

Revision Evening



ARDEN

Excellence In Education

A photograph of a bright blue sky filled with soft, white, fluffy clouds. The text is centered in the middle of the frame.

YOU ARE PURE
POTENTIAL

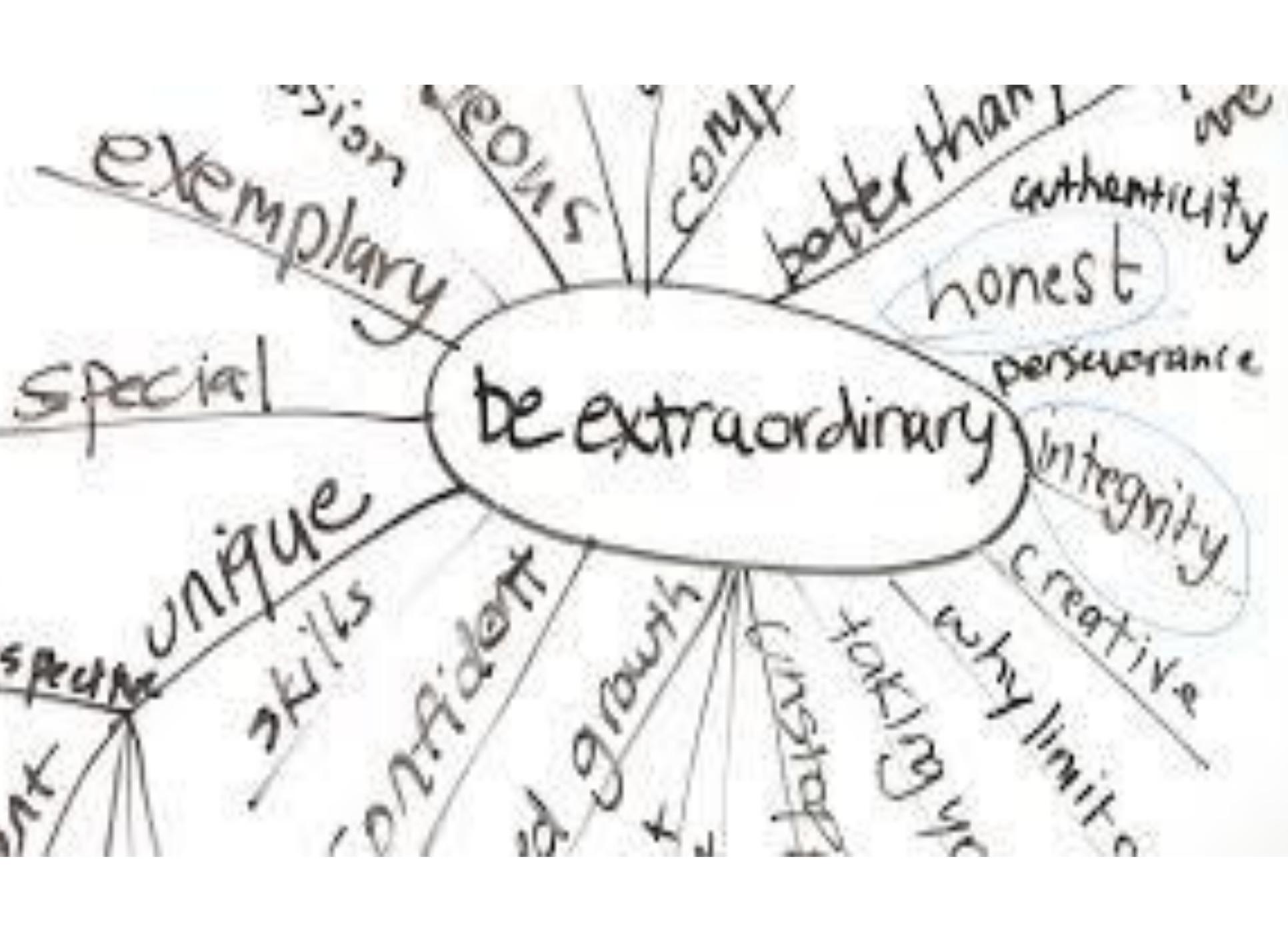
IF
CANNOT DO IT...



Choice



EXIT NOW



The Purpose of Revision

Revision means going over work in order to:

1. Check your understanding.
2. Make links between different topics to see how the whole subject fits together.
3. Remind yourself of material you have forgotten.
4. Reinforce your learning.
5. Identify and fill gaps in your knowledge.

What works? - Testing yourself

"Students who can test themselves or try to retrieve material from their memory are going to learn that material better in the long run"

"Start by reading the text book then make flash cards of the critical concepts and test yourself." Prof Dunlovsky

"A century of research has shown that repeated testing works."

He adds: "Testing itself when you get the correct answers appears to produce a more elaborative memory trace connected with your prior knowledge, so you're building on what you know".

What works? – Revision over time

The best strategy is to plan ahead and not do all your revision on one subject in a block before moving on to the next - a technique called "distributed practice".

Students who cram may pass the exam but they don't retain the material.

"In any other context, students use this technique. If you were doing a dance recital you wouldn't start practising an hour before, yet students like to cram for an exam."

"When they're going to be taking advanced classes in the subject, they are going to build on the knowledge they're developing, so I highly recommend distributed practice."

"A good dose of cramming that follows up on lots of distributive practice is the best way to go."

What Works?



Ed Cooke, a 31-year-old British “memory champion”,

The key, he says, is to start early but learn in short bursts, testing yourself on a subject over several weeks and leaving lengthy intervals between each session. The last thing you should do is start cramming.

Cooke is adamant that the capacity to learn huge amounts of information does not require any natural ability – just technique, and a healthy dose of motivation.

Revision Timetables

9.00-9.30 Subject 1
Break 5 mins
9.35-10.05 Subject 1
Break 5 mins
10.10-10.40 Subject 2
Break 5 mins
10.45-11.15 Subject 2
Break 30 mins
11.45-12.15 Subject 3
Break 5 mins
12.20-12.50 Subject 3
Break 1 hour
13.50-14.20 Subject 1
Break 5 mins
14.25-14.55 Subject 2
Break 5 mins
15.00-15.30 Subject 3
Break 5 mins
15.35-16.05 Subject 1

Research shows that shorter 20-30 minute spells work best, because your concentration is much higher.

We therefore recommend taking short, frequent breaks.

We also advise to mix the order of the subjects.

Top Ten Revision Techniques

So do different techniques work for different individuals? Prof Dunlosky says "no" - the top techniques work for everyone.

1. *Elaborative interrogation - being able to explain a point or fact*
2. *Self-explanation - how a problem was solved*
3. *Summarising - writing summaries of texts*
4. *Highlighting/underlining*
5. *Keyword mnemonics - choosing a word to associate with information*
6. *Imagery - forming mental pictures while reading or listening*
7. *Re-reading*
8. *Practice testing - Self-testing to check knowledge - especially using flash cards - HIGH*
9. *Distributed practice - spreading out study over time - HIGH*
10. *Interleaved practice - switching between different kinds of problems*

Actively Revising

The least effective ways of revising are those that involve just reading through notes over and over.

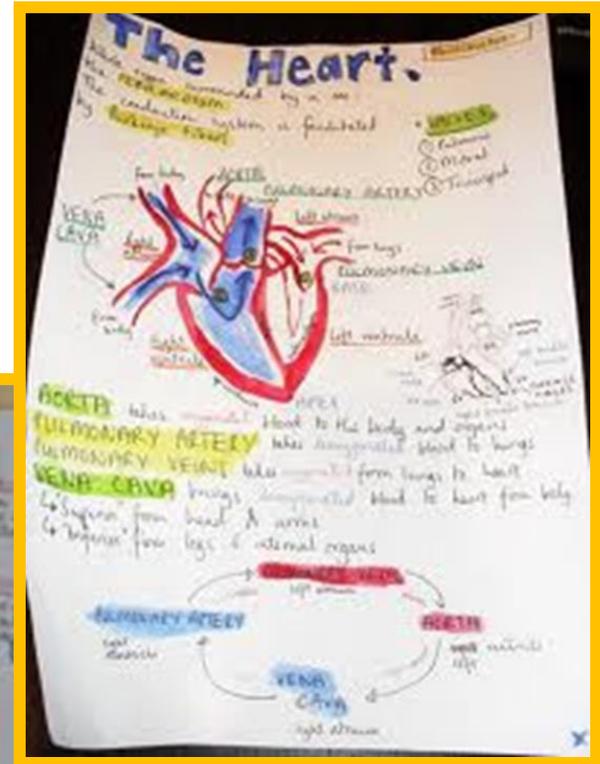
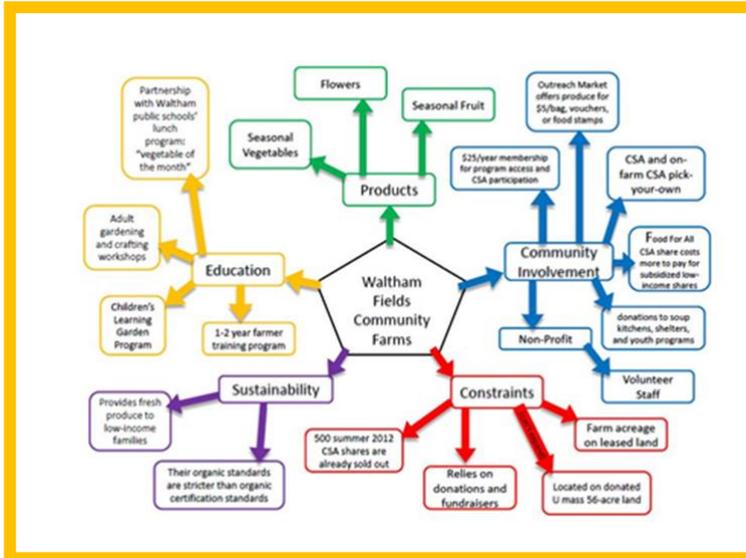
Revising is remembering. It's not 'revising' unless you're fixing it into your brain.

Never just read your notes. You must always be **DOING** something with them to **FIX** the information in your brain

The most effective ways are those where you **interact with the material**, making it meaningful to yourself, for example:

1. Using your material to answer a question or address a problem you have not previously tackled.
2. Make links, comparisons and contrasts between different areas of your programme.
3. Evaluate different theories.

Reworking the material into a chart or diagram



Summarising material under headings onto index cards



...ve written on notes, it's time to condense that information into manageable facts. This is where memory to play.

- **Word power:** For each topic, write bullet points of key facts on a set of index cards.

- **Organise:** Categorise the facts into sub-categories, then sub-sub-categories so you can understand how they all link together.

- **Links:** 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.

- **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!

Discussing the material with other people



Spice up your revision

Use a bit of colour.

Drawing colourful learning maps will help you to memorise facts.

Colourful notes are easier to memorise than plain black and white ones.



Exercise

Physical activity is very important, in particular during intense study time. Even going for a walk after a day of revision will make a huge difference to your wellbeing.

Physical activity increases heart rate which makes the blood circulate faster. This in turn ensures that brain gets more oxygen which **increases productivity** whilst **reducing tiredness and stress**.

Find a quiet space

This is a pretty straightforward one: you need a place where you can be uninterrupted for a few hours. Your room, local library over studying in Costa!

You must limit your distractions.



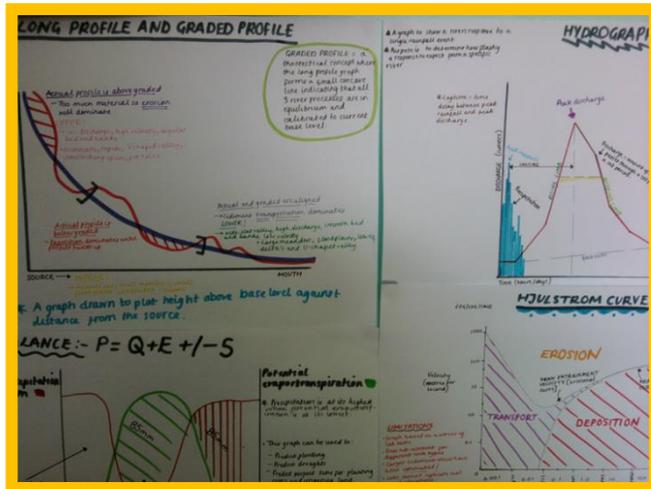
Do plenty of past papers

Ask your teacher for some past papers or google them yourself.

Most exam boards nowadays put a lot of emphasis on **exam technique** and simply familiarising yourself with it before the exam can often save you time and help to earn marks at the exam.

Once you have done three or four past papers chances are that some of questions that come on the day will look familiar.

Make summary notes



Making notes is by far the best way to memorise lots of information.

The best way to memorise information is by making notes over and over again.

Candidates often make as many as three sets of the same notes in a run up to the exams which help them to memorise the required information.

Social structures model
voting is influenced by long term factors such as ethnicity, gender, class, education and geography

Party identification model
partisan alignment is the idea that one has a long standing allegiance to a particular party, usually relevant to class

Rational choice model
also known as the utilitarian model, this is the idea that one makes decisions based on interests and profitably based on evidence

Dominant ideology model
prevailing institutions influence who we vote for, such as the media or powerful people. Or both, such as Rupert Murdoch et al

Voting context model
votes depend upon what is happening near the time of polling, similarly to Rational choice. This is more focused upon opinion polls or campaigning politician - slip ups.

Reward yourself

It is not all about the work; you need good breaks too.

People who manage to find the right balance between study and leisure are the ones who get the top marks.



Use your family and friends

Ask people around you to test you and give you feedback. You should already have made handy revision notes. Why not give these notes of key dates covering Henry VIII's reign to your mum and ask her to test you?

This is not only a good way to revise but also a good way to have a break from the hard work.



Know your exam paper

To achieve your target grade in ENGLISH you need to:

Understand the demands of the questions: inform, explain, describe and to argue, persuade, advise

To achieve your target grade in SCIENCE you need to:

Memorise a lot of facts

Understand concepts and models and processes

Apply your knowledge and understanding to a new situation

To achieve your target grade in MATHS you need to:

Understand the terms: 'Calculate', 'write down', 'find', 'list', 'explain', 'solve', 'give reasons'.

Problem solving: working out what calculations are needed.

Do I need to add the numbers or do I multiply them?

How do I use the information in the question?

Some questions require careful reading.

Think before starting to work on the answer

Exam Technique

Underline

Underline the key words and command words in the information and in the question



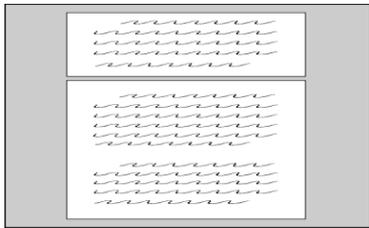
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SPaG

Spelling, punctuation and grammar

Structure

How many paragraphs will be needed, what will go into each paragraph?



Proofread

Double check your answer checking you have answered the question, used key words and for SPaG



WHAT DOES A GOOD ONE LOOK LIKE?

- *There are videos showing what a good answers looks like on the VLE.*
- *Real answers from real Arden students.*
- *Teachers who have recorded voiceovers explaining what makes the answers so good.*
- *Watch the videos with your parents.*
- *List how their answers are the same or better.*
- *Questions: what was missing, what was different, what was the same?*

Practice

- Lots of past exam style questions
- Do some as 'open book': using revision guides, notes, etc. as a reference (but not the mark scheme!)
- Do some past papers under timed exam conditions, to get used to the experience.
- Especially practise the difficult topics as well as the easier ones.
- Use mark schemes **AFTER** doing the paper to identify strengths and areas for further work.
- Take initiative and approach teachers for help. Use the VLE.
- Start now by revising year 10 work.

Parents - How can you help?

- *Question their comparisons.*
- *Check they have explained the impact of individual words.*
- *If you can't understand the explanation then get them to redo it.*
- *Time them.*
- *Time them again.*

How school will support the revision process

Year 11 General Studies programme

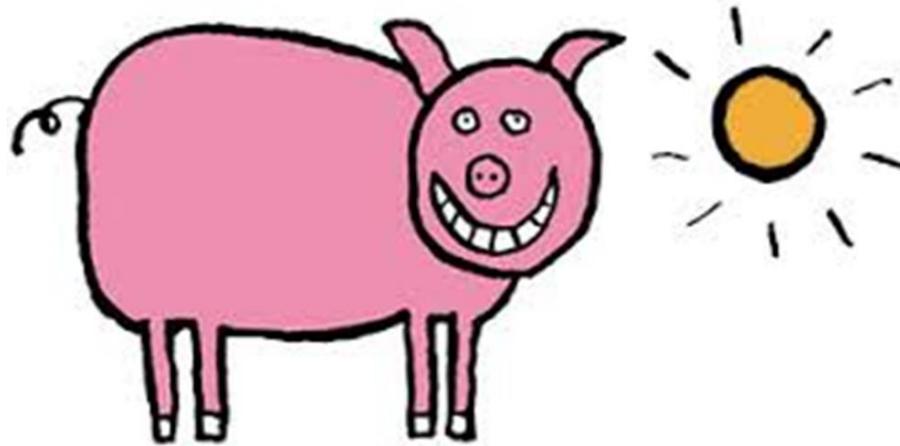
Time:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
09:00	School	School	School	School	School	Subject 5	English Lit.
10:30	School	School	School	School	School	Subject 5	English Lit.
12:00	School	School	School	School	School	Subject 5	English Lit.
-	School	School	School	School	School	Lunch	Lunch
13:00	School	School	School	School	School	Subject 8	Subject 9
14:30	School	English Lang.	School	School	School	Subject 8	Subject 9
16:00	Biology	Break	Subject 7	Subject 6	Biology	Subject 7	Subject 8
16:45	Break	Subject 6	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
17:00	Subject 4	Break	Subject 6	Subject 6	Subject 9	English Lang.	English Lang.
17:45	Break	Subject 5	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
18:00	Subject 6	Break	Subject 4	Mathematics	Subject 9	English Lang.	English Lang.
18:45	Break	Mathematics	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
19:00	Subject 5	Mathematics	Subject 4	Mathematics	English Lit.	Subject 6	Subject 4
19:45	Break	Mathematics	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
20:00	Subject 9	English Lit.	Subject 8	English Lit.	Subject 5	Mathematics	Subject 4
20:45	Break	Subject 7	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
21:00	Subject 9	Finish	Subject 8	English Lit.	Mathematics	Mathematics	Subject 8
21:45	Finish		Finish	Finish	Finish	Finish	Finish

How school will support the revision process

Extensive programme of revision sessions

GCSE English Language and Literature REVISION TIMETABLE					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime Workshops 1.25-1.55 Bring lunch with you and take the chance to perfect the small things that could make a BIG difference to your grade.	Scintillating Sentence Starters with KED in E9 Ensure that your sentences start with zing and bring a smile to the examiners face. OR The Writing Paper Made Easy with AJO in D2 (See below for details)	'Spick and Span' Spelling with AJO in D2 Attend this session to ensure that you don't miss out on marks because 'you're spelling is all over the place'!	Exam Clinic with KFO in A10 Need revision resources? Stuck with a certain type of question? Generally in a muddle? Come along for some advice. OR Making Poetry More Pleasant with EBO in A8 Get to grips with that crafty unseen poetry comparison and know your simile from your similes.	The Reading Paper Made Easy with LBO in A4/A1 Reading paper bringing you out in a cold sweat? Don't worry, come along for some simple strategies and a little practice.	Perfecting Punctuation with SBA in A9 Gain access to better marks by revising how to use more ambitious punctuation... still not sure what to do with a semi-colon? Then drop by!
After School 3.15-4.15	No Sessions Staff Meetings :0 Why not access: • Doodle? • BBC Bitesize? • Moodle? • Active Learn? OR Do some past questions?	The Writing Paper Made Easy with KFO in A10 Come along and perfect your writing skills- every session tailored to your needs...	Tackling the Empathy Question with RHU in A9 Panicking about the possibility of having to write as a character? A 'no fear' session on how to tackle this tricky question type.	Extract Question Sorted with HCH in A1 Get ten easy marks in the bag and leave plenty of time for those longer questions with this handy session.	No Sessions It's the weekend! :0 Why not access: • Doodle? • BBC Bitesize? • Moodle? • Active Learn? OR Do some past questions?

Think positive!



At the end of the day, it's not all about studying. There are plenty of people who did well in life without 100 per cent in every single exam. Your life isn't over if you don't ace the exams, so take the pressure off yourself..

Two Tough Facts of Revision

FACT ONE: YOU'VE got to do it.

FACT TWO: Revision takes time.

There is no 'instant' version which will cut corners. Sleeping with your book under the pillow doesn't do it. Stop playing at other things, and start working at your revision.