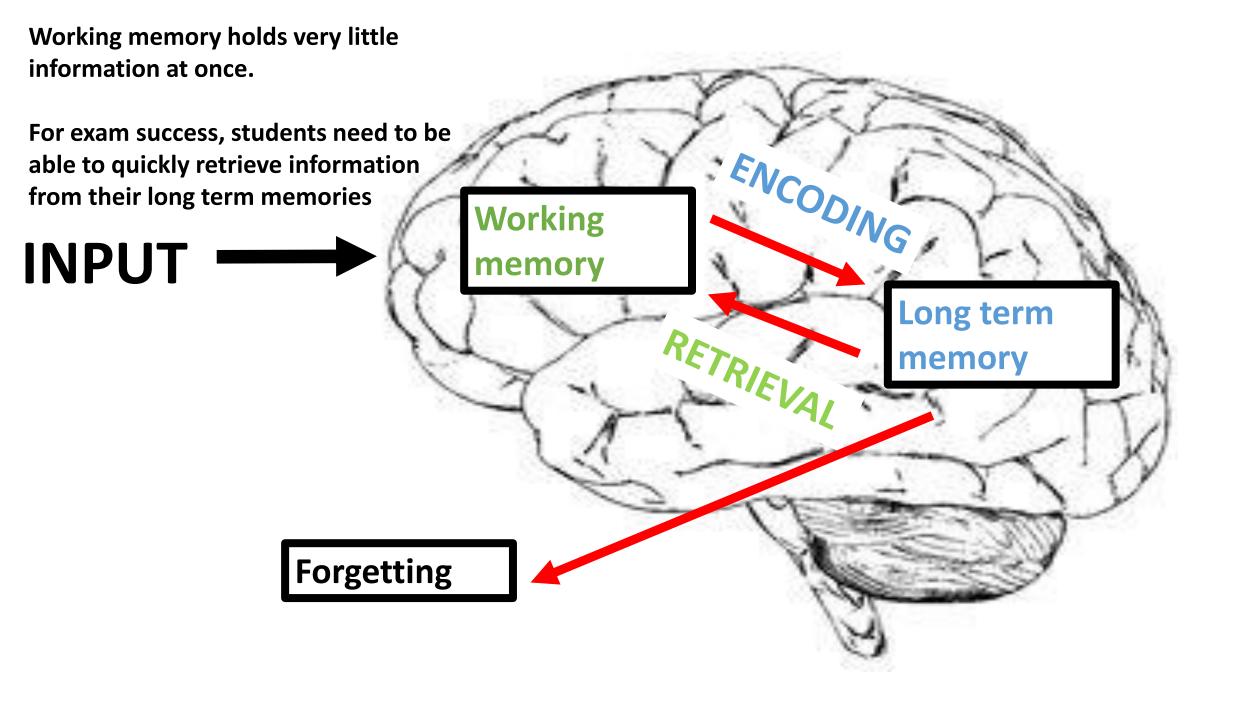


# How should I revise for my GCSEs?



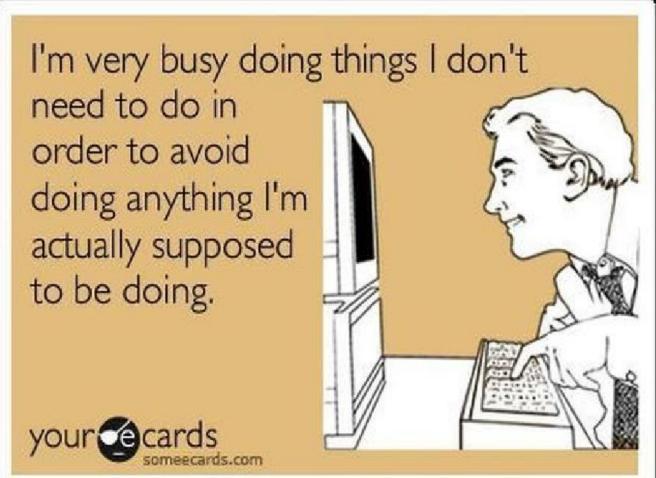
- 1. Remove distractions
- 2. INTERLEAVE Revise in 30 minute chunks, several subjects per day
- 3. DON'T use ineffective methods
- 4. DO use active revision techniques

#### **STEP ONE:**

#### Remove distractions

- 1. Remove distractions
- 2. INTERLEAVE Revise in 30 minute chunks, 3. DON'T use ineffective methods
- 4. DO use active revision techniques



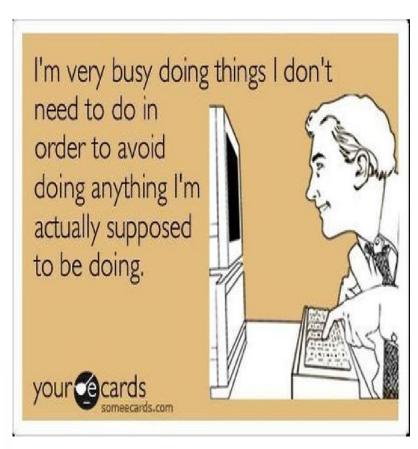


#### Switch off your music, put away your phone and focus



It is not possible to revise effectively whilst watching television, or playing a game or going online / listening to music!





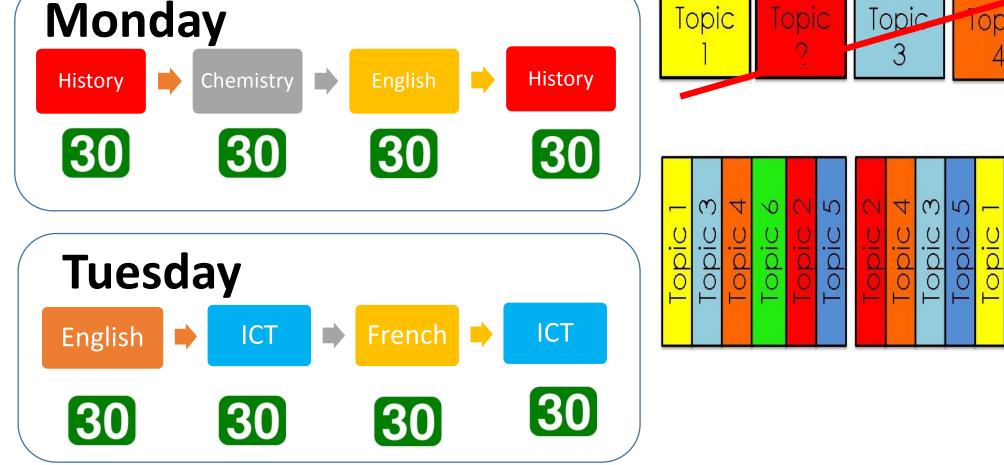
#### **STEP TWO:**

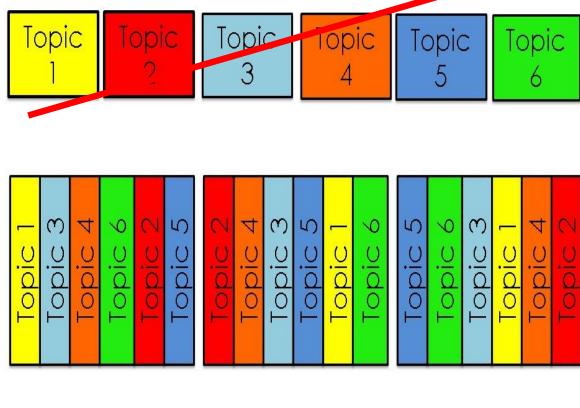
#### INTERLEAVE

- 1. Remove distractions
- 2. INTERLEAVE Revise in 30 minute chunks,
- 3. DON'T use ineffective methods 4. DO use active revision techniques

#### How many subjects per day?

Your memory works best when it is forced to mix up different subject. This is called interleaving.



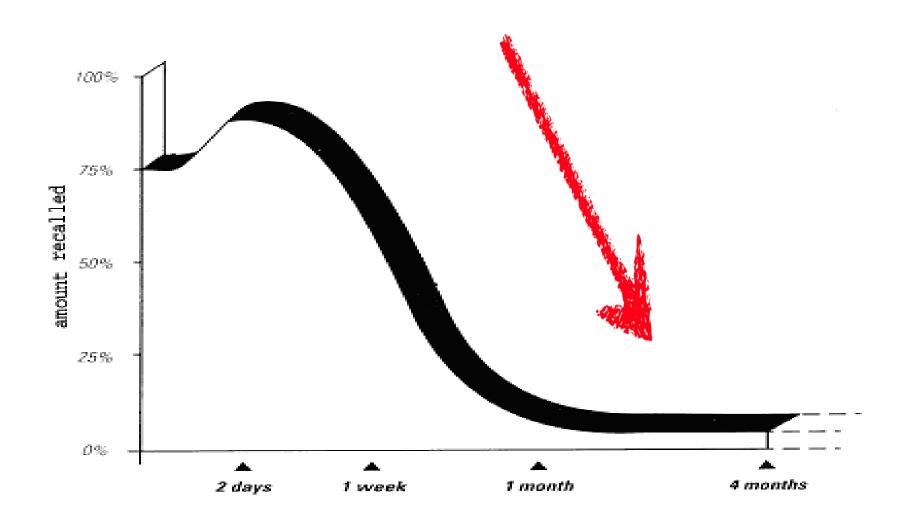


#### **STEP THREE:**

Don't use ineffective methods

- 1. Remove distractions
- 2. INTERLEAVE Revise in 30 minute chunks,
- 3. DON'T use ineffective methods 4. DO use active revision techniques

## What happened to all the stuff I learned last term?

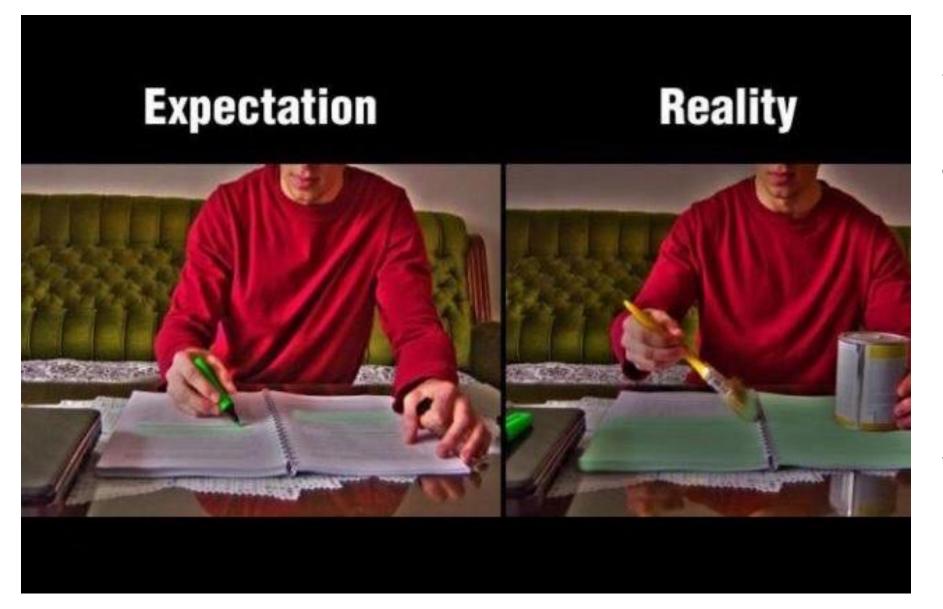


Don't... just re-read your book/textbook



In scientific studies on memory rereading notes does not score well as an effective revision technique

#### Don't...just highlight everything!

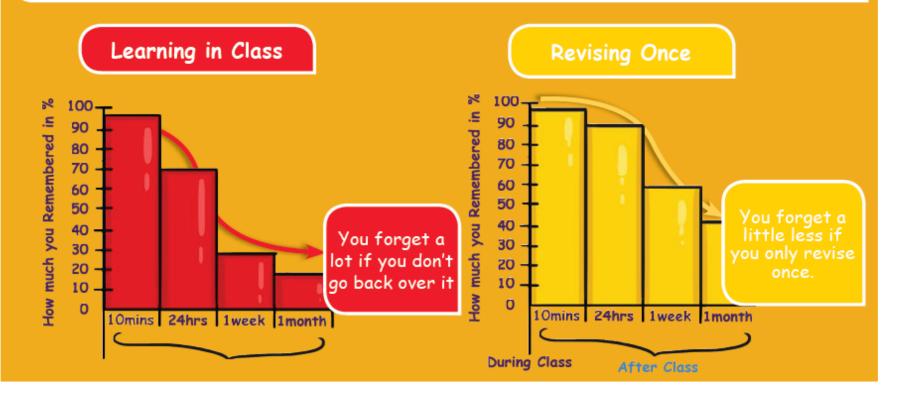


**Another** strategy that feels like you are doing something but doesn't actually help you remember much

## Relying only on turning up to lessons or only revising a topic once

#### The 'Forgetting Curve'

Back in 1885 Professor Ebbinghaus looked at how our memory works. He found that we forget things very fast unless we go back over them lots of times. This could explain why your revision does (or doesn't) work!

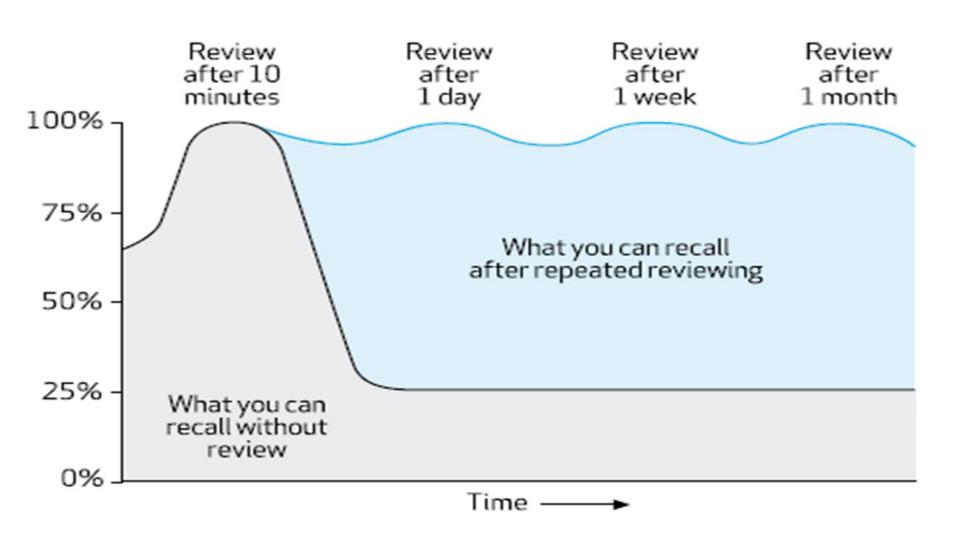


#### STEP FOUR:

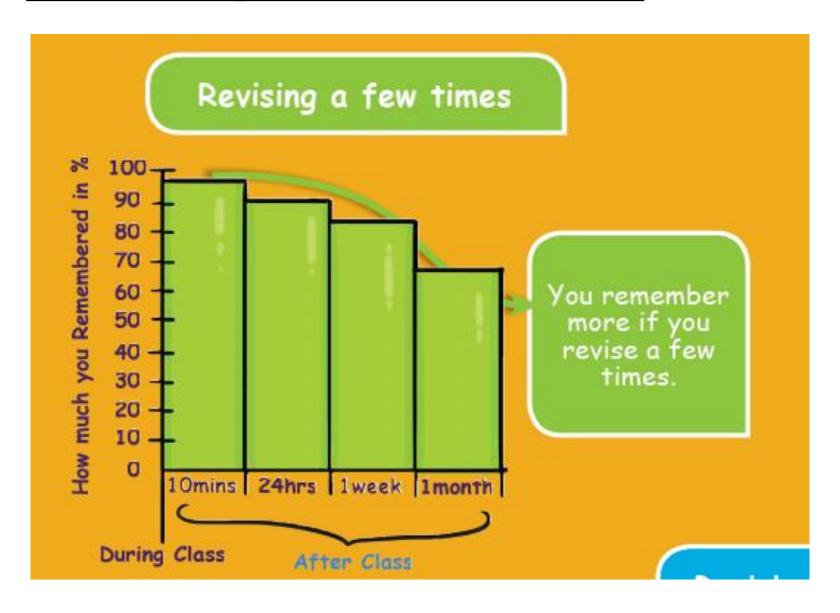
Do use active revision techniques

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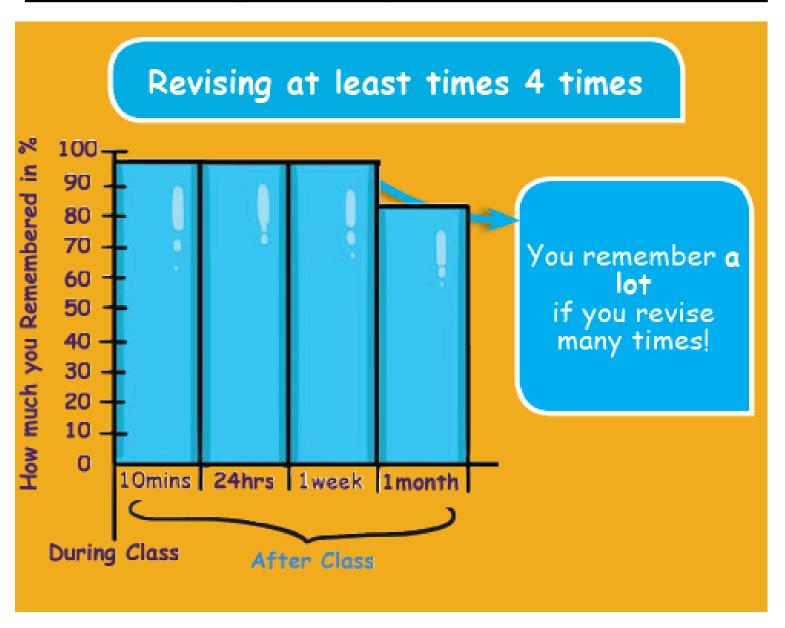
## You will remember so much more if you revise



#### Revising a few times...



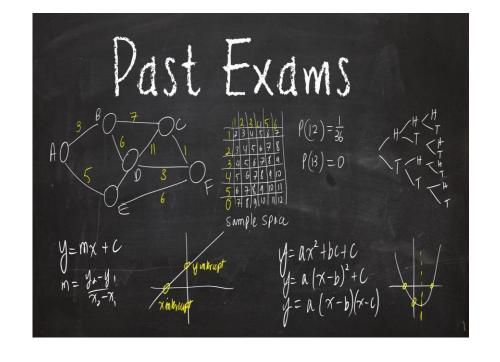
#### Revising a topic four times



### Do...test yourself







**Revision technique:** 

Retrieval Practice

 "Students who can test themselves or try to retrieve material from their memory are going to learn that material better in the long run", says Prof Dunlovsky.

#### What all does this mean? It means that people who test themselves regularly remember more.

#### Retrieval practice improves long-term memory retention in hundreds of studies

1906 Thorndike

1909 Abbott 1914 Myers

1917 Gates

1939 Spitzer

1940 Sones & Stroud

1968 Fishman, Keller, & Atkinson

1972 Atkinson & Paulson

1977 Kratochwill, Demuth, & Conzemius

1979 Bahrick

1980 Wenger, Thompson, & Bartling

1981 Duchastel

1982 Nungester & Duchastel

1983 Runquist

1985 Rea & Modigliani

1986 Rees

1988 Foos & Fisher

1989 Glover

1993 Bahrick, Bahrick, Bahrick, & Bahrick

1995, 2006 Hunt

2000 Cull

2002 Morris & Fritz

2003 Pashler, Zarow, & Triplett 2003 Wheeler, Ewers, & Buonanno

2005 Bahrick & Hall

2005 Bahrick & Hall

2005 Carpenter & DeLosh

2005 Pavlik & Anderson

2005 Roediger & Marsh

2006 Balota et al

2006 Balota, Duchek, Sergent-Marshall, & Roediger

2006 Carpenter and DeLosh

2006 Carpenter, Pashler, & Vul

2006 J. C. K. Chan, McDermott, & Roediger

2006 Roediger & Karpicke

2006 Roediger & Karpicke

2006 Rohrer & Taylor

2007 Barcroft

2007 Butler & Roediger

2007 Carpenter & Pashler

2007 Fritz, Morris, Nolan, & Singleton

2007 Karpicke & Roediger

2007 McDaniel, Anderson, Derbish, & Morrisette

2007 Metcalfe & Kornell

2007 Metcalfe, Kornell, & Son

2007 Butler & Roediger

2008 Agarwal et al.

2008 Bishara & Jacoby

2008 Butler, Karpicke, & Roediger

2008 Carpenter, Pashler, Wixted, & Vul

2008 Cepeda, Vul. Rohrer, Wixted, & Pashler

2008 Helder & Shaughnessy

2008 Karpicke and Roediger

2008 Logan & Balota

2008 Sommer, Schoell, & Büchel

2009 C. I. Johnson & Mayer

2009 C. K. Chan

2009 Carpenter, Pashler, & Cepeda

2009 Cepeda et al.

2009 Cranney et al.

2009 Cranney et al.

2009 J. C. K. Chan

2009 Kornell

2009 Kromann et al 2009 Kromann, Jensen, & Ringsted

2009 Marsh et al.

2009 Marsh, Agarwal, & Roediger

2009 McDaniel, Howard, & Einstein

2009 Metcalfe, Kornell, & Finn

2009 Pyc & Rawson

2009 Rohrer

2009 Toppino & Cohen

2010 Butler

2010 Fazio, Agarwal, Marsh, & Roedige

2010 J. C. K. Chan

2010 Jacoby, Wahlheim, & Coane

2010 Karpicke & Roediger

2010 Pyc and Rawson

2010 Rohrer, Taylor, & Sholar

2010 Sumowski, Chiaravalloti, & DeLuca

2010 T. A. Smith & Kimball

2010 Tse, Balota, & Roediger

2010 Vojdanoska, Cranney, & Newell

2010 Weinstein, McDermott, & Roediger

2010 Zaromb and Roediger

2011 Agarwal & Roediger

2011 Bouwmeester & Verkoeijen

2011 Carpenter & Vul

2011 Coppens, Verkoeijen, & Rikers

2011 Hinze and Wiley

2011 Kang, McDaniel, & Pashler

2011 Karpicke & Bauernschmidt

2011 Karpicke & Blunt

2011 Kornell, Bjork, & Garcia

2011 Maddox, Balota, Coane, & Duchek 2011 McDaniel, Agarwal, Huelser, McDermott, & Roediger

2011 Rawson & Dunlosky

2011 Roediger & Butler

2011 Roediger, Putnam, & Smith

2011 Schmidmaier et al.

2011 Vaughn & Rawson

2012 McDaniel, Wildman, & Anderson

2012 Pvc & Rawson



Frequently testing yourself will prevent you forgetting knowledge in your exam.

## Revision techniques: Read / cover / write / check. Repeat

Read your notes

Cover them up

Write down what you can remember

Check – did you leave anything out?

Repeat

Repeat this until you can be confident that you can remember all the material you need to know



### Revision techniques: Just a minute. Record yourself & play it back





Can you talk continuously for one minute about a topic you need to revise?

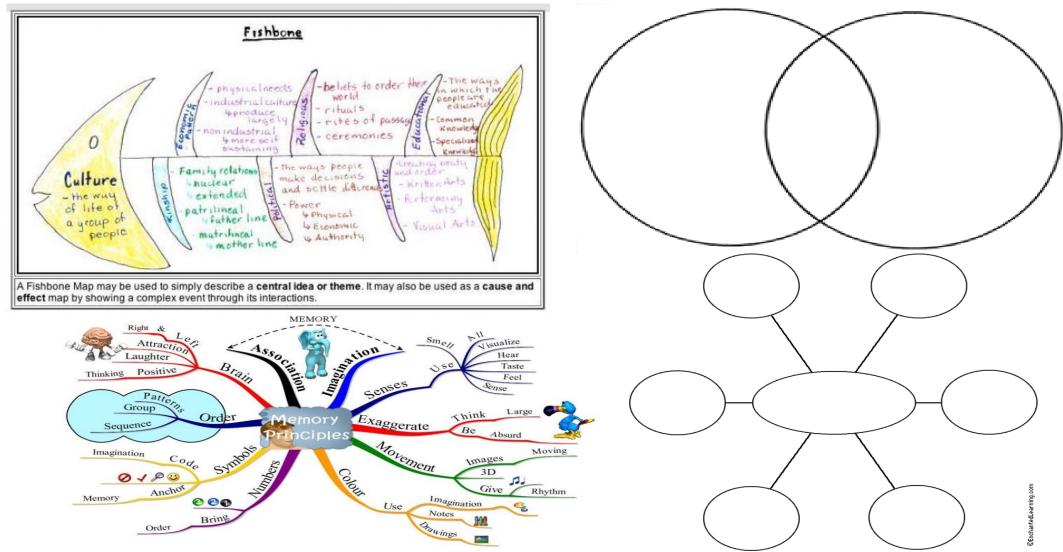
Doing this as part of your revision sessions will increase your confidence & highlight areas you need to focus on for further revision

#### Do...use flashcards

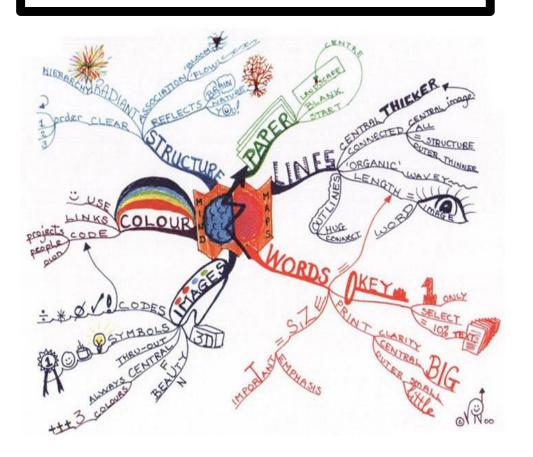




#### Do...use graphic organisers



## Dual coding – combining words & visuals.

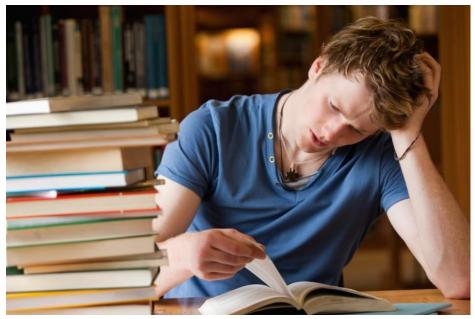


- √ Find visuals in your notes and explain them in your own words
- ✓ Draw images to go along with what you are trying to learn (remember)
- ✓ Try to come up with different ways to represent the information visually, for example an infographic, a timeline, a cartoon strip or a diagram of parts that work together.

## Revision techniques: Answer exam questions







Practice exam questions under timed conditions. This will help improve your technique & show you which topics you know a lot about & which you still have to learn.

### Memory Skills

- 1 Use IMAGINATION to make it MEMORABLE
  - 2 ASSOCIATE it to something you already know
  - 3 PRACTICE RECALLING it until you can't get it wrong

#### How will you remember this quote?

Out, out, brief candle!

Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets his hour upon the stage

And then is heard no more:



#### Make it memorable!



Out, out, brief candle!

Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets his hour upon the stage

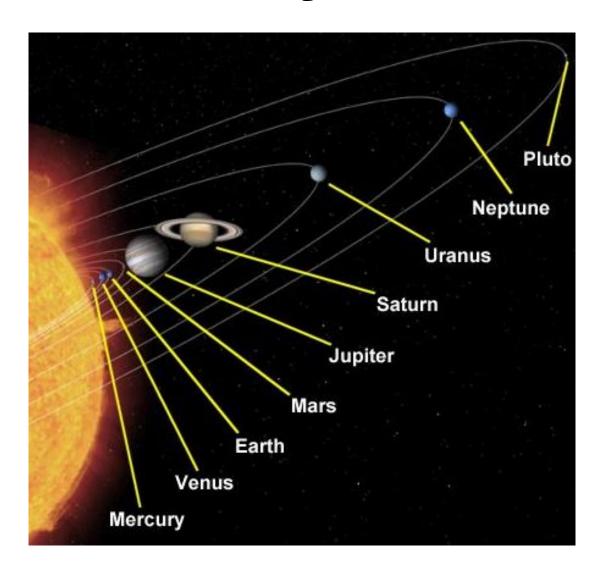
And then is heard no more:







#### Memory Skills - mnemonics

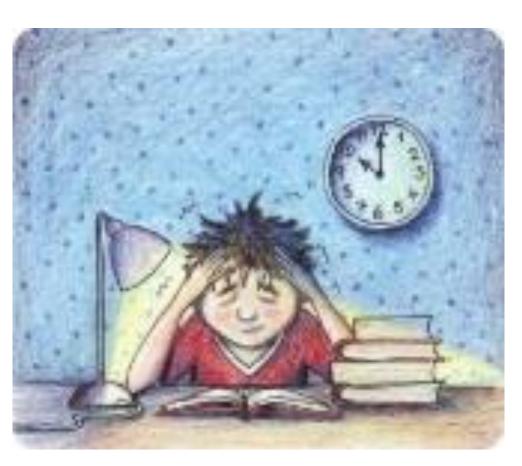


My very educated mother just sent us nine pizzas



## Managing stress as you approach your exams





#### Your best is all anyone expects. No one is perfect

#### TO REDUCE FEELINGS OF ANXIETY AND STRESS...

✓ Sleep well – 15 & 16 year olds need 9 hours of sleep per night to function well. Go to bed on time.



- ✓ Eat properly especially breakfast
- ✓ Exercise reduces stress
- ✓ Don't forget there is life after exams





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