

# Secondary Revision Tips and Techniques

Method	Explanation
Revision timetable	Getting organised helps you to focus and motivates you. It also helps you to identify how much time you need to spend on different areas. It is a great starting point from which to build.
Exam practice	You don't need to endlessly practise papers – although some whole-paper practice is good. Break the paper down into question types and think about what skills/content is repeatedly required for those types of questions. Start with the ones you find most difficult.
Collaborate	Revising together does not mean just socializing, but it can be really productive to revise with a friend and share notes/tips/ideas. Test each other orally on your knowledge and peer assess each other's written answers.
Take regular breaks	This doesn't mean that you shouldn't do anything at all, but you should give your brain a chance to reboot. Make sure you have healthy snacks, water and get plenty of exercise in between revision sessions – prepare these beforehand so you don't waste time throughout the day.
Revision flashcards: key facts/quotations/terms	Make a set of revision flashcards – these could have a term on the front with a definition on the back. You could also use these for sequencing, learning processes, quotations or for essay planning. They are multipurpose and will be really useful.
Make purposeful revision diagrams	Diagrams can be useful, even for written subjects – whether you are looking at character development or a lifecycle, these can help. Don't waste time making them works of art – stick to clear, simple facts... and stick them up EVERYWHERE!
Sit at a proper desk and start early	Starting early in the day will still leave you time to relax later and ensure you feel on top of everything. Sitting at a proper desk will help you focus and prevent you getting so easily distracted.
Don't just read notes	Reading your notes endlessly isn't the way to do it. Create mind maps, flashcards, written responses and other visual aids.
Test yourself	Decide on the key things you want to know by the time you have finished revising that topic and create a test before you begin. You can then use this test to ensure your revision has been successful. If it hasn't, try some new techniques for this topic.
Spread it out	Spreading your revision out over time (rather than rushed at the last minute) is proven to be far more successful. Spend a small amount of time on everything you have to learn and repeat regularly.
Speak to your teacher/tutor	If there's anything you are unsure of – ask! Your teachers will have other resources and tasks that can help. You're not alone.