



# **DARLAND HIGH SCHOOL**

## **REVISION TIPS AND IDEAS**



# REVISION... why bother!

## Think about the following:

Do you want to do well and get good results?

Do you really think you can remember all the work you have completed over the last two years?

Can you work out how many lessons you have done for each of your exam subjects?

Just think about how many pages of notes you have made since September of Year 10

## The Benefits:

- ◆ Revising will make you/help you understand the work you have covered in your lessons.
- ◆ Revising makes you get your work organised - that can't be bad.
- ◆ If you get stuck you can get help - you can't do this if you wait until exam day.
- ◆ Better understanding will bet you better marks.
- ◆ It will help to give confidence and better peace of mind.

## TIPS FOR REVISION

**KEEP YOUR REVISION ACTIVE** - You need to write to revise successfully. Make notes, make rhymes, test a friend, get your parents to test you, tape yourself in languages.

**BE PREPARED TO REVISE IN 45 MINUTE BLOCKS** - Spend the **first** 25 minutes revising a topic. Write down the facts and examples as you go. Keep your pen moving. Use lots of scrap paper.

Spend the **last** 10 minutes testing your knowledge by using questions from text books, or multiple choice exercises. Ask yourself if you could answer the questions if they were on the exam paper. If you can't go back to your books.

- ◆ **THE HAND AND THE BRAIN ARE CONNECTED**, so work at improving this connection - always make brief notes as you go along.
- ◆ **IF THERE ARE GAPS** in your notes get help now.
- ◆ **KEEP REVISION POSITIVE**, Have a list of the topics you need to revise in each subject and tick them off as you go along. Visit each revision topic at least three times.
- ◆ **MAKE YOUR REVISION AREA A DISTRACTION FREE ZONE**. Don't be a slouch on a couch. Eat and drink when you have earned a break, not during your revision period. Turn your music and television off. They will distract you, and in the exam you will work in silence.
- ◆ **WORK AND THEN HAVE A BREAK**. Put your music on, have a drink, phone a friend, watch TV for a short while. You will work better if you allow yourself short, frequent breaks of **10 - 15 minutes** with small rewards.

# BY Failing to prepare... you are preparing to fail

## Planning and Preparing

- ◆ If you plan your work you won't feel overwhelmed and panicky.
- ◆ You will be in control of the situation
- ◆ A plan written down in black and white will keep you focussed.
- ◆ You can choose the date you start revising but the finish date cannot be moved.
- ◆ Completing a section of your planned revision will give you a feeling of accomplishment.
- ◆ It will build your confidence in your ability to get tasks done.
- ◆ You will enjoy your free time because you have deserved it.
- ◆ It will stop your conscience (and parents!) nagging.
- ◆ It means you won't end up saying, "I wish I'd started revising sooner."
- ◆ Planning clears your mind and keeps it focussed and relaxed.

**Makes sense when you think about it!**

## Getting into the right frame of mind

Before you start a revision session, get into the right frame of mind. This will ensure that you get the best out of your time and effort. Getting into the right frame of mind will take 10-15 minutes. It's time well spent. In fact, it will save you time in the long run.

## What is a revision session?

Think of a 'session' as a third of the day: a morning, afternoon or an evening. At weekends or during holidays you can think of each day having 3 sessions. Each session lasting 3– 4 hours.

Many people find it helpful to revise 2 out of 3 sessions each day. For some people, the idea of facing whole sessions is too much. If so why not think of half-sessions and vary the pattern each day.

### What kind of person are you?

The early bird, Late risers or night owls - please put a tick in the box

☐☐☐

Decide what is your best pattern for revision and devise your timetable.

MORNING	REVISE	REVISE	FREE
AFTERNOON	REVISE	FREE	REVISE
EVENING	FREE	REVISE	REVISE

## Choosing the best place

You know your own circumstances and you know yourself. You know what would be best for you and you know what would be a cop out.

List some options and write the advantages and disadvantages of each place.

## Choosing the best conditions

List below the features that make a room suitable for you to revise in

# BEFORE YOU START...

## RELAX!

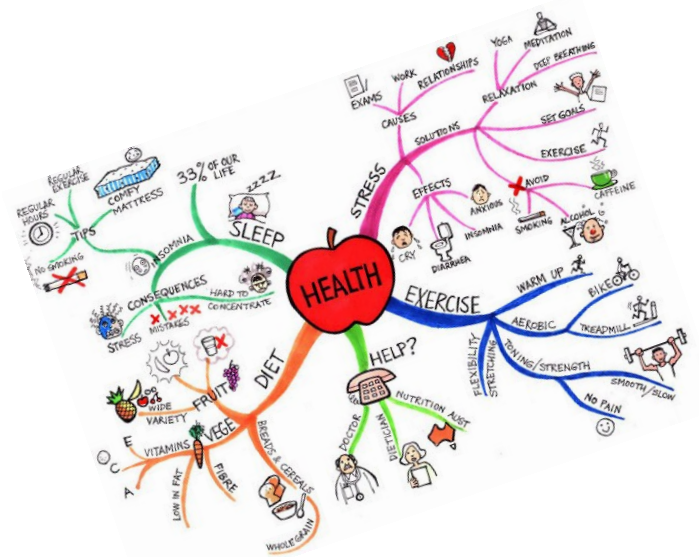
This is not a chance to put off the evil moment. A few minutes relaxation will help you to clear your mind so it's ready to 'receive' your learning. It will also calm your nerves if you are starting to get anxious. Take a few deep breaths and calm yourself down.

Do you know any other relaxation techniques? Which techniques would be best for you?  
Write down your preferred relaxation techniques:

## MIND MAPS or LEARNING MAPS

Create a detailed poster summarising all the information you need. It is like an illustrated word plan.

- ◆ Start with a large piece of paper
- ◆ Use a selection of words and diagrams
- ◆ Use colour, shapes, symbols, pictures to bring the information to life
- ◆ Use lines and arrows to connect your ideas
- ◆ Stick your learning map on your wall/door or anywhere it can be easily seen



## Brainstorm

Read the text you are revising carefully. Now cover it up and brainstorm - write down all the bits of information you can remember as fast as you can in any order.

Look at the text again; add any bits you missed and alter any bits that are wrong.

The brainstorm is good for remembering information, but not for putting it in the correct order. Use the words to create a key word plan, clock sequence or any other method to help you organise your ideas.



What type of intelligence would this work for?

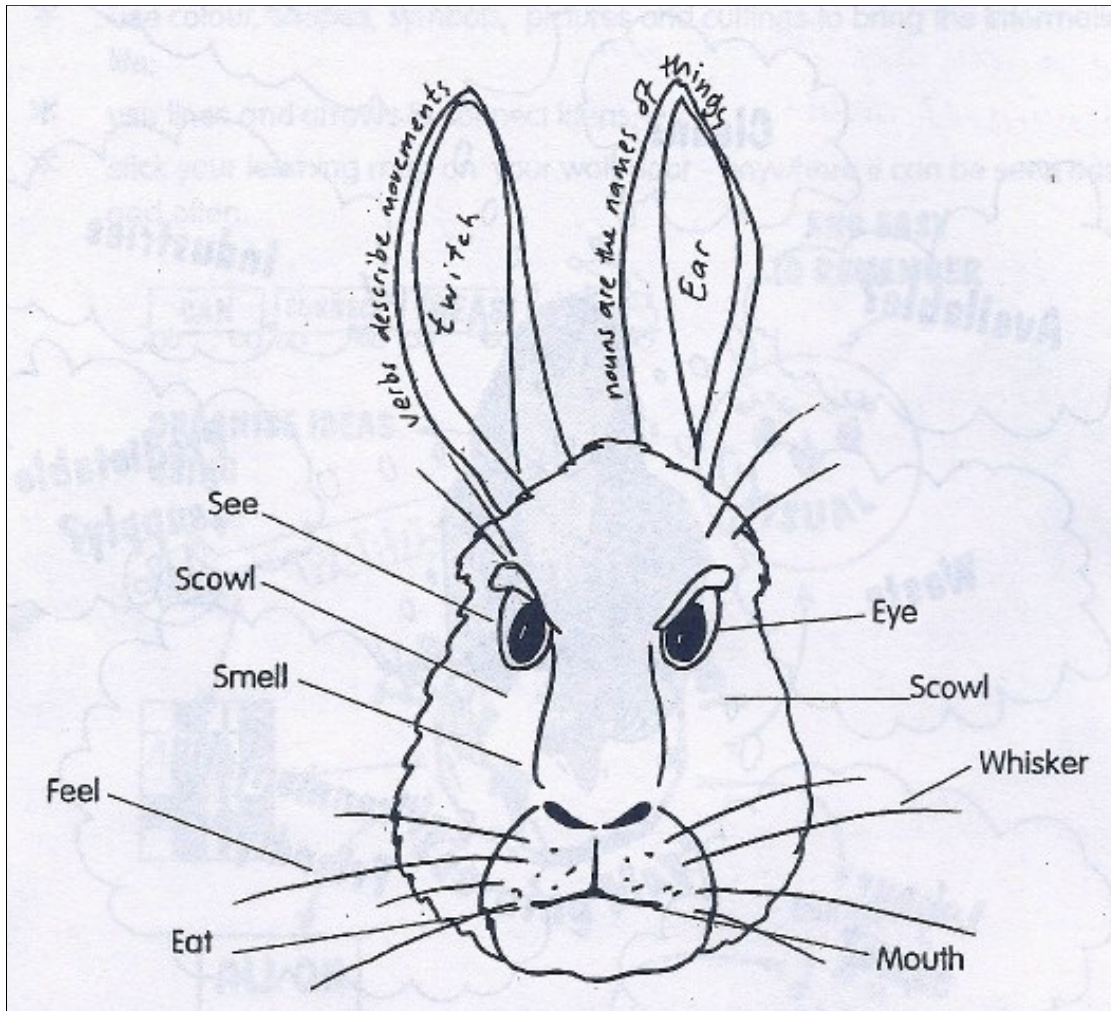
What can I learn this way?



# DOODLES

Do you find yourself doodling when you are bored... or even when you are concentrating? Then put your habit to good use.

- ◆ Identify the key points you need to learn
- ◆ Create a drawing to help you to fix these key points in your mind.



Use your imagination - most information can be presented visually. Be surreal, be funny! You don't have to draw well - scribbling and stick figures will be just as effective as fine works of art.

Which type of intelligence would this work for?

What can I learn in this way?

## BOOKMARK

Make a bookmark with important information written on it, and keep it in a magazine or book that you are reading. Glance at the bookmark each time you start and finish your leisure reading.

Which type of intelligence would this work for?
What can I learn in this way?

## CLOCK CONSEQUENCE

A way of connecting key points to an idea or mental picture that is already familiar to you. For example, a clock face can help you sequence key ideas. You don't have to have 12 items. It's the thought that counts. You can remember different parts of the topic as hours of the clock.

Which type of intelligence would this work for?
What can I learn in this way?

## ANNOTATION

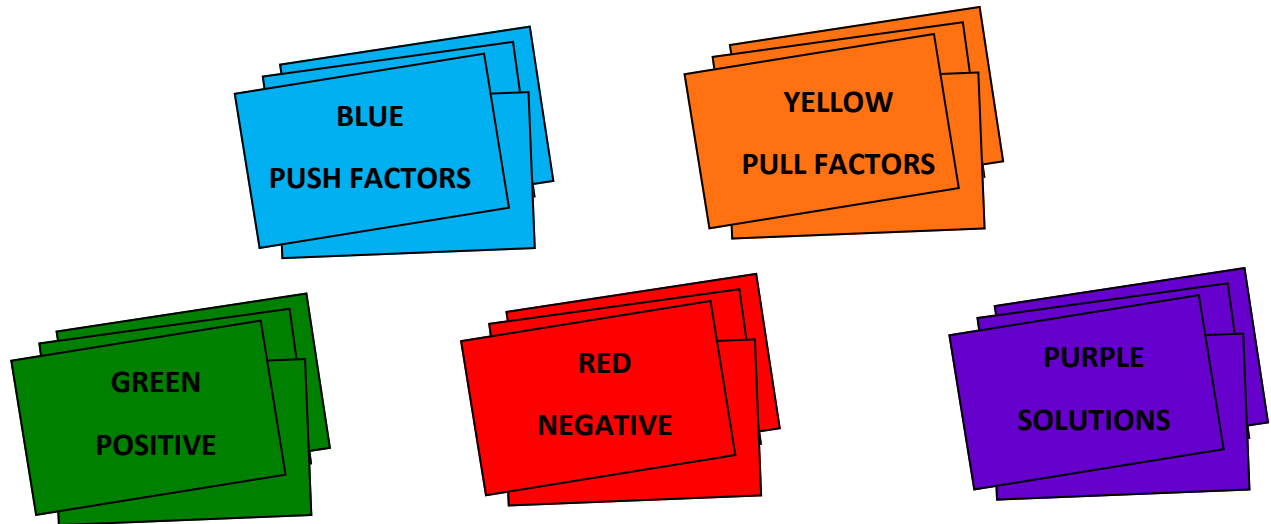
Take a familiar or striking image from the topic you are learning. Label key ideas onto the picture to help fix the information in your mind.

Which type of intelligence would this work for?
What can I learn in this way?



Write key points on coloured card or bits of coloured paper.

Use different colours for different aspects of the topic. For example if you are revising the topic 'migration' in geography, use colours for factors affecting migration



Arrange the items on the floor or on a table in a way that makes sense to you.  
Turn the pieces of paper over to use as flash cards and test yourself.

Which type of intelligence would this work for?

What can I learn in this way?

## POST IT

Write information on post-its and place them in strategic places.

This technique is especially useful to help you learn a language, and for technical terms in science and technology.

You can:

- \* Stick the post-its onto objects they describe
- \* Use the post-its to make and re-make logical patterns of key points
- \* Try removing or turning a post-it and see if you can remember what it says



Which type of intelligence would this work for?

What can I learn in this way?