



THE DEAN TRUST

Ashton on Mersey School

KS3 REVISION NEWSLETTER

SUPPORTING SUCCESS IN YOUR END OF YEAR EXAMS

Dear Pupils and Parents/Carers,

As End of Year exams commence we turn our attention to revision skills for KS3 - I have attached a suggested revision strategy map and suggested revision timetable for core subjects.

There will be exams for all subjects so please prepare for all.

In this newsletter you will find bespoke strategies for each subject area. Additional resources will be found on the MCAS app as well.

Please do contact your child's teacher if you have any subject specific questions.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish KS3 pupils best of luck in their upcoming examinations.

C Roberts

Assistant Headteacher KS3



WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS

Pupils: Take ownership of your revision using these strategies.

Parents/Carers: Your support, encouragement and helping to create routine make a huge difference.



Small, regular steps now lead to big results later.

You've got this!

IN THIS NEWSLETTER



4 PROVEN REVISION STRATEGIES

Simple, effective strategies to help you learn and remember more.



WEEKLY REVISION TIMETABLE

A clear plan covering English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Spanish.



SUBJECT-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES

Bespoke tips and techniques for each subject area.



EXTRA RESOURCES

Additional materials available on the MCAS app.

“

Aspire to be your best.

Believe in yourself.

Achieve more than you thought possible.

KS3 REVISION STRATEGY MAP

USE THESE FOUR PROVEN STRATEGIES TO REVISE EFFECTIVELY AND BUILD CONFIDENCE

1 RETRIEVAL PRACTICE



Take note, then:

- Write what you remember.
- Use a blank page, mini-whiteboard, or self-quiz. Check answers afterwards and add missing facts in a different colour.



PUPIL

Tell me everything about photosynthesis / fractions / the Tudors.



PARENT

Ask, "What are the 3–5 key facts?" then let them answer without prompts.

2 SPACED REVISION



Little and often beats last-minute cramming. Revise topics after 1 day, 3 days, and 7 days. Keep coming back to key subject.



PUPIL

Monday → Science cells, Thursday → cells again, next Monday → cells once more.



PARENT

Help schedule short sessions and protect one evening for rest/sport.

3 INTERLEAVING



Mix subjects and question types. Don't do 60 minutes of one topic. Try 20 min Maths, 20 min English, 20 min Science, 20 min Humanities, then finish with a 5-minute recap.



PUPIL

Cells → The Tudors → MacBeth → Percentages → The Tudors → Imperfect Tenses.



PARENT

Check the timetable has variety and a clear stop time.

4 EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE



Practice the way exams are awarded. Use past class questions, textbook tests, or teacher-set tasks. Time yourself and mark with the mark scheme or success criteria.



PUPIL

Timer one timed question, then improve it using feedback.



PARENT

Ask, "What would earn the next mark?" rather than "Did you get it right?"

ONE-WEEK KS3 REVISION TIMETABLE

DAY	4:00 – 4:30PM		4:35 – 5:05PM		5:10 – 5:40PM		5:45 – 6:15PM		EVENING CHECK
MONDAY		English Reading & analysis retrieval		Maths Skills & problem practice		Science Key concepts retrieval		Spanish Vocabulary & phrases	 5 min recap List 3 things you can answer from each subject
TUESDAY		English Retrieval & fluency		Maths Working skills practice		Humanities Knowledge recall		Science Exam-style questions	
WEDNESDAY	REST, RECHARGE, READ Take a break – your brain learns when you rest.								
THURSDAY		Science Retrieval & definitions		Maths Exam-style questions		English Creative / descriptive writing		Humanities Case studies / source skills	 5 min recap List 3 things you can answer from each subject
FRIDAY		Spanish Grammar practice		Maths Mixed question practice		Science Calculations & graphs		English SPaG & vocabulary	
SATURDAY		Humanities Retrieval & key dates		Spanish Listening or reading task		Maths Timed mixed paper		English Timed question practice	
SUNDAY	WEEKLY REVIEW & PLAN 30–40 min past paper or longer task. Check weak areas and plan next week.								

ENGLISH



ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment Length: Two 50-minute sessions

Assessment Structure:

PART 1 – KNOWLEDGE & ANALYSIS

- Vocabulary
- Context
- Story Structure
- Metaphor
- Deconstructed Essay Writing

PART 2 – CREATIVE WRITING

- Sentence Structures
- Narrative Writing
- Viewpoint Writing



WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS REVISE?



LITERARY KNOWLEDGE

Students should be able to:

- Define key literary terminology
- Identify different literary forms
- Recognise genre conventions
- Understand characterisation
- Explain staging and dramatic techniques



UNDERSTANDING DRAMATIC STRUCTURE

Students should be able to identify the stages of a dramatic comedy:

1. Harmony
2. Complication
3. Disorder or Chaos
4. Resolution
5. Restoration



COMEDY & CONTEXT

Students should revise the key comedic conventions:

- Satire
- Slapstick
- Romantic humour
- Wordplay and puns
- Parody
- Stock characters

Students should be able to explain how writers use these conventions to entertain audiences.



ESSAY WRITING SKILLS



THESIS STATEMENTS

- Use subordinating conjunctions
- Create balanced arguments
- Explore contrasting ideas



TOPIC SENTENCES

- Develop a single clear idea
- Link back to the thesis
- Use precise vocabulary



EMBEDDED QUOTATIONS

- Integrate quotations fluently
- Avoid dropping quotations
- Select evidence carefully



ANALYSIS

- Analyse individual words
- Identify language techniques
- Explain writer's methods
- Explore effects on the audience



CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Students should revise and practise:

- Narrative viewpoint
- Character thoughts and feelings
- Descriptive writing
- Varied sentence structures
- Accurate punctuation



KEY MESSAGE

Success in English comes from combining strong reading skills, thoughtful analysis and effective writing techniques. Students who regularly practise vocabulary, analytical writing and creative writing will be best prepared for their End of Year examinations.



ENGLISH REVISION HUB



BBC Bitesize
English



Oak National
Academy



Seneca
Learning



CGP KS3
Revision Guides



Vocabulary
Revision



Writing Skills
Support



SCAN FOR YEAR 8
ENGLISH REVISION
RESOURCES



ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



BBC Bitesize English

Grammar, literary devices and analytical writing support.



Oak
Academy

Oak National
Academy

Lesson videos covering reading and writing skills.



Seneca Learning

Interactive retrieval practice and knowledge checks.



CGP KS3
English Guides

Excellent support for literary terminology and writing techniques.



Vocabulary
Revision

Regularly revisit subject vocabulary to build confidence and precision.



EXAM TECHNIQUE & SUCCESS STRATEGIES

READ COMMAND WORDS CAREFULLY

	Describe	State what you notice.
	Explain	Give reasons and explore meanings.
	Analyse	Explore how language or structure creates meaning.
	Compare	Identify similarities and differences.
	Evaluate	Make a judgement and support it with evidence.

BUILDING STRONG ANALYTICAL RESPONSES



SUCCESS CHECKLIST

- ✓ Read every question carefully
- ✓ Underline key command words
- ✓ Use subject terminology accurately
- ✓ Embed quotations smoothly
- ✓ Analyse individual words
- ✓ Comment on methods and techniques
- ✓ Check spelling, punctuation and grammar
- ✓ Leave time to proofread



HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT

- ✓ Encourage regular reading at home
- ✓ Discuss books, films and characters
- ✓ Support vocabulary learning
- ✓ Encourage planning before writing
- ✓ Ask students to explain their ideas aloud
- ✓ Praise effort, resilience and improvement



YEAR 9 ENGLISH REVISION CHECKLIST

EXTRACT COMPARISON QUESTIONS

1 UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION



- ☐ Highlight key command words.
- ☐ Identify what you are comparing.
- ☐ Look for both similarities and differences.
- ☐ Focus on thoughts, feelings, attitudes or perspectives.



KEY KNOWLEDGE TO LEARN

2 KEY VOCABULARY TO REVISE

A-Z

Know these terms:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ Juxtaposition | ☐ Perspective |
| ☐ Connotation | ☐ Pejorative |
| ☐ Metaphor | ☐ Solitary |
| ☐ Repetition | ☐ Incentive |
| ☐ Euphemism | ☐ Derisive |

3 COMPARISON CONNECTIVES



SIMILARITIES

- ☐ Similarly
- ☐ Likewise
- ☐ In the same way
- ☐ Both
- ☐ Equally

DIFFERENCES

- ☐ However
- ☐ In contrast
- ☐ Whereas
- ☐ On the other hand
- ☐ Conversely

4 ANALYSE METHODS



- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Language choices | ☐ Word choice |
| ☐ Imagery | ☐ Emotive language |
| ☐ Repetition | ☐ Juxtaposition |
| ☐ Sentence structure | ☐ Metaphor |

5 NOUGHTS & CROSSES KNOWLEDGE



Remember:

- ☐ Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat.
- ☐ The Bus Boycott challenged segregation.
- ☐ Sephy is a Cross.
- ☐ Callum is a Nought.
- ☐ The novel explores prejudice and inequality.
- ☐ Perspective changes between narrators.

6 STRUCTURE YOUR ANSWER



POINT

What is similar or different?

EVIDENCE

Choose a quotation from each extract.

ANALYSIS

Explain methods and effects.

COMPARE

Clearly compare both writers.

7 CHECK BEFORE YOU FINISH



- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| ☐ Have I compared throughout? | ☐ Have I used quotations from BOTH extracts? | ☐ Have I identified methods? | ☐ Have I analysed language? | ☐ Have I explained similarities and differences? | ☐ Have I answered the question fully? |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|



EXAM TIP

- ★ The best comparison answers:
- ✓ Compare throughout
 - ✓ Use quotations from both extracts
 - ✓ Analyse individual words
 - ✓ Explain methods
 - ✓ Discuss similarities and differences
 - ✓ Link back to the question



COMPARE →
EVIDENCE →
ANALYSE →
COMPARE AGAIN



KNOWLEDGE TO LEARN



SKILLS TO APPLY

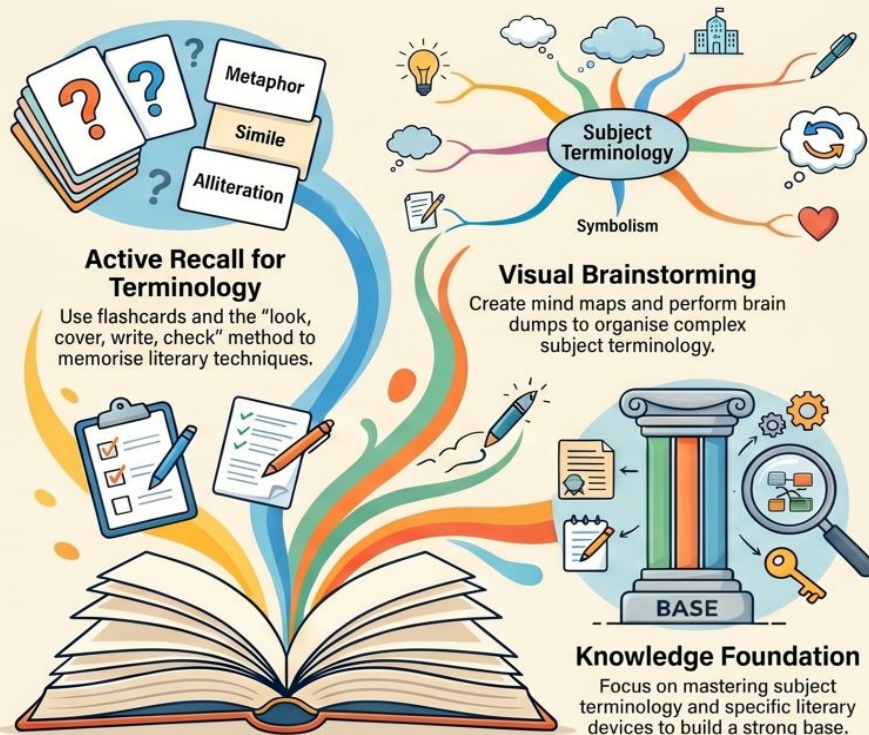


CONFIDENCE TO SUCCEED

Year 8 English - Two lesson assessment on Much Ado About Nothing

Master Your Literary Craft: The Ultimate Revision Guide

Part 1 – Building Subject Knowledge



Part 2 – Application of Skills



Deliberate Writing Practice

Write practice answers and use your class book to identify specific areas for improvement.

Thesis statement
Controlling Idea sentence

Topic sentence
Embed sentence
Analyse (word) sentence
Analyse (device/technique) sentence

Structural Precision

Enhance creative and analytical writing by using varied sentence types and structured paragraphs.



Independent Enrichment

Enhance creative and analytical writing by using varied sentence types and structured paragraphs.



Independent Enrichment

Maintain independent reading habits to naturally enhance your vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Year 9 English - 1 hour paper based on Noughts and Crosses

Mastering Literary Analysis: Your Strategic Revision Roadmap

Phase 1: Building Core Knowledge



Terminology Mastery

Use flashcards and the 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' method for key terms.

Visual Brain Dumps

Create mind maps and brain dumps to organise your thoughts on paper.

Phase 2: Exam Application & Structure



Section A: Knowledge Recall

Focus your revision on quickly retrieving learned facts and terminology.



Section B: Character Comparison

Practice comparing character thoughts and feelings from two different parts of the book.



Resource-Led Practice

Write practice answers using class books and online school resources to identify improvements.



Independent Reading

Maintain independent reading habits to naturally enhance vocabulary and comprehension skills.

MATHEMATICS

Year 8 Maths - 1hr 30 Exam - Week commencing 15th June



LOOK FOR THE KEYS IN WORD PROBLEMS



Year 8 have been set weekly revision homework, as part of our 6 week revision programme, since the beginning of May. Depending on the class teacher, this will have either been worksheets, or a Mathswatch Activity.

Revision topic lists have been uploaded onto the Year 8 Google Classroom. If a pupil has not yet joined, the classroom code is **e3ztofen**

There is one revision list for the core assessment, and another for the core plus assessments.

Students have been encouraged to continue using Mathswatch as an additional resource, using the codes on the revision lists provided to support further independent revision.

We recommend the below websites for topic specific revision. These resources contain applied and problem solving questions.

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

<https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle>

<https://www.old.mathsgenie.co.uk/>



Year 9 Maths - 2 x 1hr 30 Exams

Non-Calculator - Thursday 18th June / Calculator Monday 29th June



**LOOK FOR THE
KEYS IN
WORD PROBLEMS**



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SCIENCE

Year 8 Science topics & recommended resources

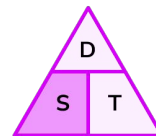
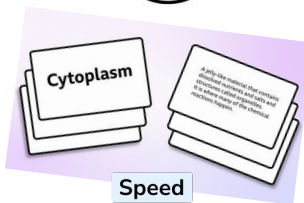
What to revise	How to revise
• General lab skills: equipment names, planning experiments, analysing results, plotting graphs. • Properties of metals and reactions of metals (including rusting). • Pressure — calculations and units. • Measuring volume by displacement and density calculations (show working). • Animal and plant cells; unicellular organisms. • Photosynthesis (basic equation and factors). • Greenhouse gases and their effects.	• BBC Bitesize KS3 Science — clear topic pages and quizzes. • Seneca Learning — short interactive modules. • Oak National Academy — lesson videos and practical demos. • PhET Interactive Simulations — displacement and density simulations. • Cognito — short videos and other resources to revise Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics. • Revision guides – revision guides and other revision materials from CGP.

Year 9 Science topics & recommended resources

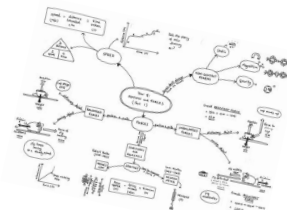
What to revise	How to revise
• General lab skills: apparatus, planning, graphs, data analysis. • Photosynthesis including limiting factors. • Organelle functions and cell structure. • Respiration (aerobic and anaerobic). • Ecology: food chains, cycles, population interactions. • Reaction of metals (displacement). • Periodic table and reactivity series. • Magnetism and electromagnetism basics and applications.	• <u>BBC Bitesize KS3 Science</u> — clear topic pages and quizzes. • <u>Seneca Learning</u> — short interactive modules. • <u>Oak National Academy</u> — lesson videos and practical demos. • <u>PhET Interactive Simulations</u> — displacement and density simulations. • Cognito — short videos and other resources to revise <u>Biology</u>, <u>Chemistry</u> and <u>Physics</u> topics. • Revision guides – revision guides and other revision materials from <u>CGP</u>.

Science revision strategies

- **Short daily sessions** (20–30 minutes) focusing on one topic.
- **Active recall:** flashcards for definitions, processes, and units.
- **Practice calculations:** always show working and units.
- **One-page topic maps** summarising each topic.



$$S = \frac{D}{T}$$



Science exam technique

- Read command words: **describe**, **explain**, **calculate**, **compare**.
- **Show all working** for calculations (always use a calculator).
- **Label diagrams** and **include units**.
- Use short timed practice questions to build exam stamina.



$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$$
$$\text{time} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{Speed}}$$
$$\text{distance} = \text{speed} \times \text{time}$$

Speed = 100km/hr
time = 0.5 hrs
d = 100km/hr x 0.5hr



Answer all questions in the spaces provided

1 Salmonella is a type of bacteria which causes disease in humans.

1.1 Which of the following infectious diseases is also caused by bacteria? Tick one box.

☐ Measles
☐ Gonorrhoea
☐ Malaria
☐ HIV

(1 mark)

1.2 Compare how bacteria and viruses cause symptoms in a host.

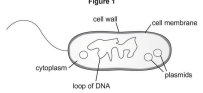
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(2 marks)

Figure 1 shows a diagram of a Salmonella bacterium.

Figure 1



1.3 Give one feature of the bacterium in Figure 1 which shows that Salmonella is a prokaryote and not a eukaryote.

.....

(1 mark)

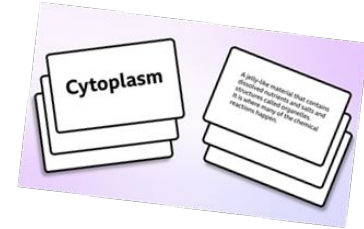
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Science revision - tips for parents

- Set a quiet, regular revision routine and **short goals** each session.
- Quiz with flashcards for 5–10 minutes.
- Use revision checklists to identify **target areas**.
- Praise effort and review marked answers together.



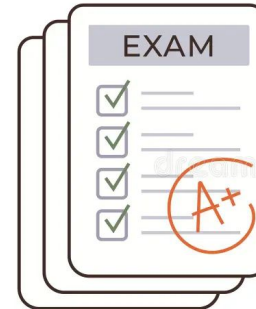
Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Combined Science Revision Checklist

CB1a Bread and varieties				
Step	Learning outcome	Not a task	Nearly there	Noted it
1	Describe why breads and varieties are different	☐	☐	☐
2	Describe what is meant by 'primary' and 'secondary' products	☐	☐	☐
3	Describe how bread is made	☐	☐	☐
4	Describe the impact of bread on the environment	☐	☐	☐

CB1a Bread in agriculture and medicine				
Step	Learning outcome	Not a task	Nearly there	Noted it
1	Describe the main stages of bread making	☐	☐	☐
2	Describe the role of bread in agriculture and medicine	☐	☐	☐
3	Describe the role of bread in agriculture and medicine	☐	☐	☐
4	Describe the role of bread in agriculture and medicine	☐	☐	☐

CB1a Health, disease, and the Development of Medicine (Paper 1: Biology 1)

CB1a Health and disease				
Step	Learning outcome	Not a task	Nearly there	Noted it
1	Define the term 'disease'	☐	☐	☐
2	Describe how disease is spread	☐	☐	☐
3	Describe the role of the immune system in preventing spread of disease	☐	☐	☐
4	Describe how disease can affect the immune system	☐	☐	☐



SPANISH

Year 8 Spanish

TOPICS COVERED THIS YEAR:



La Vida Mediterránea
(Mediterranean Life)



Las Fiestas
(Festivals)

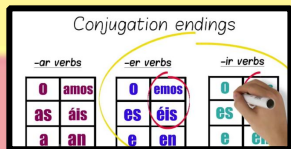


Las Vacaciones
(Holidays)

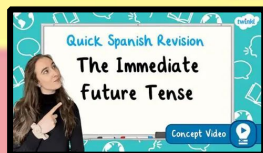
**CLICK HERE TO REVISE VOCAB
FROM THE TOPICS ABOVE:**



SOME USEFUL REVISION VIDEOS:



**Conjugating in
the present tense
in Spanish**



**Conjugating in
the immediate
future tense in
Spanish**



**Conjugating in
the preterite
tense in Spanish**

Top exam tips:

Reading exam:



- Always read the questions first!
- Remember to think of the 3 C's - context, cognates and common sense!
- Attempt every question!!!

Listening exam:



- Read the questions carefully during your reading time at the start.
- Remember to listen to everything twice - don't rush your answers!
- Attempt every question

Writing exam:



- Attempt every question in the translation task
- Include Justified Opinions (JOs) in your longer pieces of writing
- Include past, present and future tenses too!

Year 9 Spanish

TOPICS COVERED THIS YEAR:



Un camino por España
(A trip around Spain)



La vida latinoamericana
(Life in Latin America)



El mundo laboral
(The working world)



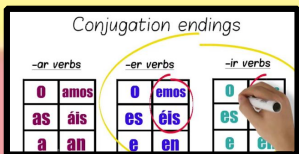
Los derechos de los jóvenes
(Young people's rights)

CLICK ON THE MEMRISE LOGO TO REVISE THE VOCAB FROM THE TOPICS ABOVE:



MEMRISE

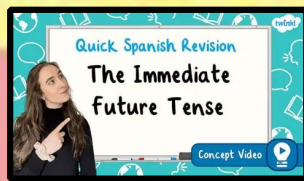
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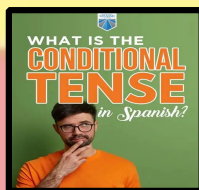
Conjugating in the present tense in Spanish



Conjugating in the preterite tense in Spanish



Conjugating in the immediate future tense in Spanish



Conjugating in the conditional tense in Spanish

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Writing exam:



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- Include Justified Opinions (JOs) in your longer pieces of writing
- Include past, present and future tenses too!
- Don't forget those HVPs (high value phrases)

HISTORY

Supporting Year 8 History Revision

A QUICK, ACTIONABLE GUIDE TO HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR UPCOMING EXAMS

KS3 HISTORY

Key Exam Topics

-  The British Empire
-  The Industrial Revolution
-  History of Slavery
-  The Abolition of Slavery
-  The American Civil War
-  The First World War

Revision Resources

-  **Knowledge Organisers** Located directly on the school website.
-  **Pupil Revision Guides** Accessible on their Google Classroom portal.

Revision Strategies

- 1 Answer the **"Cold and Hot Questions"** on their Knowledge Organisers.
- 2 Systematically work through and **complete the Revision Guide**.
- 3 Build **Cue Cards** for key dates, events, and historical definitions (either physical cards, or online on **Blooket** or **Quizlet**).

Assessment Guidance

The test includes a mixture of **multiple-choice questions**, **short answers**, and an **extended piece of writing**.

EXTENDED WRITING STRUCTURE

Point

Examples

Explanation

How Parents Can Help

You do not need to be a history expert to support your child's learning. Active recall is the most powerful revision mechanism:

👉 Regularly test them on their physical/digital cue cards, or ask them questions directly from their school Knowledge Organisers!



"Understanding the past shapes the future."

Supporting Year 9 History Revision

A QUICK, ACTIONABLE GUIDE TO HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR UPCOMING EXAMS

KS3 HISTORY

🔑 Key Exam Topics

🇩🇪 The Rise of The Nazis

🌐 The Second World War

💡 The Holocaust

✉️ The Cold War

🇬🇧 Post War Britain

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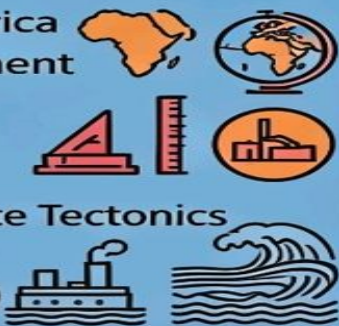


GEOGRAPHY

Year 8 Geography Revision

Key Topics:

- Development and Africa
- Measuring Development
- International Aid
- TNCs (Advantages & Disadvantages)
- Earth Structure & Plate Tectonics
- Japan Tsunami
- Japan Tsunami (2011)



Resources:

- Homework-Revision Sheet & PowerPoint
- Notes from lessons
- BBC Bitesize



The assessment will be 40 minutes long.

Revision Strategies:

Revision Tips:

- Flashcards and mind maps.
- Teach others
- Short sessions (25 mins)
- Active recall
- Review mistakes and weak areas



Assessment Tips:

- Read questions carefully
- Underline key words
- Use geographical terms
- Use examples
- Check work
- Use Point Evidence Explain



Parent Tips:

- Quiet study space
- Regular routine
- Encourage short sessions
- Have discussions
- Praise effort



THE DEAN TRUST
Believe Achieve Succeed

Year 9 Geography Revision

Key Topics

- Population
- Migration
- Sustainable Living
- Sustainable Living
- Rainforests and Deforestation
- Tourism-Peru
- Climate Change
- Jakarta- Urban Issues and



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THE DEAN TRUST
Believe Achieve Succeed

Note/Cue/Flash Cards

- Keep them simple.
- List definitions and rules you need to know.
- These should be colourful and pictorial.
- They are very good for learning language vocabulary.
- They are a good size to carry around and to store in your room.
- They can be looked at easily on the way to an exam.

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Mind Maps

- Mind maps are an excellent memory tool condensing topic information.
- It's a good idea to stick your mind maps on the wall in your room.
- Make mind maps for the topics you need to learn and look at them over and over.
- Timelines are good for remembering an order of events.

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Revision Tools to Help You Pass Your Exams

Here is a summary of the best tools available to help you revise your subjects.

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Geography



THE DEAN TRUST
Ashton on Mersey School



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D ivision
M ultiplication
A ddition
S ubtraction

Do first
↓
Do last

CRANIAL BONES
"PEST OF"

PARIETAL
SPHENOID
TEMPORAL
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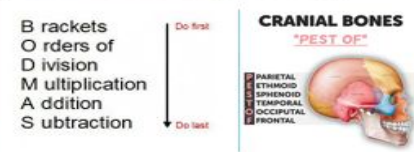


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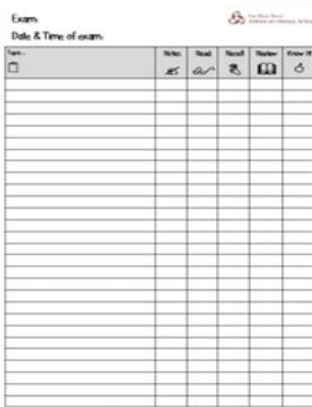
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Practise Questions

- Practise answering questions from revision guides, past papers or subject websites.
- Answer as many questions as you can without using your notes.
- Use your notes when you get stuck!
- Practise under timed conditions.
- Use the examiners mark scheme to mark the paper and improve your answers.
- For high mark questions use CUSTARD and PEEL.

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Test Yourself

- Write down the topics you need to revise.
- Make notes on them.
- Read through the notes several times and make sure that you can recall the information.
- Ask a parent/carer/sibling/friend to test you.
- Keep reviewing the topics that you don't know until you do!
- Get help from your teacher if you don't understand.

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Useful Websites

getrevising.co.uk
class-template.com/flash-card-template.html
yorknotes.com/revision
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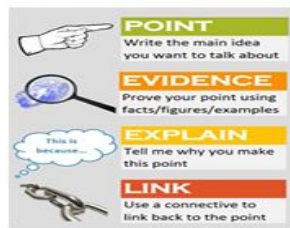
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Planning Ahead

- You can start to revise at any time during the year.
- Go back through your school work regularly.
- You should start to prepare yourself at least three months before a final GCSE exam.
- Know the dates and times for each of your exams. The exams office will give you a timetable.
- Know the format of the exam e.g. written, spoken, practical, online.
- Plan ahead and don't leave your revision until the last minute.

WEEKLY REVISION PLANNER	DATE: _____						ENTER THE TOPICS YOU NEED TO REVISION:					
	4-5 pm	5-6 pm	6-7 pm	7-8 pm	8-9 pm	9-10 pm						
Monday												
Tuesday												
Wednesday												
Thursday												
Friday												
	9-10 am	10-11 am	11-12 am	12-1 pm	1-2 pm	2-3 pm	4-5 pm	5-6 pm				
Saturday												
Sunday												

Where To Revise

- Find a space to revise where you can concentrate.
- Choose a place that has enough room, good lighting, is comfortable, tidy and has a window.
- Try to use the same place all the time.
- Avoid distractions such as TVs and loud music. Leave your mobile phone in another room.
- Get together your school books, past papers and revision guides. Be organised!
- Have a supply of equipment such as A4 paper, notebooks, index cards, pens, pencils and highlighters.
- Drink plenty. Have a bottle of water as it's hard to concentrate if you are dehydrated.

Plan Your Revision

- Draft a revision timetable so that you can identify when you can revise.
- Put topic headings in the plan rather than general subject headings. Your teacher will give you the topics.
- Block out times when you cannot revise because of other activities.
- Aim to work in 45 minute blocks, taking 10-15 minute breaks.
- Spend more time on subjects you find more difficult.
- Put a copy on your bedroom wall

STUDY TIPS

Use these strategies to maximise your potential for examinations.

During An Exam

- Put your watch on your desk so that you can manage your exam timings.
- Drink plenty of water and stay hydrated to help you concentrate.
- For GCSE examinations check that you have the correct paper and the correct tier of entry. Add your name, centre and candidate number to all of the sheets of paper that you use.
- Read the instructions on the front of the exam paper
- Read the questions carefully. Highlight any key words to help you understand the question (use CUSTARD).
- Look at how many marks are given to a question and plan your time carefully.
- Spend most time on the questions with most marks.
- Keep an eye on the clock – don't spend all your time on one question, you will run out of time.
- If you get stuck, move on to the next question and come back to it later.
- Complete all the questions you are asked to. Try to answer all of them. If you are really unsure then have a guess, you might be right! You won't get any marks if you leave a question blank.
- Leave time at the end to check through your answers.

Make Use Of Your Learning Style

- Not everyone learns or takes in information in the same way.
- Know your learning style – visual, auditory, kinaesthetic
- If you are unsure of your style take a quick quiz - www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles.html

	I prefer lessons where we can discuss things.	A	V	K
	I often find work things (a pen, paper, clip or rubber band)	K	A	V
	When learning a new skill I prefer to just get on with it.	K	A	V
	When the adverts come on the telly I like to watch them.	V	K	A
	I would prefer to listen to a story.	A	V	K
	I am good at learning physical skills.	K	A	V

Before An Exam :	✓
Get a good night's sleep.	
Pack your bag with the correct equipment. Use a clear pencil case.	
Check that your calculator works and that you know how to use it.	
Check the time of your exam, venue and seat number.	
Eat a healthy breakfast.	
Take a drink, water is best. Remember to take off the label.	
Leave home in plenty of time so you are not rushed and are calm. Arrive 15 mins before an exam.	
Read through any revision notes, revision cards and mind maps you have made.	
Turn off your mobile phone when you arrive and hand it to an invigilator.	

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



YEAR 9 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY END OF YEAR TEST REVISION GUIDE

UNITS 7, 8 & 9 OVERVIEW: Product Design • Modelling • Mechanisms • Food & Nutrition



PLAN
DESIGN
MAKE
EVALUATE



1. KEY TOPICS TO REVISE

UNIT 7 – ELECTRONICS & PRODUCT DESIGN

- Product analysis, disassembly, testing & ACCESS FM
- Design specifications & product requirements
- Soldering skills, health & safety
- Circuit diagrams, block diagrams & flowcharts
- Materials: composites, casting & moulds
- Product evolution: mobile phones & technology

UNIT 8 – MODELLING & MECHANISMS

- Physical, CAD, CAM & advanced modelling (VR/AR)
- SketchUp tools & 3D modelling techniques
- Mechanisms: linkages, levers, cams, gears & pulleys
- Technology push, market pull & product evolution
- Advantages & disadvantages of CAD

UNIT 9 – FOOD PREPARATION & PROVENANCE

- Food standards, labelling & food assurance logos
- Chilled ready meals: benefits & nutrient profiling
- Event food: planning, factors & sustainability
- Food provenance: where our food comes from
- Packaging: function, materials & environmental impact



EXAM / ASSESSMENT FOCUS

You will be assessed on your **knowledge**, understanding and application of key concepts, practical skills and your ability to analyse, design and evaluate.

Use key terms accurately and give clear examples.



2. RECOMMENDED REVISION RESOURCES



Class Notes & Knowledge Organisers

Use your class notes, worksheets and knowledge organisers to refresh key facts and vocabulary.



BBC Bitesize – Design & Technology

Clear explanations, videos and quizzes for all topics.
bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zp9jvcw



Oak Academy

Oak Academy – Design & Technology

Free lessons and quizzes covering key DT topics.
oakacademy.org.uk/subjects/design-technology



Technologystudent.com

Excellent revision notes, theory and examples.
technologystudent.com



YouTube – Search these topics:

Soldering tutorials • SketchUp for beginners • Mechanisms explained • Food provenance



Design & Technology Textbooks

Use your school textbook and any revision guides recommended by your teacher.



3. USEFUL LINKS FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

BBC Bitesize DT	bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zp9jvcw
Oak Academy DT	oakacademy.org.uk/subjects/design-technology
Technologystudent	technologystudent.com
Food Standards Agency	food.gov.uk
Eatwell Guide	nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/the-eatwell-guide
STEM Learning	stem.org.uk/resources/collection/design-technology



4. REVISION STRATEGIES THAT WORK



SPACED PRACTICE

Revise little and often over several days rather than cramming.



ACTIVE RECALL

Look, cover, write, check. Test yourself regularly using flashcards or quizzes.



MIND MAPS

Create mind maps for each topic to connect key ideas and show relationships.



PAST QUESTIONS / EXAM STYLE TASKS

Practice applying your knowledge to different scenarios and command words.



TEACH SOMEONE ELSE

Explaining a topic to someone else is a powerful way to check your understanding.



MAKE IT VISUAL

Use diagrams, flowcharts, labelled sketches and colour to aid memory.



5. HOW TO APPROACH THE ASSESSMENT



READ THE QUESTION CAREFULLY

Check what the question is asking you to do. Look for key command words like: explain, describe, analyse, evaluate, justify.



PLAN YOUR ANSWER

Take a few minutes to plan your response, especially for longer answers or design tasks.



USE TECHNICAL VOCABULARY

Use the correct DT terms to show your knowledge and understanding.



GIVE CLEAR EXAMPLES

Support your points with real examples from products, materials or case studies.



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

If time allows, check your work for spelling, grammar and that you have answered all parts of the question.



6. HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT REVISION AT HOME

CREATE A GOOD ENVIRONMENT



A quiet, tidy space with few distractions helps your child concentrate.



SET A ROUTINE

Encourage a regular revision timetable with breaks and balance.



SHOW INTEREST

Ask your child what they are learning and celebrate their achievements.



PROVIDE RESOURCES

Help them access revision materials, past papers and useful websites.



ENCOURAGE WELLBEING

Good sleep, healthy food, exercise and downtime all help memory and focus.

Access to Full Knowledge Organiser: <https://aomschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2025/12/Year-9-Technology-KO.pdf>

YEAR 8 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

END OF YEAR REVISION GUIDE



Use this guide to help you revise key topics, find useful resources and prepare with confidence!

KEY TOPICS TO REVISE

UNIT 4 – TEXTILES & TECHNOLOGY



User Centred Design

Design for the needs of the user – para-triathlete design challenge.



Smart, Modern & Composite Materials

Properties and uses of different materials.



E-Textiles

Conductive thread, circuits and sensors.



Wearable Technology

Examples, benefits and how technology is incorporated.



Textile Skills & Construction

Stitches, applique, fabric construction (weaving, knitting, bonding).



Sources of Information

Primary vs secondary sources, design features.

UNIT 5 – DESIGNING & MAKING



Onshape CAD Skills

Sketch, extrude, fillet, assembly, mates and simulation.



Manufacturing Aids

Templates, jigs, moulds, formers and their advantages.



Scales of Production

One-off, batch, mass and continuous production. Assembly lines.



Health & Safety

Safe use of tools, equipment and machines in the workshop.



Product Analysis & Design Briefs

Analysing existing products and writing a clear design brief.



New & Emerging Technologies

Latest tools, materials and techniques in DT.

UNIT 6 – FOOD & NUTRITION



Multicultural Meals

Understanding different cuisines and flavour combinations.



Protein Foods

Functions of protein, sources, excess and deficiency.



School Food Standards

Eatwell Guide, standards and benefits of healthy school lunches.



Molecular Gastronomy

Techniques: spherification, foams, airs, gelification and emulsification.



The Appliance of Science

How science is used in cooking and food preparation.



Oven & Food Safety

Safe use of ovens and kitchen equipment.

REVISION STRATEGIES



Plan – Create a revision timetable and stick to it.



Space it – Revise little and often using spaced repetition.



Active recall – Test yourself using flashcards or practice questions.



Mind maps – Summarise key topics in your own words.



Practice – Use exam-style questions and past tasks.

HOW TO APPROACH THE ASSESSMENTS



Read the question carefully – Make sure you understand what is being asked.



Plan your answer – For longer answers, use bullet points or a quick plan.



Use subject vocabulary – Include key terms and explain them where needed.



Give examples – Use examples from your projects or classwork.



Check your work – Make sure you have answered all parts of the question.

TIPS FOR PARENTS



Encourage a routine – Help your child create a quiet, regular revision routine.



Show interest – Ask about what they are learning and celebrate progress.



Minimise distractions – Limit screen time and background noise.



Healthy habits – Ensure they eat well, stay hydrated and get enough sleep.



Be positive – Praise effort and remind them that mistakes help them learn.

KEY REMINDERS



Start revising early – Don't leave it all until the last minute!



Use all the resources available to you.



Ask your teacher if you're unsure about anything.



Believe in yourself – you've got this!

“Preparation today leads to success tomorrow.”



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Oak National Academy – Design & Technology
Free lessons and resources.
www.thenational.academy/subjects/design-technology



YouTube
Search for DT revision topics and practical skills.
www.youtube.com



Pinterest – DT Ideas & Inspiration
Great for design ideas and project examples.
www.pinterest.co.uk

RECOMMENDED REVISION RESOURCES

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- ✓ Revision worksheets and booklets
- ✓ Past classwork and projects
- ✓ Practice questions and quizzes (online)
- ✓ YouTube videos for practical demonstrations
- ✓ BBC Bitesize revision videos and quizzes

