet that you can carry wherever you are. You can put the key points on one side and the detail on the other if you want. • Create a quiz for yourself. For example, write key words on one side of your revision cards and definitions on the other side. Get a friend or family member to test you.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Copy, Cover, Check</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide your page into three columns. • Write key information in the left-hand column. • Go back to the top of your page. Cover the left-hand column and see how much you can remember to write into the middle column. Uncover and check your answers. Correct any mistakes. • Do it again! Cover both columns and try to recall more information to write into the final column. Check and correct. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Post-It Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create your own sorting activity. For example, write parts of a cycle or important dates on separate post-it notes and then try to organise them into the correct order. Do this a few times over a number of days. • Decorate your bedroom (or even your house!) with key information, facts, definitions etc that you need to know so that you are seeing them all the time.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Online</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask your teacher for any key websites that might be useful to help you revise. • BBC Bitesize is usually a great place to start as it covers lots of different subjects. • Go on Youtube sites set up by teachers and watch and listen to the information. Search for the topic you want to revise and find a presentation. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Practice Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask your teacher for practice questions that you can try out at home. • Look through your exercise book for questions similar to the ones on your exam. Try to rewrite your answers, improving them and following any teacher feedback. • Work with a partner to create your own exam-style tasks, then try to answer each other's questions.

How Do I Revise?

1. Space your practice

People who leave gaps between practice attempts go on to score higher. In fact, the longer the gaps, the higher the scores. The difference is huge: people who leave more than 24 hours between their first five attempts at a test/revision activity and their second five attempts score as highly, on average, as people who have practiced 50% more than them.

Research confirms this theory: if you want to study effectively, you should spread out your revision rather than cramming. This is easier said than done, but if you are organised enough, you can spend less time revising and remember more.

2. Make sure you fail occasionally

People who are most inconsistent when they first start have better scores later on. These people are pushing themselves to learn new things and make links with their existing knowledge which improves their overall memory and understanding.

The moral is clear: invest some time in trying things out, which may mean failing occasionally, if you want to maximise learning in the long run.

3. Practise the thing you'll be tested on

The big mistake many students make is not practising the thing they will be tested on. If your exam involves writing an essay, you need to practise essay-writing. Merely memorising the material is not enough.

Writing exam answers is a skill, just like playing an online game is a skill. You wouldn't try and improve at a game by trying to memorise moves, you'd practise making them. Other research confirms that practising retrieving information is one of the best ways to ensure you remember it.

4. Structure information, don't try to remember it

Trying to remember something has been shown to have almost no effect on whether you do remember it. The implication for revision is clear: just looking at your notes won't help you learn them.

Instead, you need to reorganise or rewrite the information in some way – whether by making notes of your notes, thinking about how what you're reading relates to other material, or practising writing answers.

5. Rest and sleep

A full night's sleep helps you learn new skills or retain information. Staying up all night to revise will increase your stress levels and cramming will not help your memory in the long term (see number 1).