

Revision Tips and Techniques

There are many ways to revise, and different people find different techniques work best for them. However, for revision to be effective it needs to be **active** and **organised**.

Active revision methods are those where you are getting involved in a task. Passively reading through notes or textbooks is not active revision and is not an effective way to revise. Copying information is also not a good way to revise, as it doesn't really help you remember or understand concepts. It is also not a good idea to revise whilst watching the TV or whilst listening to music as this can interfere with your working memory and stop the information you need from being processed.

Active revision includes activities like making flashcards, writing revision notes (look, say, cover, write, check), creating mind maps, testing yourself, answering questions or trying to complete past exam papers. This could also include trying to teach someone else a concept or skill, reading notes aloud or discussing a topic with someone. There are also a number of revision websites and apps available to help you.

Being **organised** means that you set yourself a goal or task to achieve by the end of the session. Plan out your revision using a revision timetable (a blank copy is available here).

Getting started is often the most difficult part of revising – start by revising a topic that you enjoy.

Top revision tips:

- Short bursts of revision are more effective. Aim for about 30 to 40 minutes and then take a short break.
- Revise somewhere quiet and away from distractions.
- Make sure you eat properly and stay hydrated. Get plenty of sleep.
- Revise the topics and subjects you struggle with – don't just focus on the subjects you like doing.
- Use a variety of different techniques (making sure they are active).
- Always ask for help if you need it. There are many people that are willing to help you.
- Practice answering questions. In the exams you will be asked questions so get in the habit of being able to understand how to be successful at answering them.
- Believe in yourself and maintain a positive outlook. If you believe that you can succeed then you will.

To find out more information about the different revision techniques, click on the following links. These will take you to external websites and there is a lot of information on the internet about how to revise effectively.

Using words and using sounds – [Revision techniques from BBC Bitesize - BBC Bitesize](#)

Making and using flashcards – [How To Make Effective Flashcards \(That Actually Work\) - Think Student](#)

Making revision notes - [How to Make Good Revision Notes | A Student Guide | Oxford Summer Courses](#)