#### We aim to:

Give you some clear strategies for effective revision

 Give advice about your health and well-being people during what can be a stressful period



## How many school days until internal exams?



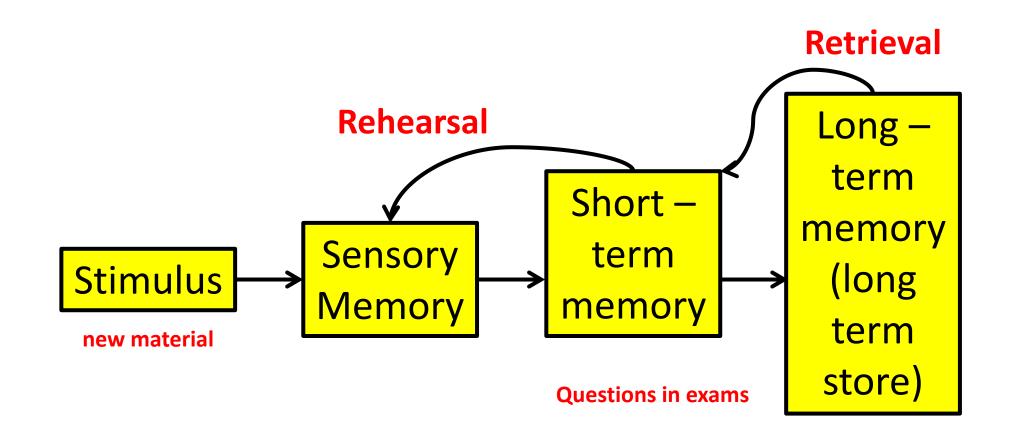


# Before starting to revise, what do you need to ask yourself?

Why?
When?
What?
Where?
Who with?
How?

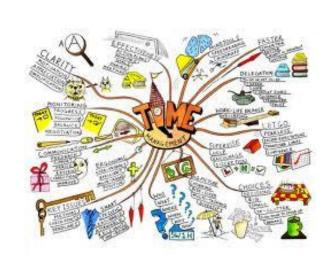


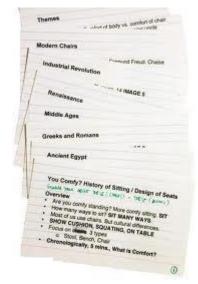
## Why do we revise?





## What techniques do these represent? Which do you currently use? How? Do they work? How do you know?





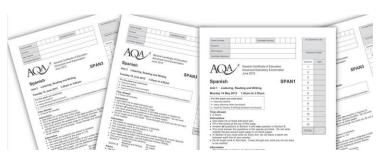
















### Which do you think were found to have the best impact?

- Distributed practice (short sessions)
- Elaborative interrogation (turning facts to be learned into why-questions and then answering them)
- Self explanation (explaining to yourself what you are doing and thinking)
- Regular practice testing
- Interleaved practice
- Summarising
- Highlighting
- Mnemonics
- Regular practice testing
- Imagery to represent text
- Re-reading

Dunlowsky et al (2013) studied 10 strategies used by students to revise and prepare for examinations.



## Effective revision strategies - what the research says

- Higher effectiveness
  - Regular practice testing
  - Distributed practice (short sessions)



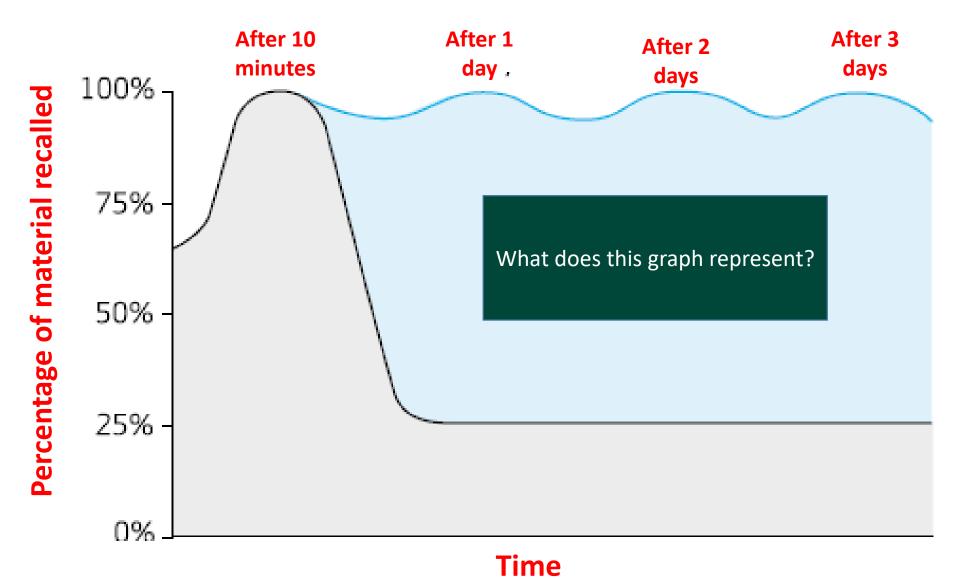
There is a strong scientific consensus that regular and distributed practice have the greatest impact and should be part of any revision strategy.

- Moderate effectiveness
  - Elaborative interrogation (turning content into why-questions and then answering them)
  - Self explanation (explaining to yourself what you are doing and thinking)
  - Interleaved practice
- Lower effectiveness
  - Summarising
  - Highlighting
  - Mnemonics
  - Imagery to represent text
  - Re-reading

A blend is more effective than using one technique in isolation



## Memory performance over time





## Help or hindrance?

- A 2010 study (Perham and Vizard): music did <u>not</u> improve learning;
- In the study someone else talking, music enjoyed by students and music disliked by students all had a similarly distracting effect;
- The best condition for study and the learning of new information was silence.







#### Examinations and stress

We need to distinguish between:

- A Eustress (positive and motivational)
- B Distress (damaging to health and relationships)



## Recognising stress

- These are high stakes examinations and you might be feeling under pressure;
- This pressure might begin to grow between now and May;
- You can take control of this
- Your teachers have a plan so trust them
- Remember, a bit of anxiety is positive and motivational







#### Remember:



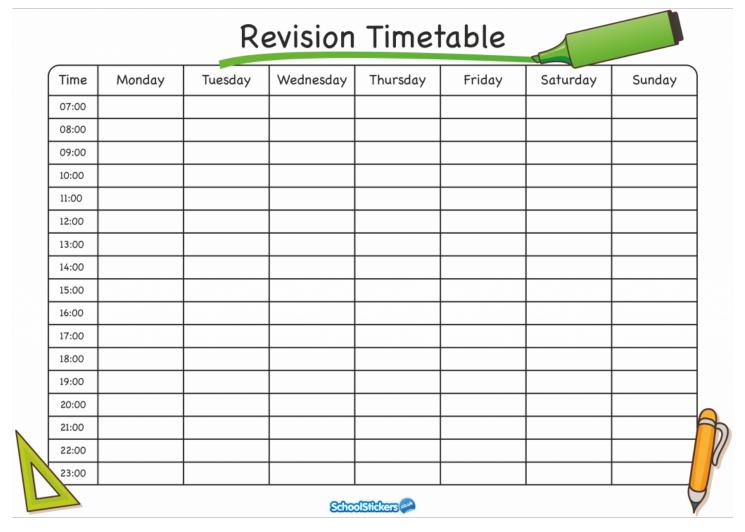


## Organisation is key

- What is the purpose of a revision timetable? It is to make sure that you avoid the urgent!
- A revision timetable allows you to:
- Clearly see how much time you have remaining.
- Distinguish between the important and the urgent.
- Reduces stress.



## You may have already started – if not it's time





## 7 Simple Revision Strategies

- 1. Display your exam timetable and revision timetable in a place where you, your family and visiting friends will see it regularly.
- 2. Use 40 10 revision technique. 40 minutes work, 10 minutes break.
- 3. <u>Never</u> rely on reading alone to revise. Make sure you are processing information by solving problems, producing concept maps or writing short notes.
- 4. <u>Do</u> keep up hobbies like sport or music. Maintain a social life but in moderation.
- 5. Get up early and eat a proper breakfast on revision and exam days. Choose foods carefully.
- 6. Vary the subjects you revise, saving your favourites for last.
- 7. Ask your teachers for advice on exam technique they're the experts.



## During the examination

- 1. Read the entire question before answering, checking that you have also looked at any additional text, graphs, tables or other information.
- 2. Look for important command words like describe, explain, compare, analyse or evaluate in the questions. (Highlight these command words)
- 3. Look at the number of marks available for each question this is a guide to how many separate written statements are needed, the required length of the answer, the amount of time to spend on the answer, or how many stages there are in a calculation.
- 4. Find any additional help sheets available to you (for example a formula or data sheet in science).
- 5. Always finish a question, even if you think you made a mistake at an early stage or had to make a guess. You will score marks despite this.
- 6. Show all of your working out in mathematical calculations.
- 7. Check carefully for errors at the end. If you used a calculator in any questions, check these questions first.
- 8. Check the whole paper (even the back page) to make sure that you have answered every question that you should have.



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- Go to <u>www.gcsepod.com</u>
- Click LOGIN
- If you haven't already logged on, click 'New Here? Get Started'
- Click onto Student
- Enter your details and 'Wellsway School' select when it appears.
- 1. Enter the following details:
  - First name test
  - Last name test
  - DOB 21/03/2002
  - School Wellsway School
- 2. Create a username and password and hint
- 3. Click login
- 4. Click I'm ready, let's go!





## General tips

- Use revision aids and guides
- Try different revision techniques
- Use recommended web sites
- Use exam questions
- Create a REVISION ENVIRONMENT







REDUCE DISTRACTIONS



## You won't get everything right first time.

