



Danetre and Southbrook  
Learning Village

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# TOP TIPS FOR EXAM SUCCESS



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## Introduction

Mock exams have been and gone. Now is the time to get to grips with the best ways of achieving good results in the summer!

Proper revision cannot be done in just the few nights directly before the exams. It is something that you should be constantly doing in some way. As you approach your exams make sure that you:

- **Plan carefully well in advance**
- **Talk about your work to your teachers and form tutor**
- **Work through essays, notes and past papers**
- **Keep to a schedule**

You should read through this Top Tips booklet in conjunction with the Success in Year 11 booklet. In addition to these resources your class teacher will provide you with the necessary revision packs for their subject area.

## General Exam Technique Advice

### *Examination Questions*

You will have to answer many different types of exam questions in your various GCSE subjects. To answer these successfully you will need to make sure you apply the right techniques to the appropriate question.

The following guidelines should help you to think more carefully about the different types of questions and help you to improve your skills in being able to tackle them all.

1. Produce a list of all the different types of exam paper and question you will come across in each subject paper.
2. Discuss your strengths and weaknesses in relation to each type of question with your class teacher.
3. Plan and follow a programme to improve on your areas of weakness, including plenty of practice questions.

## Knowing what the question means

Look at your past papers. Examiners choose their words carefully. For example, if you are asked to **name** a piece of equipment, then you really have to name it! You will get no marks for describing it – no matter how correct you are. If you are asked to show you working, then show it!

The number of marks awarded to each question can be used as a guide to how much detail is required. These are normally shown on the paper.

- It is essential that you understand exactly what the examiner is looking for and you can only do this by studying the wording of the question carefully.
- Read the question three or four times, underline key words in the text that indicate how the question should be answered, for example:

After reading all the sources do you accept Scott's claim in source B that "The causes of the disaster are not to faulty organisation, but bad luck?" Answer this question as fully as you can.

## **Planning Longer Mark/Essay Answers**

Unplanned answers are not good answers. They are often unclear, muddled, repetitious and full of irrelevant comments. So, quite rightly, they get low marks. In order to avoid this, just must spend a few minutes planning your answer.

- ❖ Make a few notes on the examination paper of the main points/useful facts/relevant examples.
- ❖ Do not forget to cross out the notes when you have answered the question.

Structuring your answer:

1. Start with an introduction that tries to explain the terms of the question. This may include a statement of your own views or opinions.
2. Paragraphs:
  - a. Keep to one main point of the question
  - b. Contain supporting facts, details, figures, examples, evidence etc.
  - c. Link at the end to the next paragraph
3. Draw answer together with a conclusion in the final paragraph. This should be related to the original question and join up the main points.

## English

All of you will be sitting your English Language and English Literature exam in the Summer.

**See Mr Green or Mrs Andrews for an English Revision guide for ways in which to revise for the English Language exam.**

### General Tips

1. Read the questions carefully!
2. Underline and pick out the key words in the question. Refer to these frequently and ensure that you are actually answering the question!
3. Plan your answer – even just a few minutes spent planning will improve your answer.
4. Feel free to write on your question papers – it is a good idea to annotate any passages that you read.

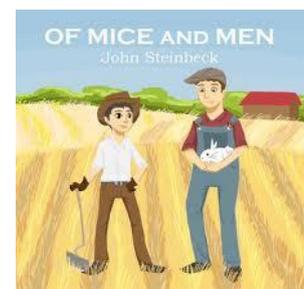
### English Language

There are TWO sections to the exam.

The first is an extract from 'Of Mice and Men'. Answer all questions on 'Of Mice and Men.' Do not answer questions on books that other schools may have studied. The focus is on language, so you need to know your language techniques such as repetition, alliteration, verb, noun, adjectives and many more. Remember to use evidence from the text to back up your points.

The question will tell you whether you need to get that evidence from the extract or from another part of the book. Take the time to mention the effect on the reader, but do not link back to context and 1930's America. Focus on characters, themes or relationships.

The second task in the Language exam is a writing task - Spend 5 minutes planning before answering one question out of two. Include your language techniques and remember spelling, grammar, paragraphs and punctuation!



## **English Literature**

There are two exams for English Literature.

### **Exam 1: Understanding Prose**

There are two tasks to complete.

1. The first task is about 'Animal Farm'. There will be three tasks based on a passage from the book. Use quotation to support your answers.
2. The second task is about 'Of Mice and Men' which assesses your knowledge of social, cultural and historical issues and requires you to write an extended essay of about 2 pages. You need to know that the book is set in 1930s America during the Great Depression and how this affects what happens in the story. Be aware of the role of racism in the book too. You must discuss these in your answer! Spend about 45 minutes on this task and remember to use quotations!

### **Exam 2: Understanding Poetry**

There are two tasks to complete.

1. The first task will require you to respond to a poem which you will not have seen before. You will need to recognise what happens in the poem and how the poet feels. Try to discuss the use of language and structure and how this is used. You will gain extra marks for using poetic terminology such as 'metaphor' and 'simile'. Use quotation to support your views.
2. You will get a choice of two tasks here. You will need to COMPARE two poems from the 15 you have studied. You will then be asked to compare this to either another named poem or one of your choice from the section that you have studied. As above, discuss the use of language and structure of the poem and say how this helps to create the writer's meaning. Remember that you must compare the poems!

## Maths

### Tips on how to revise:

- Revision is very important for your exam – being well prepared will help you to feel calmer on the day.
- You can also revise at home. The following websites are a good place to start:



1. [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)
  2. [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/maths/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/maths/)
  3. [www.mrbartonmaths.co.uk](http://www.mrbartonmaths.co.uk)
  4. [www.webmaths.co.uk](http://www.webmaths.co.uk)
  5. [www.mathswatchvle.com](http://www.mathswatchvle.com)
- Revision needs to start now! Little and often is better than doing hours before your exam. If you start now you can get help from your teachers when you get stuck.
  - Making revision posters of key formulae and putting them up around your house may help you to remember them.

### Tips for the exam:

- All papers will be scanned and marked online, so black pen ONLY.
- Pencil for diagrams is OK but when you are sure you have got the answer correct go over it in your black pen.
- Ensure that all working out and answers are done inside the margins otherwise they may not be seen by the marker.
- Numbers must be clear and unambiguous as the marker will not be able to refer back to earlier answers to check.
- Take care with calculations. These need to be written down in some logical order and not written down randomly in the space provided. Examiners do not have the time to try and pick through a mass of figures and try and second guess what the candidate is trying to do.
- Underline key aspects of the questions including key words (solve, expand and simplify, evaluate etc. Units. Area/perimeter. Degrees of accuracy. Give your answer in Standard Form).
- Use the formula page. Write down the relevant formula at the start of the answer.
- Give your answer correct to 3sf. If in doubt make up an answer to part 1) and then round that to 3sf for part 2).

- Check that your answer makes sense. Gas bills of £3000 per quarter and a person being 6 metres tall probably means you have made a mistake!!
- Check solving equations by substituting your answer back into the original equation.
- Time questions: 4.5 hours is not 4 hours and 50 minutes!
- No doodling on the paper. It gives the examiner the impression that you are not taking the exam seriously
- Quality of graphs. Pencil, ruler (if appropriate), one thin line, axes, key etc
- Trigonometry; ensure the calculator is in the correct mode. Does your answer make sense? Angles of 0.236 etc
- Check carefully the "give reasons for your answer" type questions are answered sensibly
- The questions do not have to be answered in order.
- Be aware of the time. Do not waste time struggling over a question in the last 5 minutes if there is another you could have a go at.
- Don't panic

**What you need to bring:**

For your exam you will need the following equipment:

- Black Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil Sharpener
- A pair of compasses
- Protractor
- Scientific Calculator
- Remember you can ask the invigilators for tracing paper if you need it for any of the questions.

**Stay Calm and do your very best!!!!**

**GOOD LUCK**

## Science

### Step 1 - Get organised

- Collect together all your old Year 11 exercise books/revision books and download as many of the question papers as you can. You can find these at <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>. Find the GCSEs that you are doing: **Core and Additional:** GCSE Science A (4405), GCSE Additional Science (4408)  
**Triple:** GCSE Biology (4401), GCSE Chemistry (4402), GCSE Physics (4403)

### Step 2 - Formulate a plan

- Start revising now. Don't forget there is a lot to revise and the sooner you start, the better you will do.
- Draw up a plan of when you will revise each topic and stick to it.
- Plan to start revising the areas that you are weakest with first.

### Step 3 - Effective Revision

- Revise for a maximum of one hour at a time, but break it down into 3 twenty minute sessions. Ensure that you give yourself a 5 minute break in between each session, but no longer.
- Read through your notes and revision guide and then do some practice questions.
- Set yourself a quick test to do each time you start revising science or come back from a break.

### Step 4 - The Exams

You will need: two black pens, sharpened pencils, a rubber, ruler and a calculator.

- While waiting for the exam to start, read the front of the exam paper so you know exactly what to do.
- Read each question carefully – twice is better than once. Check how many marks are available for the answer.
- If you have to do calculations then show how you worked them out; if you get the answer wrong you may still get mark.
- Make sure you use the data / formula sheet.



## History

### Paper 1 – 2 hours: 45% of final GCSE marks

1. Remember you must answer: Compulsory Medicine source questions, and one of the 3 choices, one compulsory American West source question and one of the 2 choices.
2. On the Knowledge questions, you must answer all 3 parts. Part A is usually very easy, so check you can answer B and C before you start.
3. When a question says use your own knowledge do so. Start this section with “from my own knowledge...” This shows the examiner you have extra information and understanding.
4. On the Knowledge questions, recall the key trigger word a) Describe b) Explain c) How Far or directed comparisons two events or people.
5. Use the SOURCE. Always quote directly from the source using quotation marks and back up your point.
6. Explain everything and link back to the question. Leave the examiner in no doubt that you have understood the question and know the answer.
7. Add a final Judgement to explain and how far questions.

### Paper 2 – 1 ½ hours: 30% of final GCSE mark

1. The last question is worth the most marks (16) and is asking you to state whether or not the sources agree with a statement. Decide which sources agree or disagree with the statement or on occasion do neither.
2. You must quote directly from the sources referred to in the question. However there are EXTRA MARKS if you cross reference another source to prove your points.
3. All of these questions in this paper invite an argument. You must GIVE BOTH SIDES i.e. FOR and AGAINST THE VIEW. If you can do you will get the higher level, one side limits the marks you can achieve. Always end on a judgement.
4. Is this source useful? Yes, because it reflects someone’s opinion or attitude. However, you must also give reasons why it is not useful. End with an overall judgement.
5. Remember to annotate and make notes about the sources. NO-ONE ELSE will ever use this exam paper. MAKE NOTES on the paper, especially in reference to question 6.

6. Check provenance of sources so that you can place them in context to your own knowledge and determine use or reliability if asked.

### **History - OVERALL**

1. Sounds simple, but ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS you are required to do, don't leave any unanswered, one or two marks can make all the difference.

2. Remember the formulae for answering questions. Re: use the words from the in your opening statement, make a minimum of 3 quality points, EXPLAIN, LINK to question, add a final judgement.

3. Leave a space between each question, paragraph, or point. This means you can have space to come back to add extra information if you need.

4. Time management is crucial. On Paper 1 you should spend 1 hour on Medicine through time and 1 hour on the American West. For Paper 2 you should spend 1 hour on questions 1-4 and 30 minutes on question 5.

5. ANSWER THE QUESTION: don't waffle, ramble or regurgitate everything you have ever learnt. Be precise and accurate with your information sometimes more marks can be picked up for a short succinct answer as can be for a long answer. READ the question carefully. Focus on the trigger words in the question. What is it asking you to do? What is the question subject?

6. Remember there are marks available for consistently accurate SPG: 6 marks on Paper 1 and 3marks on Paper 2. This could be the difference between a C & D grade boundary.

7. Use the specialised vocabulary to demonstrate to the examiner your expert knowledge.



## Geography

1. Read the front of the exam question booklet carefully before you start.

### **Paper 1**

#### Unit 1 – Dynamic Planet

##### Section A

- Topic 1 - Restless Earth
- Topic 2 - Changing climate
- Topic 3 - Battle for the Biosphere
- Topic 4 - Water World

##### Section B

- Topic 6 - River Processes and Pressures

##### Section C

- Topic 8 – Extreme Environments

#### Unit 2 – People and Planet

##### Section A

- Topic 1 – Population Dynamics
- Topic 2 – Consuming Resources
- Topic 3 – Globalisation
- Topic 4 – Development Dilemmas

##### Section B

- Topic 5 – The changing economy of the UK
- Topic 7 – The Challenges of an Urban Environment

You must answer all Section A. From Section B answer Topic 6 – Rivers, Topic 8 Extreme Environments. The exam is 1 hour 15 minutes long. Each question is made up of a number of shorter response questions, worth from 1 – 6 marks and a case study question worth 8 marks (plus 3 SPaGmarks)

2. **Paper 2**

#### Unit 3 – Making Geographical Decisions

1 hour 30 minutes



3. Look at the number of marks in brackets for each question. Make sure you write enough to get the marks. Parts (c) and (d) of each question are worth 6 marks each – so be particularly careful with those ones

4. Make sure you read the command words very carefully; e.g. Describe, explain, suggest, give reasons for, identify, account for, state etc...

Describe... you don't need to give any reasons (explain)

Identify... name, locate or recognise a place or feature

Account for... explain / give reasons etc..

6. If the question says 'Suggest a reason for' ... and it is worth 6 marks, make sure you either explain your answer in great detail, or give more than 'a' reason – even though the question says 'Suggest a reason for...'
7. Make sure you know your case studies inside out. Before the exam, your revision needs to have included all the case studies. Case study questions will nearly always include the phrase 'using specific detail' or 'using specific place detail'. Make sure you include names of places – towns, cities, regions etc. and names of people if appropriate (e.g. the river Valency runs through Boscastle)
8. Make sure you know whether the question you are answering is about places LEDCs or MEDCs. If you get the wrong location you can only get 4/8 for the case study answer.
9. If you can draw a map, sketch, diagram etc.. to help you answer the question, then do! Make sure you annotate (detailed labels) it carefully.
10. If you are sitting the foundation paper, make sure you are guided by the number of lines available to write on. At least fill the spaces and go onto the extra pages available at the back of the question booklet if necessary.

## Philosophy and Ethics

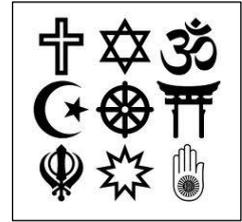
The paper is split into:

Philosophy:

- Belief about God
- The end of lie
- Good and evil
- Religion and science

Ethics:

- Religion and human relationships
- Religion and medical ethics
- Religion, peace and justice
- Religion and equality



1. Remember you can only answer questions you have studied.

Religion and Science

Good and Evil

Nature of God

Life after Death

Human Relationships

Medical Ethics

Religion and Equality

Warm Peace and Justice

2. Choose two questions from the three units of work, choose the Christianity questions and all answer all parts a-e.

3. The exam is 1 hour long

4. Time management: Plan your time.

Allow 30 minutes to answer one question and 30 minutes for the second question.

Answer parts of a-e

- a) 1 minute
- b) 1 minute
- c) 3 minutes
- d) 7 minutes
- e) 15 minutes

This allows you 3 minutes to read through your work and plan what you are going to write.

5. Read the question and do as it asks.
6. Explain your answer by using PEE
7. Structure your answers into paragraphs and use connectives: however, whereas,
8. Start questions with: Not all Christians have the same views on..... Some Christians think.....
9. For question (e) try to include between 4-6 paragraphs. At least two – three Christian views, a society view and your own opinion.
10. Remember to include quotes and religious teachings in your answers.
11. A last tip: revise and attend revision sessions.

## **Citizenship**

### **Unit 1: Identity, Democracy and Justice – 1hr**

Section a: Multiple choice & sort answers

Section b: Scenario – read the sources carefully

Section c: Essay question – Follow the bullet points

### **Unit 2: Rights & Responsibilities – 1 hr**

Section a: Short answer questions – state an example of..

Section b: Source analysis – read the sources carefully and refer to them in your answer

Section b – part 2: Arguing a viewpoint – Explain for and against and your own view point using clear examples.

### **Tips for revision**

- Learn key words
- Focus on key concepts
- Complete past papers
- Follow the bullet point instructions for longer answers
- Attend all revision sessions
- Point Evidence Explain!

## Languages

For the Reading and Listening Exams

- Read the questions VERY carefully. Use your time effectively. If you finish early, re-read your answers and check them.
- Answer every question. If the question is in English, answer it in English, not Français!
- An educated guess is better than a blank space, if you use your common sense you can often work things out: do not give up, you can do it!
- Use your knowledge of cognates and words you already know to guess words you don't know.
- Revise *all* topics from the start of the course (not just year 11). Use Kerboodle to help you with this at home.
- Revise all the 'basics' such as numbers, days of the week, time and how to say the alphabet.
- Know as many adjectives as possible and in the exam look out for synonyms (words or expressions that mean the same thing) and antonyms (opposites).
- Know adverbs (words that end in 'ly' in English e.g. 'fortunately': heureusement), time phrases ('every day': tous les jours etc) and negatives ('never': ne jamais etc).
- Use the linguascope and memorise apps on your Ipods, iPhones and I pads.
- Make sure that you have the revision guide and the revision workbook.



Useful Websites:

[www.kerboodle.com](http://www.kerboodle.com) (See your teacher for your password)

[www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com) – username: dslv, password: north

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/mividaloca/> (Spanish

only)

[www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com)

[www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk)

[www.zut.languageskills.co.uk](http://www.zut.languageskills.co.uk) (after 4pm)

[www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com)

[www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com) – app

[www.frenchrevision.co.uk](http://www.frenchrevision.co.uk) (£5 subscription)



[www.revisionworld.com](http://www.revisionworld.com)

[www.klar.co.uk](http://www.klar.co.uk) German

<http://www.kakadu.de> German

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

## Psychology

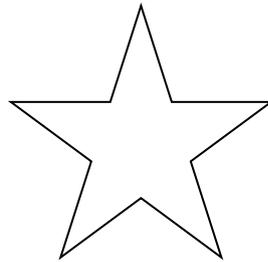
- 1) Use the revision booklets and stripped sheets for each topic to help you revise.
- 2) Attempt all of the questions – especially the essay question. Remember you will definitely get 0 for a question if you leave it blank. You might have a lucky guess!
- 3) Read the question carefully – make sure you check the command words so that you know when to describe and when to evaluate.
  - Describe means to say what something is like, give the key features.
  - Evaluate means to say what the good points and bad points of the theory or study. It might say give a criticism or limitation.
  - Application means to give a real world use of psychology e.g. in counselling, crime reduction or advertising.
- 4) Check how many marks a question is worth – this can help to make sure you write an appropriate amount for the question. 6 and 10 mark questions will need to be answered in continuous prose (Using paragraphs).
- 5) Make sure you use as much psychological terminology as possible.
- 6) Make sure you know the difference between theory and study.
  - Theory: the idea about how something works e.g. humanistic theory of self or constructivist theory of perception.
  - Study: a study that someone actually carried out e.g. Piaget's study into conservation or Mednik's adoption study into criminal behaviour.
- 7) When describing a study make sure you describe the method and the findings.
  - Method: how the research was done.
  - Findings: What the results of the research were, what they found out.
- 8) Make sure you know the difference between methodological and ethical criticisms.
  - Methodological problems: problems with how the research was carried out, e.g. ecological validity, generalisability etc



- Ethical problems: To do with how we treat people in the research e.g. deception, distress, right to withdraw.

9) When there is a source in the question, make sure that you refer back to it in your answer.

10) Get a good night's sleep and eat some breakfast.



## GCSE Physical Education



Before you begin your revision ensure you have:

- Enough space to work
- All your revision material
- No distractions, either friends or family. You must be able to concentrate

Revision:

- Learn all aspects of the theory course
- Learn definitions
- Remember sporting examples for each aspect of the course

Finally, good luck and remember in the exam:

- Be accurate and do not repeat yourself.
- Do not reword the question and think that that is an answer.
- Try to remember the exact definitions and do not use your own definitions.
- Not every question requires a lengthy paragraph answer. Some only require single words e.g NAME.
- Keep your handwriting neat and small enough so you do not think you've "answered enough".
- Take time to read through all questions.
- **Underline** key words. EXAMPLE: - State which joint is the most common in your body and give four examples?
- **MARKS** – always look at how much the question is worth and ensure you answer with the corresponding number of different points.
- Answer every question.
- For the two six mark questions you must give **at least four developed statements and a conclusion**. A developed statement uses connectives in the sentence.
- When answering questions think of your own experiences of participation in sport.

Exam Style Key words:

- Describe – Usually a full accurate response, e.g. where a muscle is located.
- Explain - A detailed in depth response is required.

- State/Identify - Short answer – 1 word or 1 sentence.
- Define - A more lengthy response, include an accurate definition.
- Name – Give names only, no sentences required.

Useful website:

[www.teachpe.com](http://www.teachpe.com)

[www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/>

## **Business Studies- Burton's Top Tips**

This first section will guide you through how to tackle the different types of questions that you will come across in Units 1 and 2.

### **2 mark questions**

These will simply ask you to 'explain' one point.

- State your initial point which is relevant to the case study
- Develop your point with a simple connective

### **3 mark questions**

These will also generally ask you to 'explain' one point.

- State your initial point which is relevant to the case study
- Develop your point with at least two connectives

### **4 & 5 mark questions**

The words 'explain' or 'analyse' will be used in these questions.

- Read the question carefully. Is it asking for benefits- note the plural 'S'- this means you should make two points and develop them both using connectives
- Be wary of what it is asking you to explain. Is it benefits or drawbacks, if it's benefits, only explain the benefits, you will receive no marks for writing about drawbacks

### **9 mark questions**

Remember- there will be 3 of these on the Unit 1 paper, which are almost half the marks!

- The C/S is your friend- make sure your answer is relevant and you use the clues
- You have to discuss the two options they give you, DO NOT make up your own
- DO NOT say they should ask the customer which option is best, it's your decision
- You need to use all the space provided, a few lines is definitely not enough
- Explain, analyse & discuss. DO NOT write a list!
- Start with one point and follow it all the way through (analyse it thoroughly). Think of stepping stones: 1 leads to 2 which leads to 3...

- Always remember, there are pros and cons to every decision. Balance out the argument by saying 'however'
- Finish off by writing by a **solid conclusion** with a solid justification
  - 'To conclude I think they should...'

### **The two types of 9 mark questions you might see**

- You will be given two options, your job is to compare the two and decide which is the most suitable
  - Job vs. batch
  - Primary vs. secondary
- You will be asked to provide solutions to a problem
  - How to improve motivation
  - How to attract more customers to the business
    - For this type of question, give 3 solutions which are realistic for the business. Your evaluation will focus on which one is most suitable for the business in the C/S. Use the clues to come to a decision. E.g. if they are having cash flow problems, don't suggest they should give employees a pay rise or bonus

### **Finance questions**

You are likely to have at least one finance related question on Unit 1. It will generally focus on: Costs (fixed, variable and total), revenue and profit.

- First job- write the formula in words e.g. revenue = quantity sold x average selling price
- Now simply use the clues and insert the figures
- Check it twice, finance questions are an easy way to pick up marks

### **'List' questions**

They literally do what they say on the tin!

If it says list 3 stakeholders of the business, then do just that... 3 stakeholders of Burton's Baps... Customers, Competitors and the local community = 3 marks

## **Business terms**

Always use key terms where you can, you are getting assessed on your knowledge of the subject.

- More people will want the product = demand will increase
- The business will make more money = sales revenue and profits will increase
- The workers will want to work harder = the employees will be more motivated to work harder

## **Other considerations for the exams**

- The exams will cover all topics of the course- make sure you revise everything
- Your answers must be specific to the case study, think about the business they have given you, use the clues within the case study
- Make sure you write in full sentences on the longer questions, you are getting marks for spelling and grammar
- If you have time left at the end, don't waste it! Go back and check your answers, maybe even add something to your 9 mark answers, ensure your conclusion is solid and relevant to the business in the C/S

## **Revision tips and resources**

- This is generally down to the individual, you do what works best for you:
  - Post it notes, mind maps, Dictaphone and headphones
- Those that bought the revision books, use them! They are an excellent resource which cover everything you need to know for both units
- Obviously use your school books with your classwork in
- Use old exams you have done- remember, I have given you model answers for both mocks you have completed, analyse my technique and see where I pick up all the marks for each question

## **Useful websites**

- SAM Learning
- BBC Bitesize

## Design and Technology

### Engineering

The written examination paper is split into two sections, a Product Study section and a section on Manufacturing and Materials.

For the product study section, you should carry out research into the design and manufacture of hand-held power tools.



You should be able to identify the materials, components and manufacturing methods used to make these products and the technologies used to improve their function.

You will also need to understand:

- How to generate a design specification
- Engineering Drawing techniques including CAD
- Materials and their properties
- Shaping, forming and machining processes
- Joining techniques
- Finishing techniques
- Working safely
- Sustainability

### Textiles

The topic of the exam this year is *Textile products inspired by the theme of marine life*.

Section A is worth 35 Marks.

Ensure that you are confident with your designs that you have been working on through the preparation paper given on the 1st May. You should be clear of the design detail, colours and annotation for both. This section will be based totally on your design work.

## Section B

This section will be based on general questions within Textiles and is normally broken down into areas including:

- Product analysis
- Fabrics and Fibres
- Components. Production planning
- Manufacturing processes and Health and safety
- Decorative techniques and Moral and Environmental issues about social, moral and cultural issues

It will also contain a written communication question. You will be assessed on Quality of Written Communication (QWC) for this question and it is worth 8 marks. Be accurate in your spelling and punctuation for this question.

### **Graphics & Resistant Materials**

The exam will contain a combination of questions on aspects of designing & making and sustainability issues. The number of marks available will give you a guide about the level of detail required. Questions marked with a \* will assess your quality of written communication so focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar for these questions. You will need to know:

- A range of materials and their properties
- Drawing strategies and techniques
- Recycling and sustainability factors relevant to the processes and materials
- Manufacturing techniques

It is important that you can justify *why* you would use certain materials and processes for relevant applications.

### **Food**

For the food exam you will be asked to develop design solutions in response to a brief, then select the most suitable and justify your decisions. You will need to know:

- How to plan a sequence of food preparation activities
- How to ensure quality, safety and hygiene
- How to select ingredients and their quantities
- Healthy eating and the impacts when designing food products
- Properties of ingredients, including the effects of cooking on those ingredients

### **Tips on learning**

Start with what you know – become active in the process, using drawing, talking and testing

Exam boards ask questions on the facts in your syllabus

Learn facts, get marks!

### **Revision Tips**

Start with a revision plan, plan to start early

Revise little and often and give yourself breaks after about an hour session. This makes your learning more efficient

### **Ways to revise**

- There is no best way, but choose a method which helps you learn key facts and knowledge
- Read notes, turn notes into charts and diagrams
- Use revision guides
- Make prompt cards or post it notes, write down key facts – writing helps you remember things
- Work through past question papers
- Change the method for revising during a revision session. You could read and test, or get someone to test you

## Music

In Music the final exam is 25% of the candidate's final grade.

The correct title is 'GCSE music Listening Question Paper'

It is a written paper of questions that relate to music tracks on a CD.



### Revise only what you need to know

1. Dance Music (Area of Study 3)
  - a. Pavanne and Galliard (Elizabethan courtly dances)
  - b. Waltz (Vienna, Austria)
  - c. Disco Music of the 70's and 80's
  - d. Bhangra (from the Punjab region of India)
  - e. Salsa (a Latin American style, Cuban)
  - f. Jigs and Reels (Celtic folk music)
  - g. Line Dance (USA)
  - h. Tango (Argentina and Uruguay)
  
2. Descriptive Music (Area of Study 4)
  - a. Music that tells a story or suggests a scene
  - b. Programme Music (19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Orchestral music)
  - c. Leitmotif (a signature tune)
  - d. Ostinato (the use of short repeated ideas)
  - e. Music for Film (Fantasy and Adventure, Romantic and War films)
  - f. Diegetic Music (External music inserted into films eg. "Twilight" series)

### Know your technical vocabulary

If a student doesn't understand the words the subject examiners use, they will not be able to answer the questions!

Music has specialised music vocabulary. Learn the important terms.

## Glossary of Exam Words

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Compare	Are the things alike or are there important differences? Which do you think is the best? Why?
Contrast	Look for differences
Criticise	Use the evidence to support your opinion on the value of merit of ideas, facts or views of others
Define	Give the meaning
Describe	Write in detail
Differentiate	Explain the difference
Discuss	Write about important aspects of the topic. Are there two sides to the question? Consider the arguments for and against
Distinguish	Explain the difference
Evaluate	Judge the importance of success/failure
Evaluate (Maths)	Find the numerical answer to a problem
Explain	Make clear and give examples to support answer
Illustrate	Give examples which make the point clear
Interpret	Explain the meaning in your own words, for example you may have to interpret a graph
Justify	Give reasons to support an argument or action
Outline	Choose the most important aspects of a topic. Ignore the minor details
Relate	Show the connection between things
State	Write briefly the main point
Summarise	Bring together the main points





## **Final Thoughts – You are not on your own**

There are many people around you who are just as keen for you to do well as you are, so don't be afraid to ask teachers/parents for help. Your friends may well be taking the same exams – why not work together on the topics that bore you; share your thoughts about revision cards. Remember too that if you can explain something to someone else before the exam, the chances are that you can explain it in an exam as well!

Beware of other people who tell you either that they are doing very little or a great deal, the first lot may be lying to look cool; the second lot panic you into overworking! Think for yourself; don't let other people ruin your revision schedule.

Exams are not designed to catch you out; they are simply to find out what you know, what you understand and what you can do.

Remember – it's only a short time to sacrifice for something that you can be proud of forever. Once the exams are over, take some time to relax and celebrate your own achievements!

*Good Luck!*



An E-ACT academy

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