



# GCSE Combined Science

## Revision Success

Subject Leader: Miss L White

# Why revise?



- Activity 1
- Try to remember what you did on your birthday three years ago.
- Write down as much as you can, you must include:
  - Where you were
  - What you did
  - The presents you received
  - Who gave you each of those presents

# How did you do?



- How would you rate your performance
- Green – I could remember everything – no problemo!
- Amber – I managed to remember something about the day
- Red – What birthday? – I'm only 21 after all so I must have missed a few!





# What am I trying to prove?

- Your birthday is quite an important event
- An ordinary lesson is even harder to remember
- Your birthday is one day
- Science lessons happen every day
- If the lesson happened in year 9... would YOU remember it

- Do you know what is happening behind closed doors?





“But I am revising – I’m using my revision guide”

- OK let’s see how that works...
- Here is a double page from the revision guide (pg 98-99)
- You have 3 minutes to read it
- Only read it.

# Now try to answer



- Describe how covalent bonding occurs between two chlorine atoms and explain why this bond forms.
- Why are fluorine and chlorine gases at room temperature?
- Explain why diamonds are very hard
- Explain two reasons why graphite can conduct electricity



# Can you answer questions easily by just reading?

- Research tells us that reading without any other activity is the least effective way of revising
- We know that a lot of our students revise this way – because they tell us that they do.
- If you have just read the material – it is very hard to memorise it or use it to answer questions

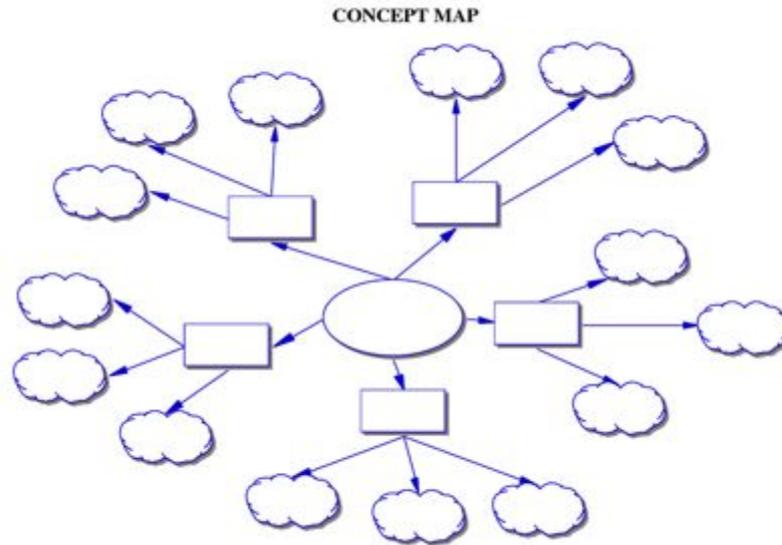
# Reading a texting

- Many teenagers revise and use social media at the same time.
- Be strong and say no to phones, computers or TV's while revising



# Making a mind map

- As a family on your table I would like you to use the plain piece of paper to create a mind map on the topic:
- Giant covalent structures





# Using your mind map (close the revision guide) try to answer

- Why do giant covalent structures have high melting points?
- Name two forms of carbon that are giant covalent structures?
- Name a form of carbon that is a football shaped molecule
- Why is graphite able to conduct electricity?
- How many bonds does each carbon atom make in diamond?



# What does revision look like in Science?



The following common revision techniques have been proven to be the least effective:

- Highlighting text
- Summarising texts
- Reading and Re-reading information



Although you may feel comfortable with these methods there are a variety of techniques for you to use instead. See below...

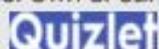


## Flashcards



Create cards that have questions on one side and answers on the other.

You could create your own or using online tools such as:



Once made use the Leitner method to increase retention:

[How to study flashcards](#)

[using the Leitner system](#)

[YouTube](#)



### How to use in Science

→ Definitions of **keywords**



→ **Equations** (Physics, Chemistry and Biology)



→ Measurement **units** (e.g. g/dm<sup>3</sup> concentrations)



→ Circuit **symbols**



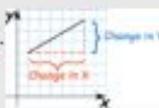
→ **Required practical** methods (create cards to show the stages of each required practical)



→ **Evaluation:** cards to show the advantages and disadvantages of a scientific process (e.g. pros and cons of using stem cells)



→ Maths **calculations** (e.g. mean, gradient on a graph)



## Learning maps

**Graphic organisers** are a fantastic way of **processing** information and presenting it in a clear way that helps you to remember.

They can be used to make links, compare, show processes etc.

These can be made yourself or you can use online tools such as:

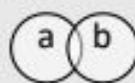
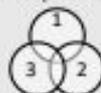


### How to use in Science:

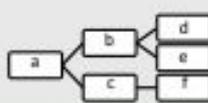
→ Use **spider diagrams** or **mind maps** to show links (e.g. for a whole topic on Forces)



→ Use a **Venn diagram** to compare and contrast (e.g. eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells).



→ Use **process diagrams** to sequence scientific processes (e.g. controlling blood sugar levels)

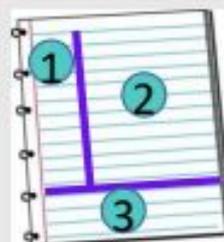


## Cornel notes

Use this method to make your **notes effective**. This can be from a lesson, a revision book or a revision video.

Watch the **YouTube** clip for an explanation of how to make them:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErSic1PEGKE>



**1 Key points** – write down the main points/keywords/diagrams/key questions/study prompts. (do this after making the notes in section 2)

**2 Notes** – In this space you record concisely, simply the things you are **LESS** likely remember. Not full sentences, use diagrams, lists, abbreviations, equations etc.

**3 Summary** – The most important step that is carried out after the note taking in section 2. This helps to reinforce learning. Write down the main ideas so this section can be used as a quick reference point

## Retrieval practice

Testing what you know in Science is a great way to revise and train your brain to remember.

You can create your **own** quizzes using apps such as and

There are also **phone apps** with ready made quizzes based on your exam board (AQA) specification. Great examples include:

**Temple run**



**GCSE bitesize**



### How to use in Science:

- Multiple choice questions
- True or false questions
- Short explanation questions
- Odd one out
- If this is the answer what is the question?

**Spaced:** Test on old and new topics and mix them up

**Knowledge organisers:** use these to create your 'must know' quizzes

**Use for:** equations, math's skills, scientific skills, required practicals, key concepts, anything!

**Test yourself** and get **others to test you**.



# What does revision look like in Science?

## Dual Coding

This is the method where you put **pictures alongside text** to reinforce memory and retention of knowledge.



### What to do?

1. Use simple drawings with simple text descriptions
2. Your drawing is there to represent your understanding of that topic
3. Draw links between different images

### How to use in Science:

→ Annotate diagrams:



→ Comic strips (e.g. a comic strip outlining digestion or a comic strip to show how to carry out the method for one of your required practicals such as spring extension)

## The Power Hour

### Revision POWER HOUR

Get the most out of your revision with a power hour. Here's a step-by-step of how to do it.



Plan time where you can practice applying your knowledge to exam style questions. These must challenge you and remember **practice makes perfect!**

**How to use in Science:**

- Use the **power hour template** above when going through practice questions for the first time. You can get practice papers from the AQA website and your teacher.
- Pull apart a **model answer** to a 6 mark question (from your teacher). Identify the **key points** and where the student got their marks.

## Interleaving

Don't revise all your topics at once (cramming).

Revise **small chunks** of topics at a time (e.g. **20 mins.**) and then move onto another 'chunk' of a topic for next 20 minutes. This will improve your **memory**.



e.g. 20 minutes on covalent bonding, then 20 minutes on homeostasis and the 20 minutes on energy transfers.

### How to use in Science:

- Create a **revision timetable** to plan when you are going to cover every topic.
- Revise your **least confident topic first** e.g. forces
- Then go over the topics again
- Use your **flashcards** to test yourself on these topics as you go through them
- Keep **reviewing your revision timetable** as your confidence grows in certain topics (i.e. don't spend the same amount of time on a topic that you are now more confident in)



## Knowledge Organisers

Create knowledge organisers for every topic. Use **colour, diagrams** and **box** your text so it is organised for your brain to process and **retain**.

### How to use in Science:

- Complete at end of topic to highlight key points and process information
- Include: labelled diagrams, keywords and definitions, tables, equation triangles etc.
- Create them for every required practical. Include the method, diagram of equipment, variables, safety precautions, improvements to experiments



## REVISION: THE BASICS

**Calm space to revise** (Icon: person at desk)

**Limit distractions** (Icon: crossed-out phone)

**eat well and drink lots of water** (Icon: apple and glass)

**Sleep well** (Icon: person sleeping)

**Plan: revision timetable** (Icon: pencil and paper)

**Take breaks** (Icon: alarm clock)

Make sure you are confident with the overall topic before you start to revise the details.



# Exam questions



- Exam questions often bring together a range of topic areas.
- Once you are confident in the topics use the past papers on the exam board website to practice REAL questions.
- <http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-guidance/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

**AQA**

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number       Candidate number

Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate signature \_\_\_\_\_

Tickbox this is my own work.

**GCSE  
COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY** **F**

Foundation Tier  
Chemistry Paper 1F

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Materials**  
For this paper you must have:

- a ruler
- a scientific calculator
- the periodic table (enclosed).

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
- If you need extra space for your answers, use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answers.
- Do not rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- In all calculations, show clearly how you work out your answer.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 70.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are expected to use a calculator where appropriate.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

For Examiners Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
<b>TOTAL</b>	

**8464/C/1F**

**AQA**

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number       Candidate number

Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate signature \_\_\_\_\_

Tickbox this is my own work.

**GCSE  
COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY** **H**

Higher Tier  
Physics Paper 2H

Thursday 25 May 2023 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Materials**  
For this paper you must have:

- a ruler
- a scientific calculator
- the Physics Equations Sheet (enclosed).

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Pencil should be used for drawing.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
- If you need extra space for your answers, use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answers.
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For Examiners Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
<b>TOTAL</b>	

**8464/P/1H**

# Working together

- How much better did it feel to work as a group?
- Encourage productive joint revision
- Be the revision friend



So how do you combat this.....



And this.....



With this.....



And this.....



- I'm not telling you it's going to be easy.
- But I can promise you it's worth it.

