

Even with exams looming, the last thing you may want to do is sit down and revise. But it is really important that you do, so here are some tips on how to get through the stressful exam period:

- 1. Manageable revision:** Don't try to revise for too long all at once. Do your revision in half-hour slots, stopping for a drink and a five or ten minute break in the middle. This will help you concentrate and you'll remember more of what you are revising.



2. **Start early:** Don't leave your revision until the last minute. If you haven't already, start revising now.



It is true that it is never too late to start revising, but you shouldn't leave it until the day before your exam.

2015

January	February	March	April
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May	June	July	August
S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
September	October	November	December
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3. **Get help:** If you don't understand something then ask someone. Never suffer in silence. There is no point learning something from memory if you don't understand it, it won't help you in the exam. Get your teacher to explain it.



4. **Make notes:** Get a small pile of notes (Post-it or similar) and a biro and write all the key words from your subject onto the notes. Then stick them all over your house. As you walk around and see the words, challenge yourself to be able to say what they mean.



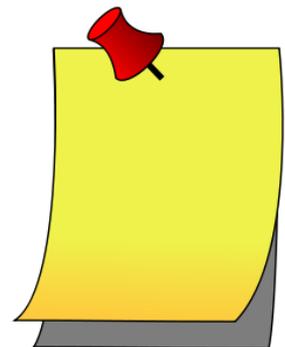
5. **Revision tip:** I find this a really useful way to revise. First, write out the key topics onto an A4 piece of paper. Fit as much on as you can. Then, take only the important bits and copy the information onto the A5 piece. Try to fit it all on! Condense it again onto the postcard. You should now have only the very important words left.





10 steps to revision success:

1. **Revision space:** Find a good place to work. It should be quiet and uncluttered.
2. **Revision timetable:** Draw up a revision timetable - it's crucial. It should be realistic, cover all subjects and allow you time off to relax.
3. **Make notes:** Don't just read through your class work, make notes. One useful tip is to gradually condense your notes so they fit on the back of a postcard.
4. **Revision guides:** Get a recommendation from your teacher as to which are most useful and then make sure you use them!
5. **Questions and answers:** Write out some questions and answers to see how much you're actually remembering.
6. **Listen in:** Read your notes onto an Ipod or phone and then play them walking down the street or whilst you're in bed.
7. **Prompts:** Put key words and phrases on sticky notes around the house, so you'll see them often.
8. **Seek help!:** Don't go it alone. They say a problem shared is a problem halved. So, get friends and family on board to help you revise.
9. **Past papers:** Make sure you get hold of some past papers, they're a really good way of knowing what to expect in the exam.
10. **Relax:** If you panic you're lost! The exams are going to happen so you might as well give yourself the best chance of doing well by starting to revise early and keeping calm.



Memory cards

Memory cards are a great way to condense your revision notes and help you remember all those important facts for the exams.



1. **Summarise:** Once you have written out your revision notes, it's time to condense that information into small manageable facts. This is where memory cards come in to play.
2. **Word power:** For each topic, write bullet points of key facts on a set of index cards.
3. **Organise:** Categorise the facts into sub-categories, then sub-sub-categories so you can understand how they all link together.
4. **Link:** Don't just remember the key facts on the cards. They should act as prompts for all the other revision facts you've been learning.
5. **Portable:** The great thing about small index cards is that you can put them in your bag/pocket and take them anywhere. That way you can look at them on the way to school or even when you're out shopping!



Study Skills

