

Revision – How Can Your Child Revise Effectively?



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There are a number of ways in which students can revise for their exams. There are ways that are more effective than others and if your child has not yet started revising, or they are finding that it is not helping then they need to find the way that works for them.



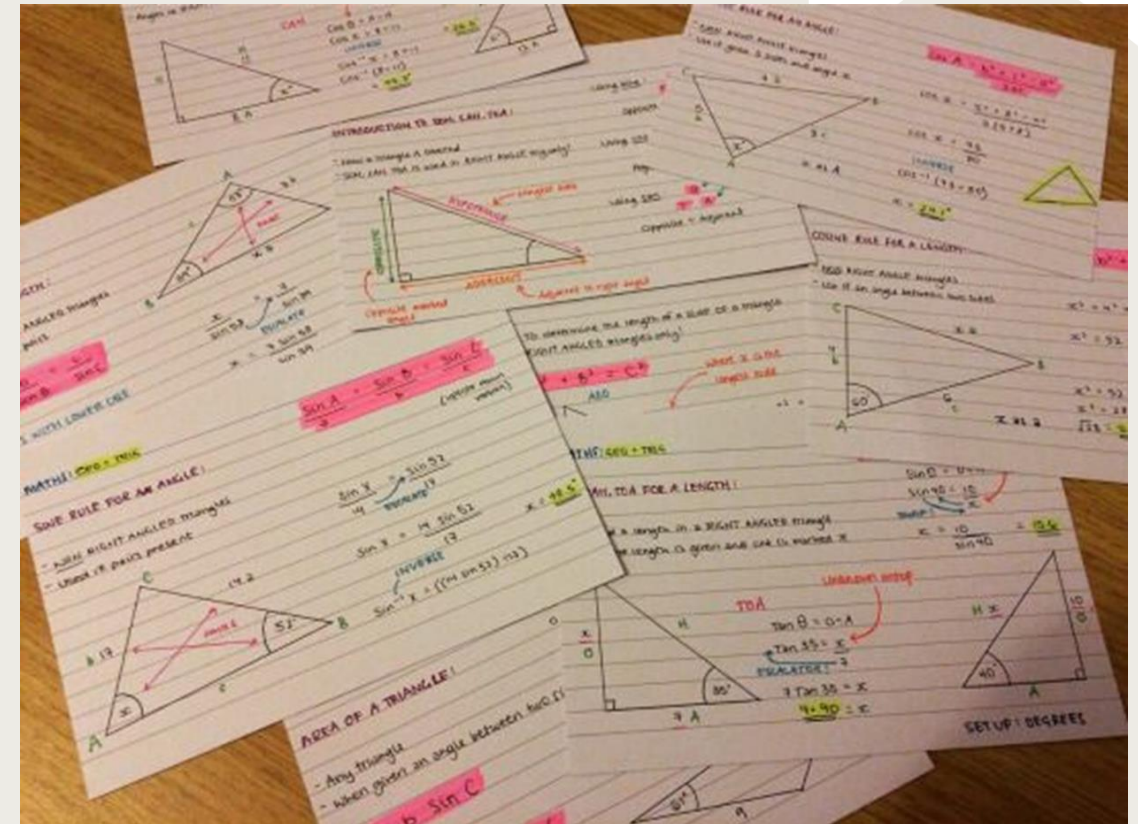
Flashcards

Here are some flash cards for GCSE maths made by a student. They have personalised them to suit their style and have created the cards themselves rather than buying them.

Every student will have probably done some themselves at some point. But how can you then use them to help revise?



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Ideas for how to use your flash cards:

- 1. Read your flash cards on a regular basis and test yourself on the content yourself.**
- 2. Get someone to test you – repeatedly testing your knowledge until you know it thoroughly is scientifically the most effective way of learning facts and information.**
- 3. Swap with a revision buddy. Read through their flash cards and make notes on what you think is missing from their set. Then compare your notes. Sometimes different people will communicate ideas in ways we never thought of. Comparing your revision might show you new ideas.**
- 4. Use your flash cards to help practice exam questions. Try answering your practice questions first without your flash cards then use a different colour pen and use your flash cards to improve your answer.**
- 5. Use your flash cards to create a mind map.**



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When are flash cards not useful?

- Flash cards are a great way to revise but they can be very badly used. They are not useful when:
 - You spend hours making the cards for very basic key ideas. Think about the cost of the time you spend on them. **Is there a quicker way to get the same outcome?**
 - You could have bought in pre made flash cards. Many courses have pre made flash cards available to buy.
 - Your weakness is not your knowledge but your exam technique. Some students spend hours learning more and more information but unless you practice your exam questions you won't get the skills you need.
 - You make your flash cards and then never look at them again – making them is not enough on its own. You have to use them!
 - You are only focusing on the basics and not the complex ideas - don't rely only on flash cards to revise.



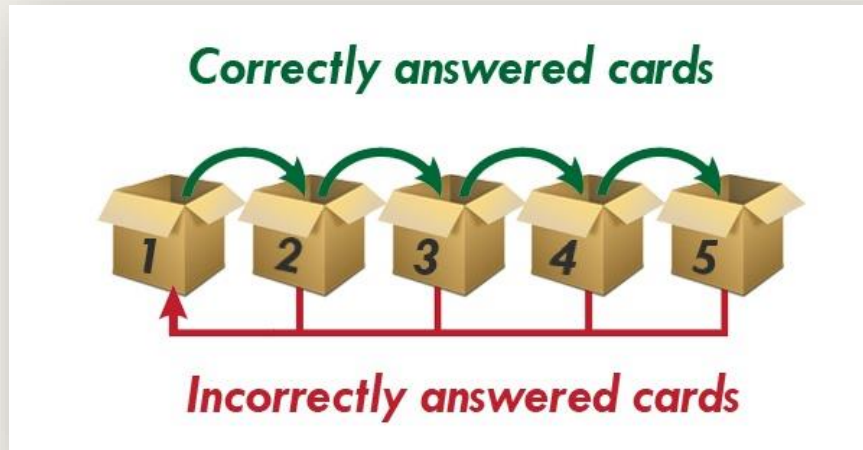
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The Leitner System

The **Leitner System** uses a 5-step process using flashcards and a “learning box”. The box is separated into 5 different compartments, labelled 1-5. All the flashcards start in compartment 1. Each time a flashcard is answered correctly, it moves to the next compartment. Each time it is answered incorrectly it moves back to the beginning (i.e. compartment number 1). This allows students to regularly quiz themselves on information that they have not yet embedded into their long-term memory.



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The protégé effect?

The protégé effect occurs when someone puts in more effort to learn information when they know they’re going to teach it to someone else, as opposed to the effort they would put in if they were only learning it for themselves. Those who teach other people actually end up consolidating the taught information in their own brains. In short, the student is not the only one benefiting from the teaching exercise.

Past Paper Practice

All exam boards have past papers to practice with mark schemes to mark answers.

A great place to look for example questions to complete is save my exams: [Revision Notes, Past Papers & Topic Questions | Save My Exams](#)



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AQA

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

Surname

Forename(s)

Candidate signature _____

Candidate number

I declare this is my own work.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Paper 1 Living with the Physical Environment

Materials
For this paper you must have:

- a pencil
- a rubber
- a ruler.

You may use a calculator.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.

Answer all questions in Section A and Section B.

Answer two questions in Section C from:
Question 3 (Coasts), Question 4 (Rivers), Question 5 (Glacial).

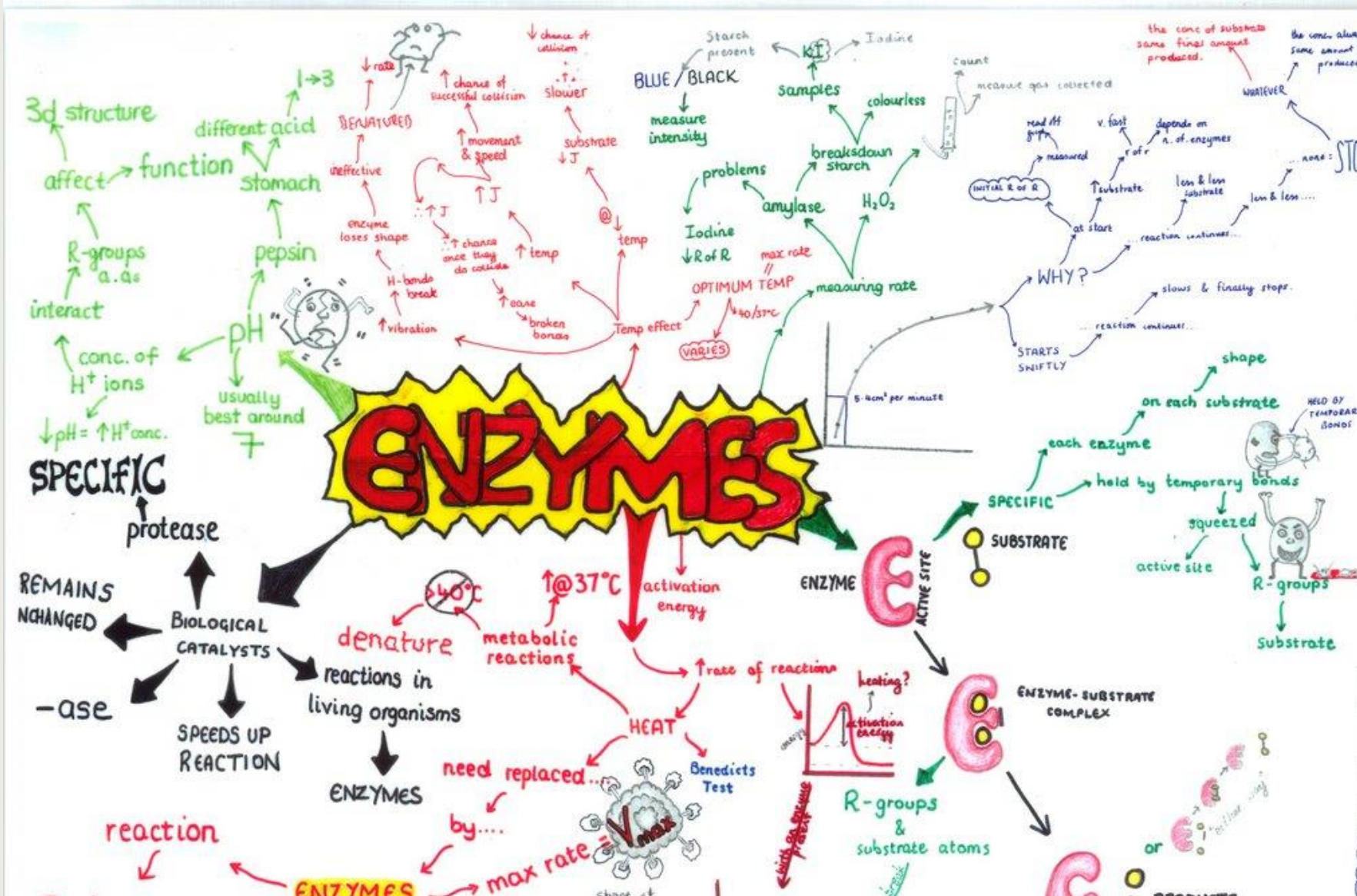
Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
TOTAL	

Mind Mapping



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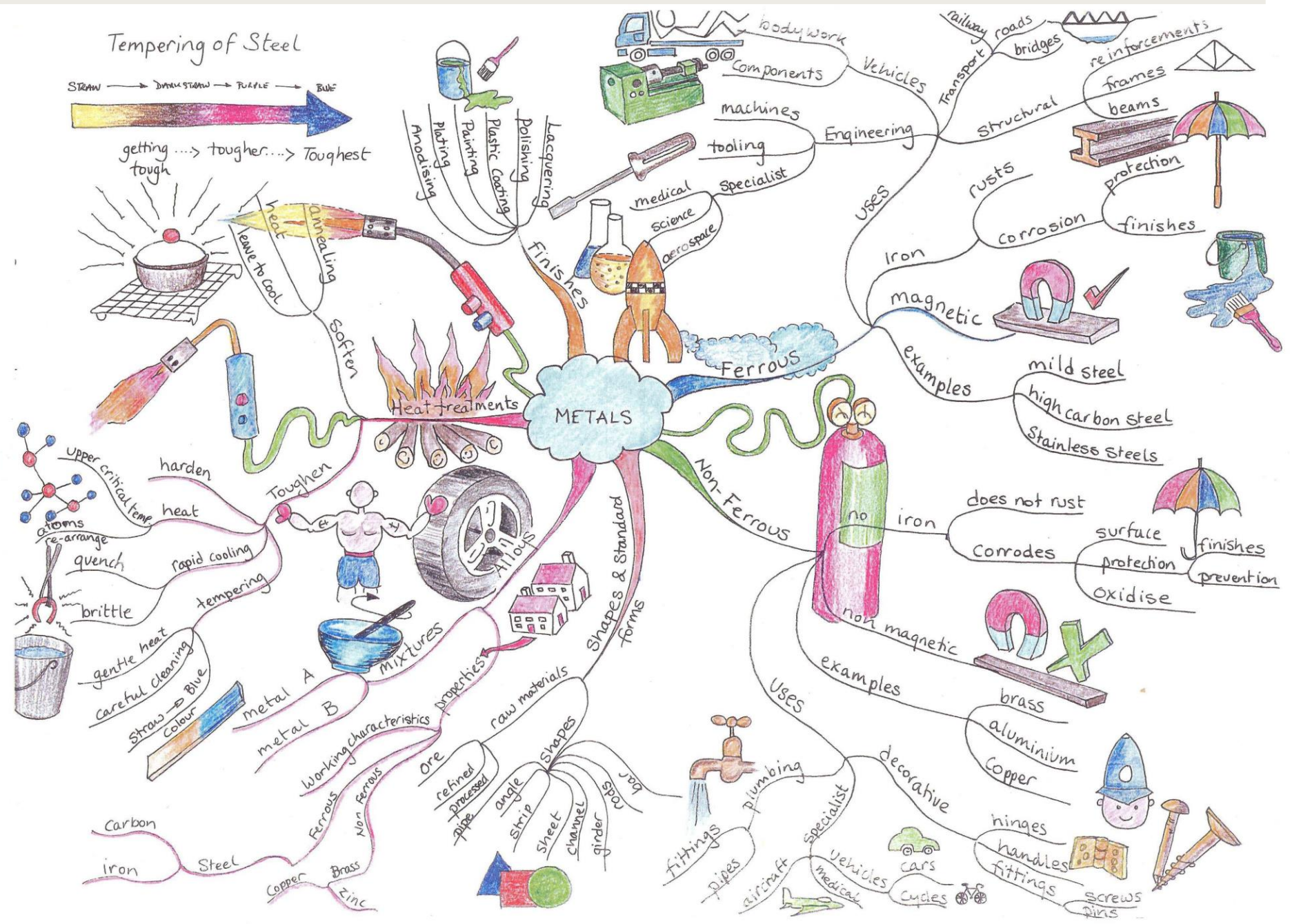


Why is mind mapping a good technique?

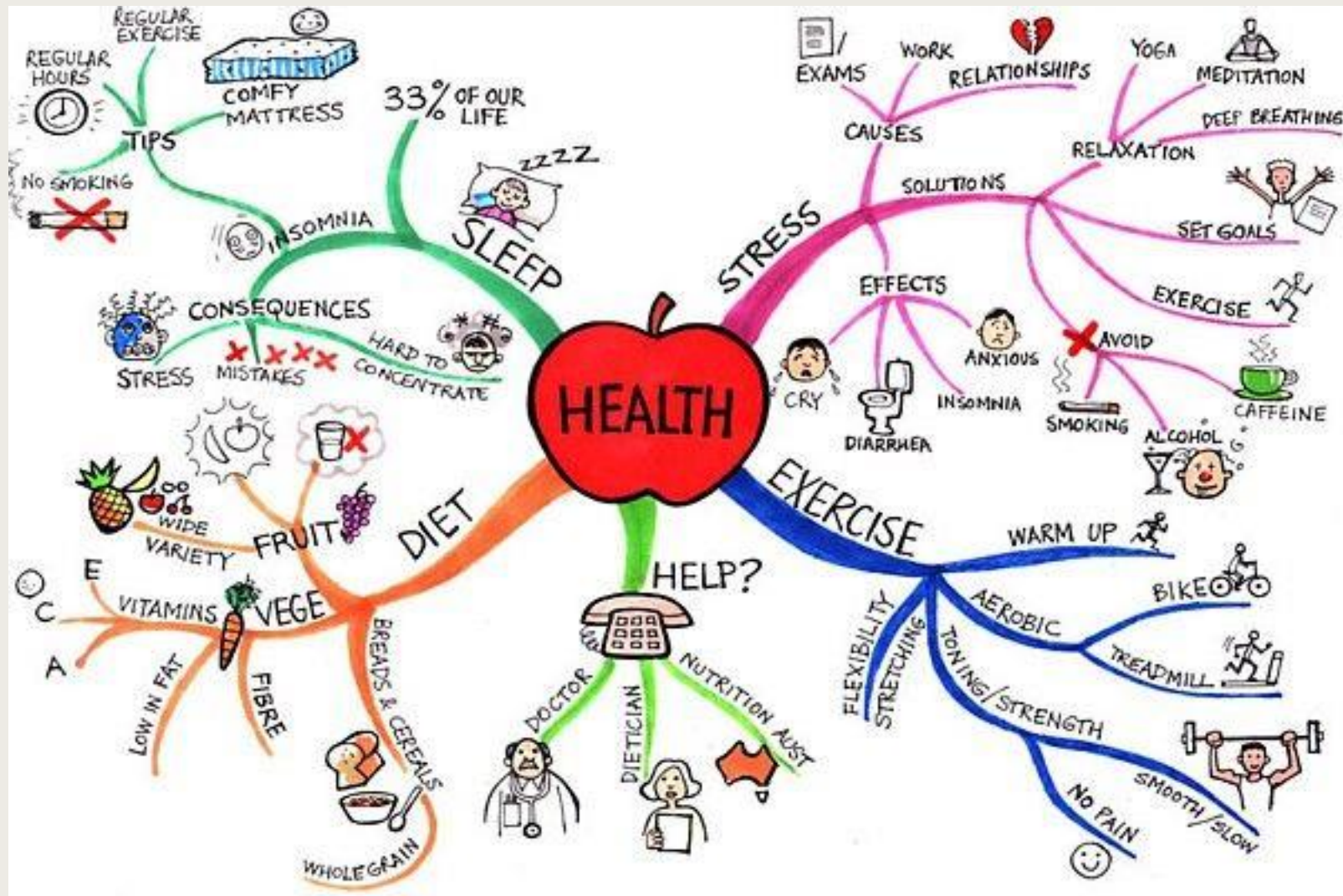


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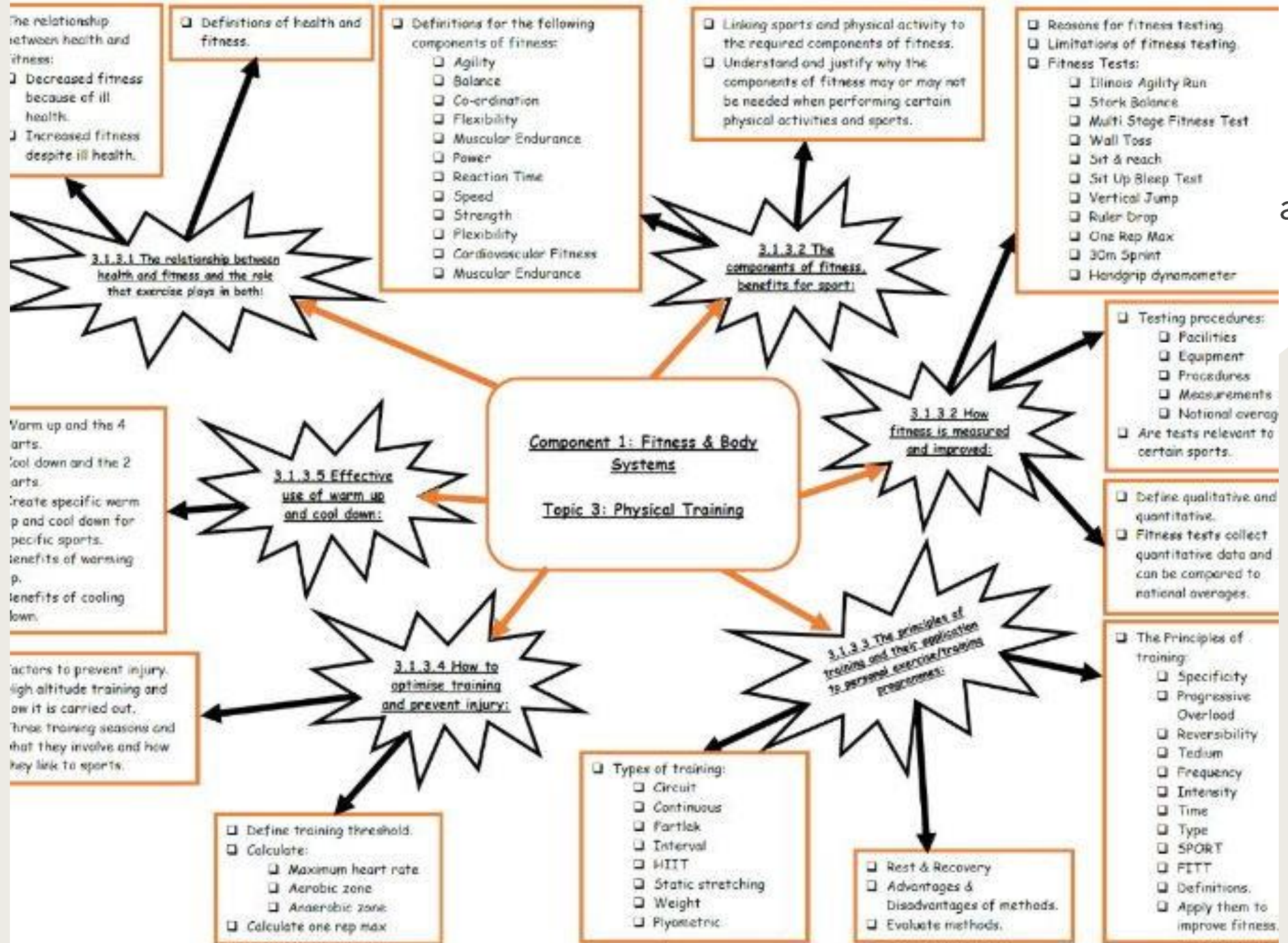
- Mind maps enable you to organise their ideas into small chunks.
- The process of creating a mind map allows you access parts of the memory that contain prior learning you might have forgotten.
- The use of colour coding makes it easier for you to remember which parts of the course link together.
- Once your mind map is created, reading your mind map will quickly jog your memory.



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The Cornell Method

The Cornell Method is a way of organising your revision notes to ensure that you maximise the amount of learning you do whilst minimising the amount of writing you complete to do it.

Following this strategy will give you well organised structured notes from which you can test yourself, use and revisit in the run up to your exams.



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How to use the Cornell method

Take a piece of paper and divide it into the sections shown opposite.

CUES:

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN:

SUMMARY SECTION:



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Cornell Note-Taking

CUES:

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN:

SUMMARY SECTION:

Step 3: make a list of the key words and questions that go with the topic you are revising and that will act as prompts to you.

Step 4: finally, read through everything you have on your Cornell notes and write a brief summary in your own words to describe what the key content in the topic was.

Step 1: Choose your revision topic and get your books, revision guides and websites loaded up.

Step 2: make notes on the topic you are revising in the note taking column. Try to shorten your notes down to brief statements rather than full sentences. Use symbols to help shorten it down further. Leave a line between each note.



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Sample Cornell Notes

Class Notes If there was no class lecture this week, write a paragraph about what you learned and/or questions about what you didn't understand.	Name: <u>Student A</u>
Topic: <u>Literary Elements</u>	Class: <u>English 8</u>
	Period: <u>3</u>
	Date: <u>1/10/03</u>
Questions/Main Ideas:	Notes:
Define irony.	Irony is a contradiction between what is expected and reality.
What is characterization?	Characterization is the way an author describes a character.
Some ways to understand a character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical description • dialogue • actions / behavior • opinions of other characters • thoughts
What is conflict?	The problem of the story or book
Types of Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> man vs. man man vs. machine man vs. society man vs. self man vs. nature man vs. unknown
Two categories of Conflict	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) internal (inside character) 2) external (character vs. anything other than himself)
Summary:	Authors use many different elements to create a story or write a book. Some elements include irony and characterization. Authors also focus their stories around a problem or conflict. There are internal and external conflicts.

An example from English.



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Key Message:

- Remember – student need to use the resources after they have made it. Don't just put the notes away and forget about them!!!



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