

Session 2: Revision Techniques

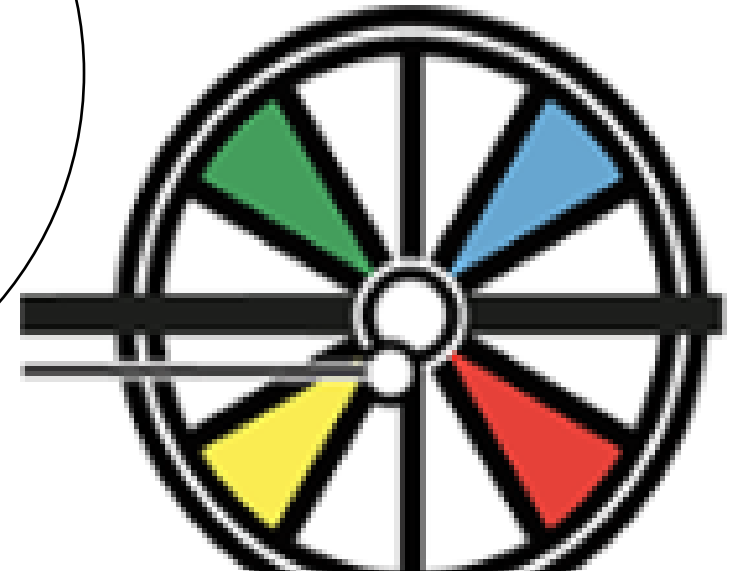


How do you revise? (5 minutes)



1. List **three** techniques you use to revise

2. Explain **one** challenge you face when you sit down to revise



Revision Techniques

- Which of these techniques will work for you?
 1. Make a timetable and stick to it
 2. Use a whiteboard/ Replicate from memory
 3. Summarise
 4. Flashcards
 5. Say it out loud/ study partners
 6. Practice papers/ questions & Mark schemes



Flash Cards



Flashcards

One of the most tried and tested revision techniques is flashcards, although not everyone uses them effectively.

They're useful because they force you to **condense information** down into a few **key words**, serving as **prompts** for you to recall further details. And once you've made the flashcards, you can use them to **test yourself**.

On the front of the card, you should have a **question or key term**. On the back, you should have either the **answer or the definition**. You need to try and guess the correct answer before checking or have someone else test you.



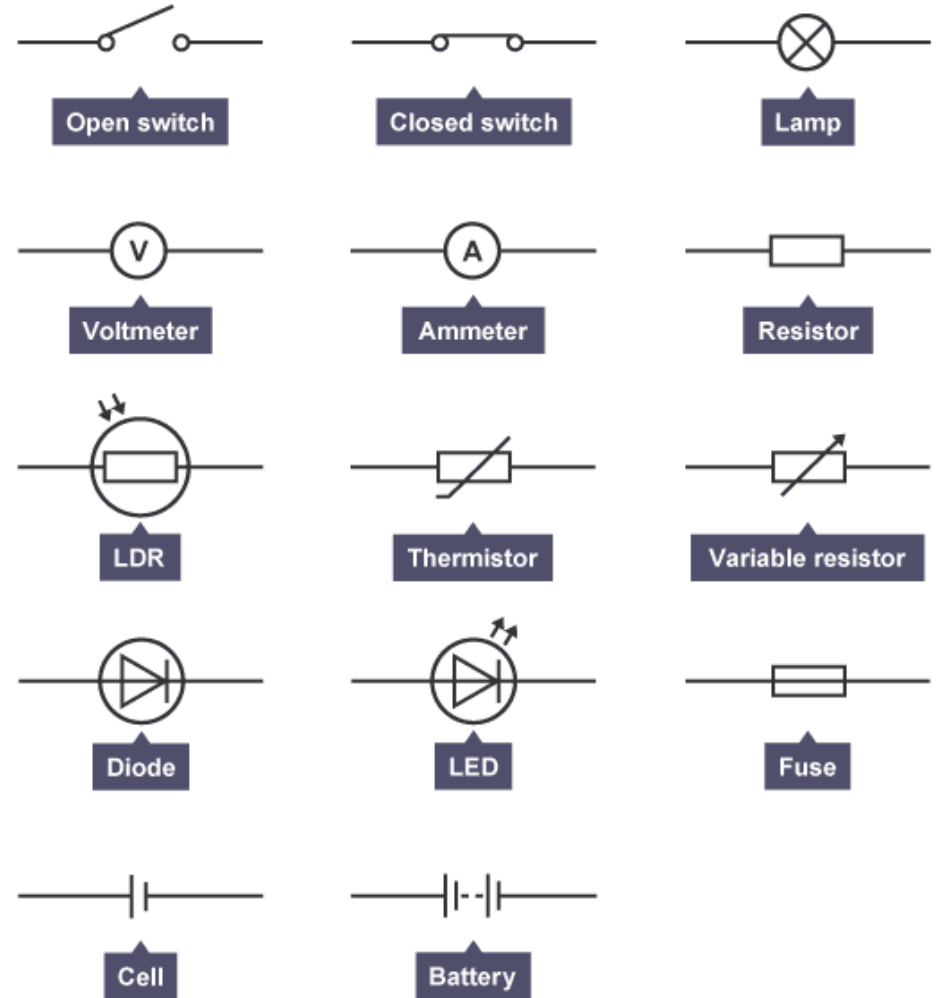
Flashcards (10 minutes)

Use the following information to make 5 flash cards.
Test yourself or each other until you score 5/5

[Electrical circuit symbols - Electric circuits - AQA - GCSE Combined Science Revision - AQA Trilogy - BBC Bitesize](#)

1. Follow the link to 'Electrical Circuits – AQA' revise pages
2. Choose any of the 'Pages' you need to revise
3. Create at least 5 flash cards

If you do not have your iPad, you can make circuit symbol flash cards – Choose those you need to revise



Summarise



Trigger Words & Summary

Most students end up writing far too many notes – half the time, they're more or less copying out the textbook or what the teacher is saying word-for-word.

Not only does this take ages, but it gives us very little help, and can just overwhelm us.

Trigger Words are all about extracting the most important information, and formatting it in a way that it becomes very easy to learn.



Task – 10 mins

Check the paragraph from typical GCSE English revision notes sheet, and highlight what you believe to be the most important words in the paragraph.

Tip: the number of words in these notes could be reduced by about 80%

[Social Class.pdf \(physicsandmathstutor.com\)](http://physicsandmathstutor.com)

Or use the print out in pairs to highlight the key words and summarise



Thinking Time - 5 mins

Which words were generally agreed on to be the most useful words? Why?

Which words were filler, and could be cut? Why?



Turning Summary into Flash Cards - 5 mins

Trigger Words are words that remind us of a larger amount of information. When we write notes to ourselves on the back of our hands, we don't write long sentences, we write one or two words: 'homework, present, etc.'

Using the highlighted words from the notes and summary, we can carefully create new flashcards

Turn your summary notes into flash cards



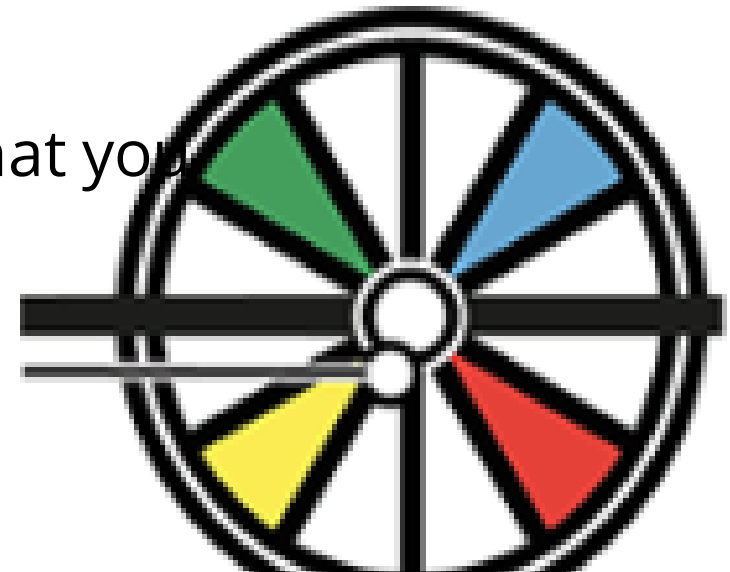
Past Papers



When and How To Use Past Papers

Why use past papers?

- Past paper questions have four main functions:
 - Assessing your current point to advise further revision
 - Picking apart mark schemes and examiner comments to improve your exam technique
 - Improving the pace of your work
 - Becoming familiar with the form and structure of what you will be sitting in the summer



When and How To Use Past Papers

When to use past papers?

- Past papers can be used when you:
 - feel secure in your knowledge and want to test it
 - want to review knowledge that you have not visited in a while
 - need to practise pace of exams
- Remember – Past paper practise does not need to be a whole paper!



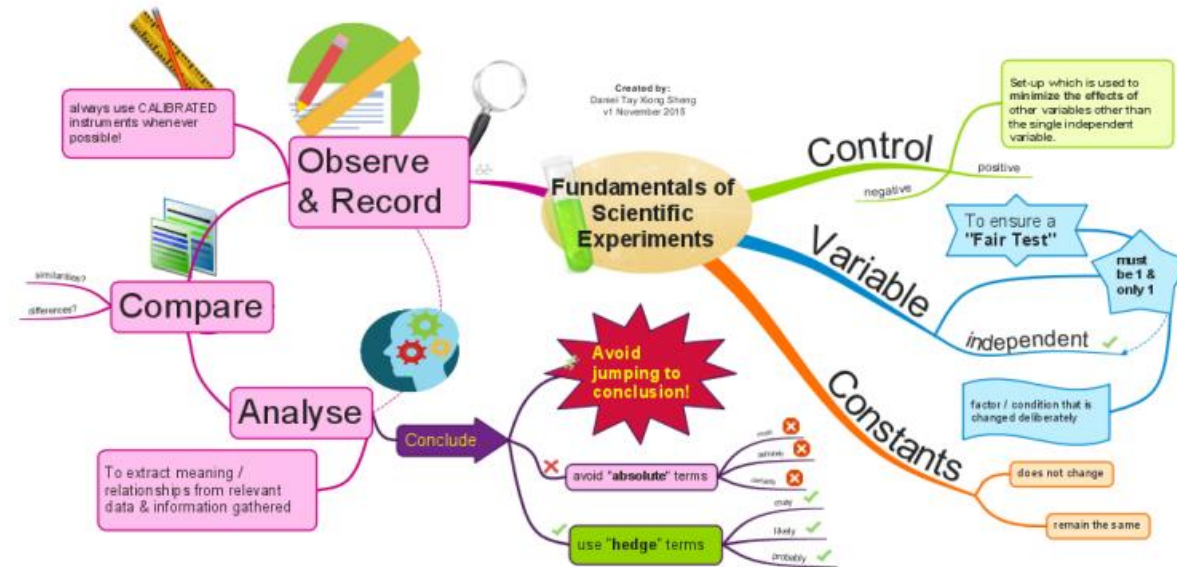
Mind Maps



What is a Mind Map?

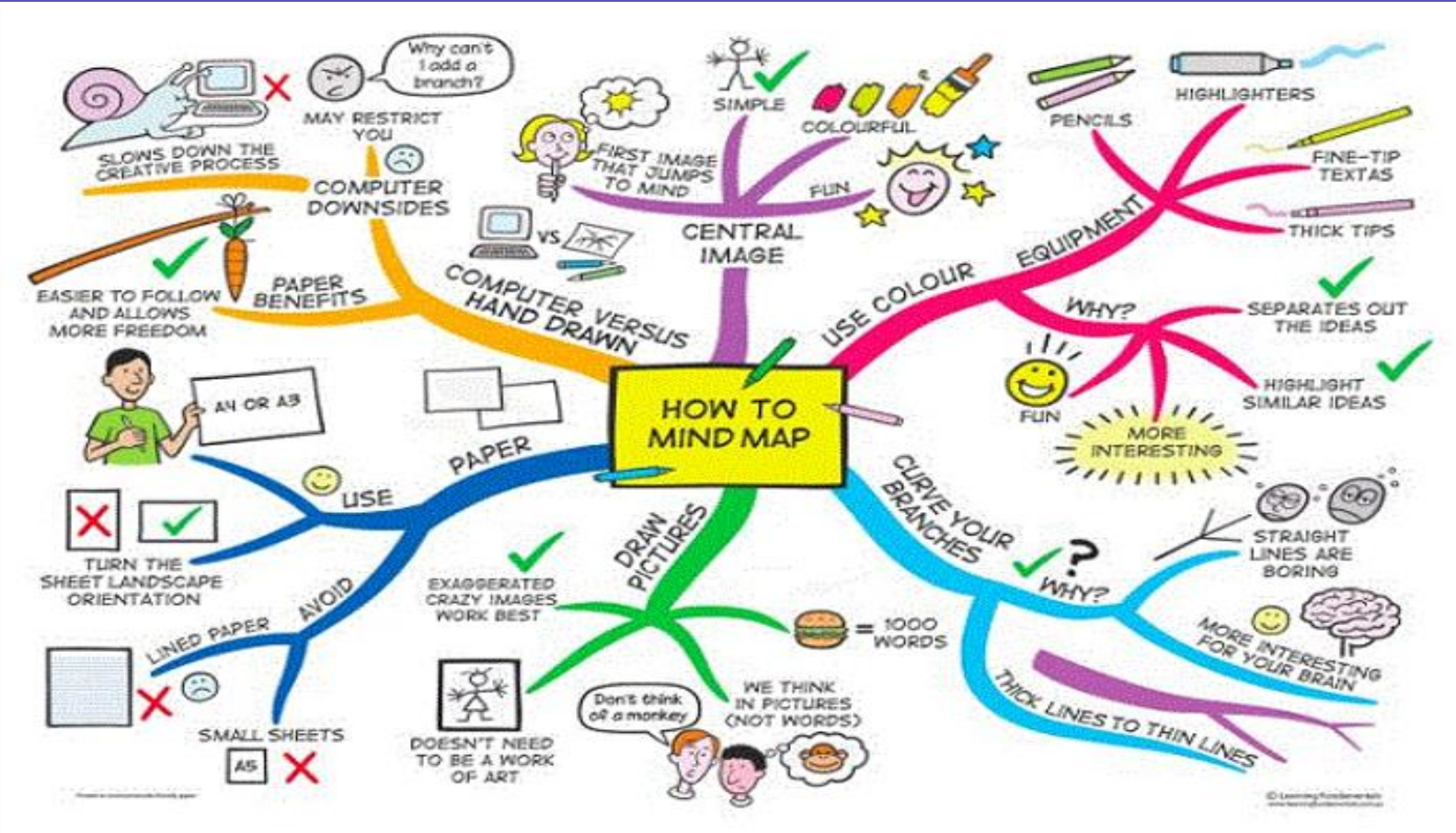
A Mind Map is a diagram in which information is represented visually, usually with a central idea placed in the middle and associated ideas arranged around it.

It is an easy way of getting lots of information onto a page, in a way that links learning which is easy to revise from.



Discuss - 2 mins

What is effective about this Mind Map?



How To

1. Write the theme in the middle of your page.
2. Draw the first branch; this is your first main idea.
3. Each sub-branch must relate to the main branch and idea.
4. Use key words and images rather than long explanations, and colour code the branches.
5. Reread and try to make further connections, showing these with lines to connect words/phrases/images.
6. Do not include too many branches; keep your concept map clear and easy to read.



Activity – 10 mins

Choose a theme that you would like to create a Mind Map for.
Begin with a branch, demonstrating your main idea and then
create a Mind Map.

For example, the theme of your Mind Map may be *Mathematics*
and then some of your main branches may be *Algebra, Ratios,*
and *Geometry.*

