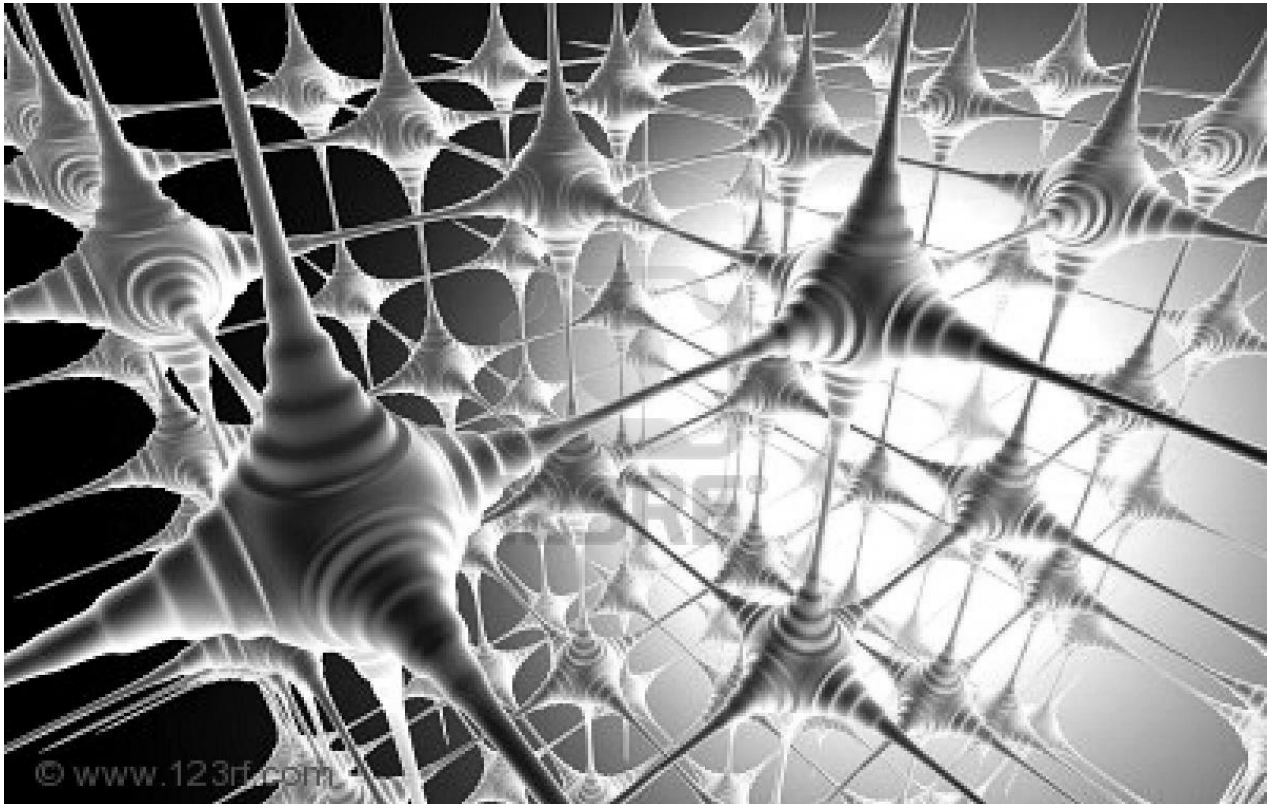


Revising for I Year Exams



I Year GCSE Mock Exams

Freman
COLLEGE

Essential Information

I Year exams provide you with an opportunity to experience how your real GCSE exams will be organised.

You will receive an individual timetable nearer to the exams.

They will take place in the Hall, Gym, HCC and Commodore or Lovelace. You will be told which room to go to and it will be on your timetable. You will be in the same seat for all your exams.

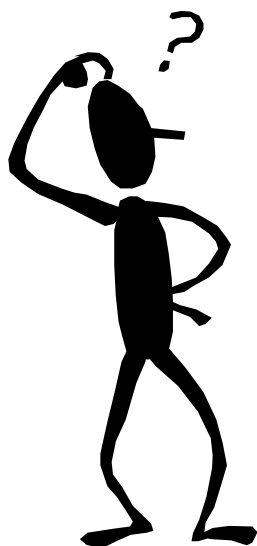
You will be asked to line up either alphabetically or by teaching group and enter the exam room silently.

Once you are in the exam room, you must be silent until you leave.

You are only allowed to take in a pencil case that is transparent or a clear plastic bag containing your equipment. Make sure you have a spare of everything.

Under no circumstances must mobile phones or watches be taken into the examination room. If you're found to have a mobile phone in your possession, the exam boards will disqualify you.

If you are too ill to attend an exam, you need to contact the school immediately and you will be expected to do your missed exam at the earliest opportunity.



There are many ways of revising for exams. You will have revised for end of term assessments many times and have an idea of what works for you.

Below are a few things to consider:

Don't leave it all to the night before – you simply won't be able to cram the information into your brain.

Don't just read through your notes – you'll forget it once you shut your exercise book.

Do use Seneca, BBC Bitesize, Active Learn, My Maths etc to support your learning.

Do break an exam down into the key topics you need to know and revise each topic separately.

Do plan your revision time to make sure you make the most of it.

Do revise a subject for 30 minutes and then take a 10-minute break before starting a new topic.

Eat breakfast every day!

Getting started

Before you start revising it is worth making sure you have everything at your fingertips. This will stop you wasting valuable time trying to find things.

EQUIPMENT :

- 🔑 Highlighters
- 🔑 Coloured pens
- 🔑 Post-It notes for formulas / key words
- 🔑 Phone for recording yourself / using apps

WHERE TO REVISE ?

- 🔑 Not in front of a screen or the TV.
- 🔑 Somewhere you feel comfortable working
- 🔑 It's worth trying to sort the bedroom out. Get rid of clutter, so you have proper space to work.
- 🔑 Lay out all the materials for each subject to save time.



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO REVISE?

- 🔑 Revision timetable
- 🔑 An up to date set of class notes.
- 🔑 Any revision materials given out by departments.
- 🔑 Revision topic lists

The revision roadmap: Your route to success

Split it up

Take each subject and split into topics.

Space it out

Revise a variety of topics, not one subject all in one go.

Organise it

Plan a timetable to check you're doing a spread of topics and subjects.

Test yourself

Make flash cards to test yourself, write your own tests and do lots of exam practice questions. Use out Top 5 strategies to help you.

Review it

Revise something more than once – go back to it at key times to check you know it.

How the Brain works

Revising is all about MEMORY. The memory is like a muscle. If you don't exercise it, it will grow weaker and weaker, but if you do exercise it, it will get stronger and stronger.

TAKE LOTS OF BREAKS.

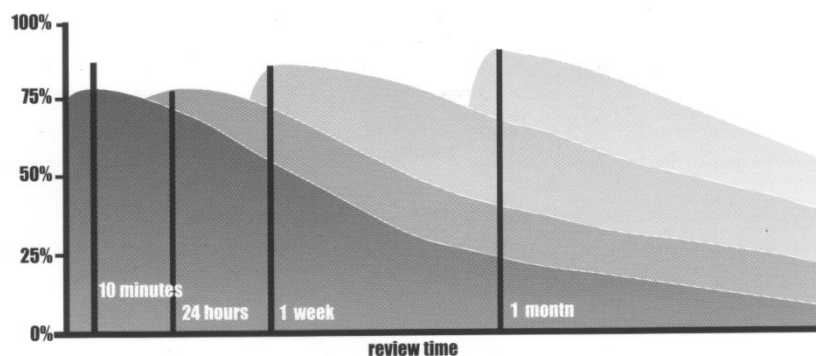
Most people can only concentrate, understand and remember **for between 20 and 45 minutes at a time**. DO NOT REVISE FOR LONGER WITHOUT A BREAK. If you do, most of what you do, you will not remember.

Once you have finished learning something, your brain actually increases its power and carries on remembering. It will be sorting out what it has been learning, creating a more complete picture of everything it has just learnt. Only then does the rapid decline in memory begin and as much as 80% of what you learn in a day can be forgotten almost immediately.

BUT WHAT CAN I DO TO STOP THIS?

GO SURFING!!

To maximise your learning, you need to catch the top of the wave of your memory. To do this, you need to look back at what you have been revising at the correct time, when the memory is stamped in far more strongly, and stays at the crest of the wave for a much longer time. Look at the diagram below:



You need to review what you have learnt:

- 🔑 After 10 minutes
- 🔑 At the end of a day
- 🔑 At the end of a week
- 🔑 At the end of a month
- 🔑 The week before the exams



REVISION STRATEGY 1

TOPIC ON A PAGE

1. Once you've decided which subject and which topic you want to revise, start with a blank piece of paper.
2. Create a spider diagram or a mind map of everything you can remember about that topic.
3. Now look at your notes on this topic. This could be from a revision guide, textbook, exercise book / folder or a trusted website.
4. In a different colour add information to your page that you had forgotten.
5. On the back of the sheet, write yourself some questions to test yourself later.

REVISION STRATEGY 2

EFFECTIVE FLASH CARDS

Effective flash-cards need two things:

- Good questions on one side
- Not too much information on the back – this should only be key words, bullet points and not whole sentences
- Once you've made a set for a topic, test yourself straightaway.
- Always put in two piles – those you know / those you don't.
- You then need to practise with your flash cards the next day, a week's time etc.

REVISION STRATEGY 3

DOING EXAM QUESTIONS

There are lots of past papers in subject folders in *Pupils Read Only*.

Look carefully at timings for each question – you shouldn't try to do a whole paper in a session.

1. Choose a question – time yourself to do it.
2. Now look at your notes on this topic. This could be from a revision guide, textbook, exercise book / folder or a trusted website.
3. Go back to your answer and decide what you missed out. Write this in margin / at end in a different colour.

REVISION STRATEGY 4


RECORD YOURSELF!

Sometimes it's hard to learn formulas, key dates, quotes or vocab in languages.

1. Record yourself saying them.
2. Listen to yourself saying them when you're on the bus, walking home, in the car etc.
3. Then sit down with pen and paper and create a spider diagram of all the words you can remember.
4. Listen back and add those you forgot in a different colour.

REVISION STRATEGY 5

USING WEBSITES / APPS!

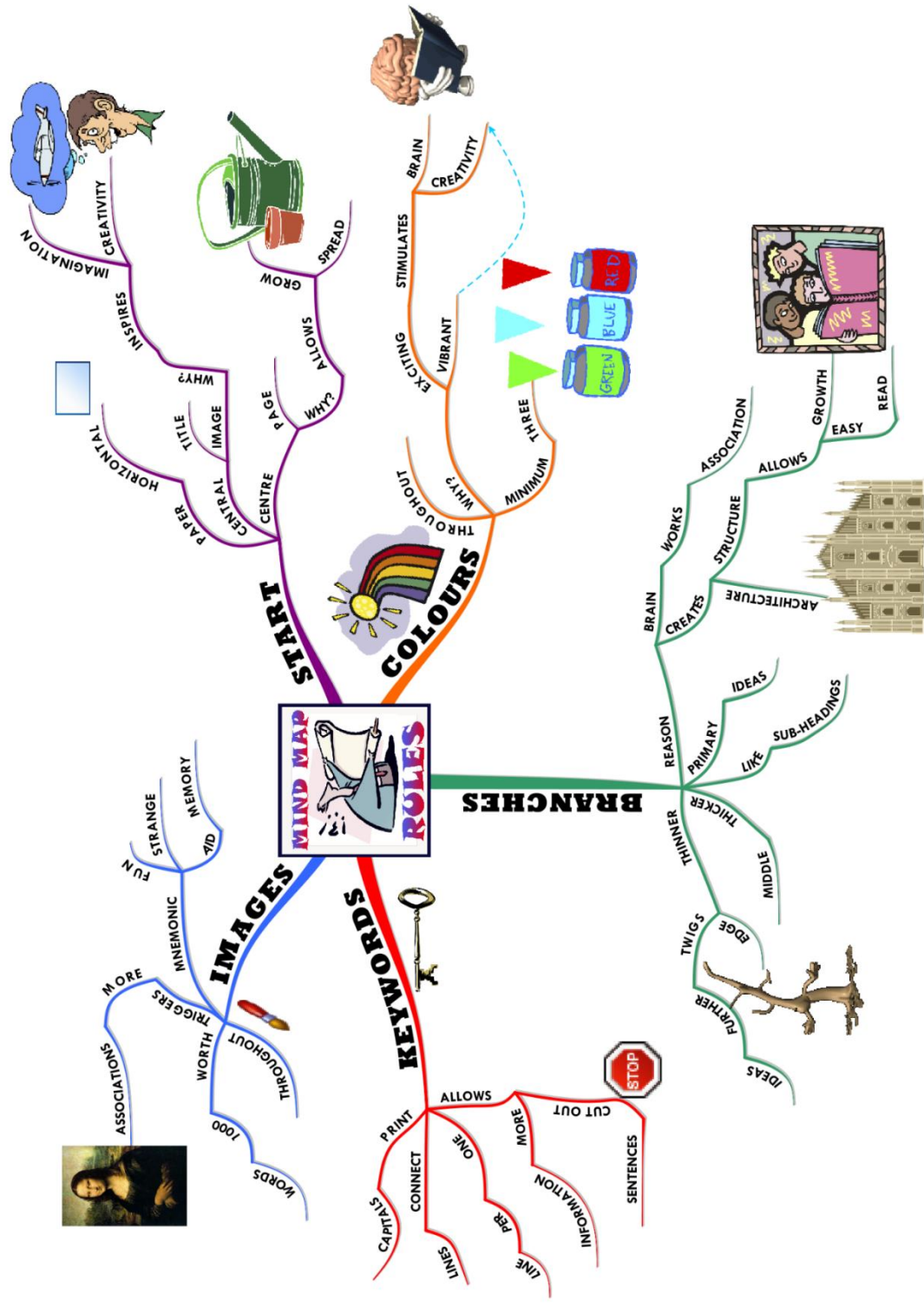
Don't waste time using 

The danger is you learn stuff that won't be in your exam!

You have Seneca, Active Learn, My Maths, BBC Bitesize and PIXL apps to use as well as the websites recommended by departments. (in Pupils Read Only – Revision).

1. Spend 15 mins on Seneca, My Maths etc and then move on to something else.
2. When using a website, you need to transform the information in some way:
 - Make a flow diagram
 - Make a spider diagram / mind map
 - Write yourself a test
 - Make flash-cards based on what you're reading

Creating a Mind Map



EXAMPLE OF A WEEKEND DAY TIMETABLE
 Split into sessions rather than rigid times

TIME	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
30 mins	Maths Fractions, Decimals, Percentages	Creative I/Media File properties and formats	Chemistry Periodic table groups
30 mins	Biology Topic 1	Business Studies Benefits of using technology in business	Latin vocabulary check
30 mins	RE Religion and animals	FOOTBALL MATCH	REVIEW SLOT
30 mins	History Medieval medicine		REVIEW SLOT

EXAMPLE A WEEKEND DAY TIMETABLE
Split into sessions rather than rigid times

TIME	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
30 mins			
30 mins			
30 mins			

