



## Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

### Revision Hints & Websites

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① Below is a list of useful websites to assist in online revision:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize>

<http://www.parentsintouch.co.uk>

<http://www.projectgcse.co.uk>

<http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk>

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk>

<http://www.gcsepod.com>

<http://www.getrevising.co.uk>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/student-support/for-students/revision>

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/16205-supporting-your-child-at-exam-time.pdf>

Don't forget that GCSE revision guides and workbooks are available from CGP – ordered at the start of Y10 and Y11. In addition, the library and computer facilities are available for homework and revision every week day.

#### Other useful tips:

##### When at School

- Think about and analyse what the teacher is saying. Where does it fit in what you already know?
- If you are unsure of anything, ask the teacher to explain it again and listen to the answer. Write this down with the question to revise later.
- Listen to what others say and ask questions in class discussion.
- Keep tidy and readable notes. Try to write down the key ideas, facts and details.
- Find out about your learning style. How do you learn best?
- Make the most of any support that is offered to you – don't stick your head in the sand!

##### After School:

- Look through your notes for the day. Try to make them simpler or clearer, write them down again.
- Try to summarise facts and ideas from each subject in a simple sentence or two.
- Write yourself a quick quiz of 5 questions on each topic. After 30 minutes, do the quiz to see how much you remember.

## Revision tips

- Start your revision in good time
- Plan a revision timetable
- Highlight coursework deadlines and exam dates and times
- Plan 30 minute or maximum of one hour slots for each subject
- Revise specific topics in a subject, not the whole subject
- Cover areas from each subject several times
- Only revise a couple of topics per evening
- Leave some time to relax

## Try some of these to see which work best for you

- Music in the background can help, but don't revise with the TV or radio on
- Record yourself reading your notes and listen to the recordings at a different time
- Draw diagrams or mind maps instead of making written notes. Make flashcards of key terms.
- Use colour to write or highlight key words and ideas in your notes – use post its to help!
- Work with a friend to help and test each other
- Read through a topic and make brief note cards to use for revision later

## Being prepared for the exam

- You'll need a couple of pens, a sharpened pencil, a rubber, a ruler
- Check with your teacher in case you need any extra equipment
- Do you need a calculator or protractor?
- You might want to wear a watch in the exam – Can you tell the time on a clock?

## Tackling the exam

- Read each question carefully
- Check how many marks are available for each question. Don't write too much or too little.
- Answer the question – don't just repeat the question or write something irrelevant. BUG the question.
- Check information in graphs and tables. Have you read it correctly?
- Check all calculations/graphs/maps carefully.
- Check spelling. Write the answer even if you're not sure of the spelling as you may get a mark
- Write your answer if you feel confident. If not, go onto the next question. Don't spend time on questions you're unsure of until you've gone through the paper once.
- Make sure you have enough energy left to tackle the questions which are worth a high number of marks, but which may be at the end of the paper.

## Avoid common mistakes

- Read the questions carefully so that you don't miss the point
- Check how many marks are available for each question. Don't write too much or too little.
- Answer **ONLY** the questions on the topics studied.
- Remember to **PEEL** the questions worth 6 marks and above.