

Top Revision Tips for Students

1. **Find the right environment to revise:** ***NOT*** in front of the TV. ***NOT*** listening to music: it uses parts of the brain you need for working memory. Certainly not social media or mobile phones. Distraction = failure!



2. **On non-school days, start revising early:** i.e. 9am — that way you'll get your day's work done much quicker and will have time to relax in the evening.

3. **Take short breaks:** ten minutes every hour, not an hour every ten minutes.



4. **Get yourself drinks and snacks in advance:** so you don't make excuses to stop every ten minutes...

5. **Sit at a proper desk:** Don't try to revise in bed — you'll be in the land of pink igloos and elephants before you can say "Captain Birdseye".



6. **Don't put it off:** "Procrastination" is the long word for it. And it means rearranging stuff on your desk, getting a sudden urge after 16 years to tidy your room, playing the guitar, thinking about the weekend, writing love poems about that girl/boy you fancy, painting your toenails, etc, etc, etc,... Sit down at your desk and GET ON WITH IT.



7. **Don't turn yourself into a revision zombie:** if you stop doing anything else but revision you'll turn into a zombie. It's really important that you keep time to do things you enjoy... like cinema, shopping, sports, frisbee, rock-climbing, making model planes, whatever tickles your ferret. When you're doing these try to relax and totally forget about revision.

8. **Record your exam notes:** record yourself reading your exam notes and then listen to them on headphones when you go to sleep. This works really well for 'Blood Brothers' songs.



9. **Stick revision notes all around your house:** so in the exam you think — "aha, quadratic equations, they were on the fridge..."

10. **Try reading difficult bits in funny accents:** Australian is particularly good. This'll make the quotations more memorable.



11. **Use a variety of revision methods:** flash cards, mind maps, chanting, visualising, colour coding, mnemonics, timelines, charts, diagrams, Post-It notes around the house, Memrise, highlighting...



12. **Don't just read your notes: you have to WRITE STUFF DOWN.**

13. **Don't spend ages making your notes look pretty:** this is just wasting time. For diagrams, include all the details you need to learn, but don't try to produce a work of art. Limit yourself to 2 or 3 colours so you don't get carried away colouring things in.

14. **Do lots of practice exam papers:** This is especially important as you get close to the exams.

15. **Use revision guides:** CGP ones are very good.

16. **Most of all, remember to practise, practise, PRACTISE!** No one ever in the history of humanity succeeded by not practising.

