

Revision Survival Kit



You can do it!

Steps to Exam Success

Have a 'Big Picture' – decide in advance what you want to achieve, and how you will achieve this

Don't cram – you cannot learn everything the night before an exam.

Start early – make notes as you go through the course, you won't have as much revision to do at the end!

List all the topics you need to revise in each subject, and divide them up into different sessions

Make a revision timetable – plan what you will revise each day, to make sure that you cover everything by the time of the exam

Break up your topics into **manageable chunks**

Have a clear aim of what you want to achieve for each revision session

Review your revision frequently weekly – are you where you want to be? Is there anything you could do differently next week?

Factor in breaks – timetable yourself 50-minute slots of focused revision, with 10 minute breaks.

Get rid of distractions – don't try to revise whilst watching television, or texting a friend. Find a quiet space to focus and work efficiently.

Reward yourself – give yourself rewards for small successes such as having some chocolate or watching your favourite tv show

Be active with your revision - don't just read through your notes

Familiarise yourself with the **mark scheme**– make sure you know exactly what you need to do to achieve your targets

Stress less – make sure you still eat and sleep properly, and find time to do things you enjoy!

Be positive – believe in yourself, and your ability to succeed

Do it now!

Revision Techniques

Dominoes

Create a set of dominoes – one half is the question, the other half is the answer. You can play this alone or with a friend.



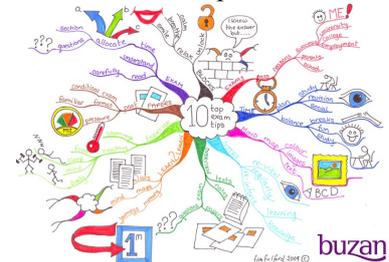
A-Z

Challenge yourself to write a list of keywords beginning with each letter of the alphabet. E.g. The Tudors could be:

Anne Boleyn, **B**reak with Rome, **C**atholicism, **D**issolution of the Monasteries, etc...

Spider Diagrams

A classic – arrange your notes into a spider diagram, with each arm of the diagram representing a different theme or topic



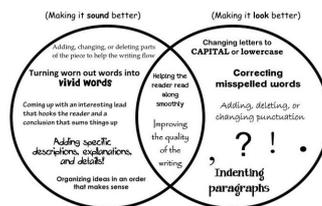
In a Nutshell

Challenge yourself to summarise a theme or topic in a small number of words. You could do this with friends – get them to choose a number at random, and this is the number of words your summary should contain.



Venn Diagram

Create a visual representation of topics where ideas might cross over, but also where they might be different.



Knowledge Test

As you progress through your course, keep a note of quiz questions. Then at the end of a topic, or at the end of the year, you can quiz yourself or your friends.

This is the answer, what is the question?

With a friend, come up with answers to key questions in your course. The friend must guess what the answer is. For example, the answer could be 1914. The question could be 'When did WW1 start?'

Back to the Board

One person stands at the board, with their back turned. On the board will be a keyword or picture. The rest of the group must explain what is on the board, and the person at the front must try and guess.

Timeline

Create a timeline of key events. You could organise this on a washing line, using large sheets of paper pegged onto a line of string.



Grab it

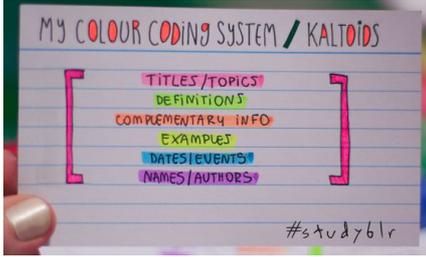
This works best with groups of 3 or more. One person is the question master. The other two people sit side by side, with an object in between them. The first person to grab the object after the question is asked can answer the question.

Song

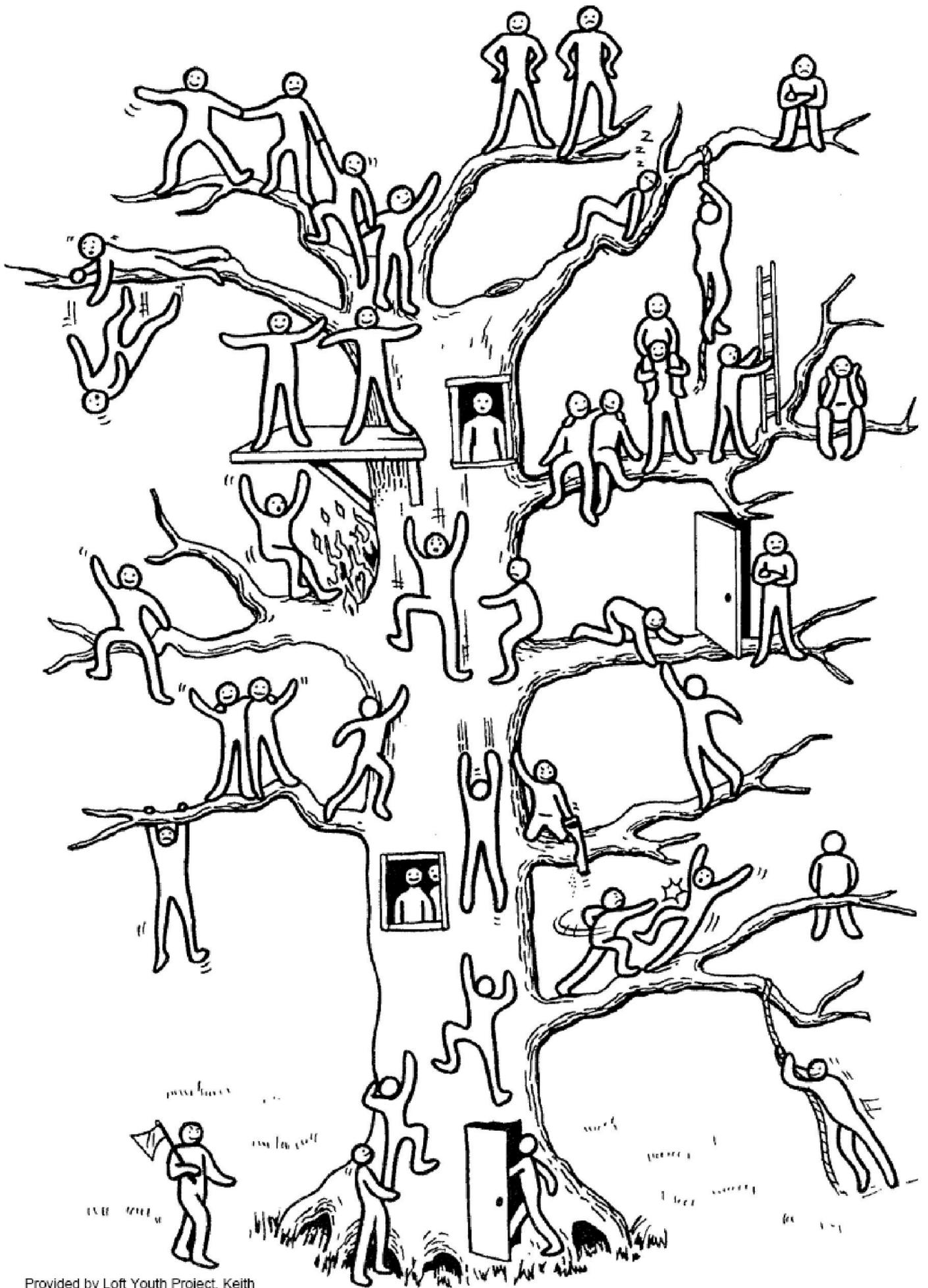
Write a song or edit the lyrics of a well-known song. For example, you could re-write Abba's 'The Winner Takes it All' to describe the Treaty of Versailles

Drama

Create a role play or a puppet show about a key topic. This will help to jog your memory in the exam, especially if you go all out and use funny costumes!

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Taboo</u></p> <p>Create a set of cards containing key words/terms/events/individual etc... Work in pairs. Take turns to pick out a card, and try to explain it to the other person without using the word on the card. The other person must guess.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Colour-Coding</u></p> <p>When making notes, colour-code different topics or themes.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pictures</u></p> <p>Draw pictures to represent key themes/ideas/topics.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Board Game</u></p> <p>Revamp a well-loved board game such as snakes and ladders, and change it into a useful revision tool. For example, the snakes and ladders could be different sizes to represent factors for or against a point. Or certain numbers on the dice could be assigned to questions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mnemonics</u></p> <p>Create a mnemonic to memorise some key information. For example the order of the planets: Many Vile Earthlings Munch Jam Sandwiches Under Newspaper Piles = Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, (poor Pluto...)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Word Association</u></p> <p>With those tricky-to-learn parts, try to associate something you are familiar with, with what you are trying to learn.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Highlighting and Underlining</u></p> <p>Read through notes, and highlight or underline the key part. But remember only to highlight/underline the most important parts – don't colour in the whole page!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Listen</u></p> <p>Record yourself reading over your revision notes. Then you can listen back to your revision while you're out and about.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Fishing Game</u></p> <p>Write down revision tasks on pieces of paper cut into fish shapes, with a hole punched into their tail. Make a fishing rod using a twig, string and an untwisted paperclip. In a group, take it in turns to 'fish' for a fish, and complete the task.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Example Answers</u></p> <p>Ask your teacher for some example answers, and see if you can have a go at grading them. This will help you to familiarise yourself with the mark scheme.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who am I?</u></p> <p>In a group, write down different figures on a post-it note. Pass the post-it note to the person on your left, who will stick it on their forehead. You then take it in turns to ask yes/no questions about who might be on your forehead.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Use your Home</u></p> <p>Make your house into a revision zone; stick post-it notes around the house, for example in the bathroom. While you are brushing your teeth, you can brush up on your revision.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tweet</u></p> <p>Write summaries of information in tweet-style, with character limits and hashtags for key points. You could even use a real twitter account, and tweet your revision every day. If you work with friends, you could all choose a topic each day and learn from each other's tweets.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Texting</u></p> <p>Make plans with your friend doing the same exam, that when you text you will always end with a piece of information needed for the exam.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>I don't know</u></p> <p>Keep an 'I don't know' board – write down any nagging questions you have on a topic. Then make it your mission to find out, such as by asking a friend/teacher, or doing research.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Just a Minute</u></p> <p>Pick a key word/revision topic, and see if you can speak about it or one minute without hesitation, deviation or repetition.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Key Terms</u></p> <p>Create a list of vocabulary used in exam questions, e.g. 'How far...' 'Explain...' 'Describe...'. Then write your own definitions of these terms, and what the question is prompting you to answer.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sorting Hat</u></p> <p>Put past questions into a hat. Pick them at random, and time yourself writing the answer. Alternatively, you can plan answers using bullet points.</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Lucky Dip Timetable</u></p> <p>Write down key topics on individual pieces of paper, and put them into a hat. Every day choose a piece of paper at random; this will be your revision focus for the day.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pictionary</u></p> <p>With a group of friends, all write down a few different topics or themes on different pieces of paper. Then take it in turns to choose a paper, and draw the concept/idea/object for the others to guess.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Splat</u></p> <p>Put a range of words/numbers/pictures on the board, relating to a topic being revised. Two people compete to be the first to 'splat' the word on the board when the relevant definition is read out. For example (French revision), when the word 'Bonjour' is read out, you must splat the word 'Hello'</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Story Time</u></p> <p>Re-tell a lesson or a topic in the form of a creative story. Make sure you have a beginning, a middle and an end. You could develop this through genres e.g. fairytale, sci-fi, etc...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Flash Cards</u></p> <p>Create flash cards with key information in bullet points. See if you can expand on the bullet points without using your notes. You could practise this by pretending to talk to an audience only using key notes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Evaluation Tree</u></p> <p>As you are revising, take stock of how confident you feel with different topics. Decide which character you are on the tree, and work out what you need to do in order to become more confident.</p>



Revision Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8-8:50							
9-9:50							
10-10:50							
11-11:50							
Lunch break							
1-1:50							
2-2:50							
3-3:50							
4-4:50							
5-5:50							
Teatime							
7-7:50							
Aaaaaand relax							

Top Tips:

- Fill in the boxes with the subjects you will revise that day – you could colour-code each subject
- Stick to the timings and use your breaks wisely
- Try to take one full day off a week