



**The Many Faces of  
Revision...**



# How can students revise effectively?

# *The golden rules of effective revision*

Students should know:

- 1) **WHAT** they need to learn
- 2) **WHEN** and **how** they will be assessed
- 3) **HOW** to learn / revise it
- 4) **HOW** to test themselves
- 5) **WHERE** to go for help

# Before we begin...

## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

- You need to commit the basic knowledge to your long term memory in order to begin to access / do more complicated tasks
- This is hard and requires regular revision and revisiting unless you have a photographic memory

Failing to plan is  
planning to fail ...So  
let's start planning

# Step one – What do you need to learn for each subject?

- How many marks do you need to get to the next grade?
- What are the topics and skills?
- Ask your teachers what are your weak areas.
- Look at your mocks and marked work
- What topics did your assessment feedback say you need to revisit?
- Then plan it out

# A worked example

	Maths 4pm-4.45	Science 5.15pm-6	English 8pm-8.45
Monday	% to fractions and decimals	Photosynthesis	Macbeth scene 1 & 2
Tuesday	Tree diagrams	Food reaction experiment	

- Lets look at how to revise passively and effectively
- There is a distinct difference!



# What do most students do?

## EXAM

- *Hope knowledge has stuck enough to answer an exam question and be successful*

## PASSIVE REVISION

## Phase 1: Read

- *Revision workbook*
- *Own notes*
- *Text book refresher*
- *Relevant websites e.g. quizlet*

## Phase 2: possibly make revision notes

- *Flashcards*
- *Revision book*
- *Mind maps*
- *Graphic organisers*

# What should students do?

## ACTIVE REVISION CYCLE

This part is really  
important!  
Make the notes and  
learn them, commit  
them to memory

### Phase 1: Read

- *Revision workbook*
- *Own notes*
- *Text book refresher*
- *Relevant websites e.g. quizlet*

### Phase 2: make revision notes – learn content

- *Gojimo*
- *Quizlet*
- *Cornell notes*
- *Flashcards*
- *Revision book*
- *Mind maps*
- *Graphic*
- *organisers*
- *Mnemonics*
- *Post it note revision*
- *Read, cover, write, check*

## PHASE 4 RAG KNOWLEDGE

- Red – no knowledge – learn again – maybe try a different technique
- Amber – good factual knowledge but can't apply to an exam question
- Green – can answer exam questions on this topic confidently

**NOW FOCUS ON YOUR RED TOPICS - BE EFFECTIVE AND TARGET REVISION**

### ACTIVE REVISION CYCLE

## PHASE 1: READ

- Revision workbook
- Own notes
- Text book refresher
- Relevant websites e.g. quizlet

## PHASE 2: MAKE REVISION NOTES - LEARN CONTENT

- |                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| • Gojimo        | organisers                  |
| • Quizlet       | • Mnemonics                 |
| • Cornell notes | • Post it note revision     |
| • Flashcards    |                             |
| • Revision book | • Read, cover, write, check |
| • Mind maps     |                             |
| • Graphic       |                             |

## PHASE 3: TEST YOURSELF

- Exam Practise – short / long answer questions
- Quiz yourself (flash cards / quizlet – other online quizzes)
- Timed exam practise
- Essay plans for longer questions

# How to revise effectively

Step 1 - commit the key points to memory (phase 1 and 2)

Step 2 – deliberate practice you apply your learning (phase 3 & 4)

**“ When it comes to retaining information, not all methods are created equal.”**

**ALEX QUIGLEY 'TOTAL RECALL'**

## Outcomes

TOP 3 PRACTICES

1. Practice testing
2. Distributed practice (the opposite of cramming – spread revision throughout the course)
3. Interleaved practice (mixing different kinds of material within a study session)
4. Elaborative interrogation (explaining why a fact / concept is correct)
5. Self-explanation (explaining how information is connected)
6. Summarising – *but successful when students are shown how to summarise*
7. Imagery for text – *not applicable to a wide range of subjects*
8. Mnemonics – *but useful for short-term memory*
9. Rereading – *although it is the most commonly used*
10. Highlighting – *can actually harm student performance/ability to make inferences*

# 10 Revision ideas

1. Mindmaps
2. Flashcards
3. Foldables
4. Cornell notes
5. Revision books
6. Post-its / mind maps / posters
7. Past paper practise
8. Exam question planning
9. Graphic organisers
10. RAGging knowledge



# DEMOGRAPHY

- > Births
- > Deaths
- > Migration
- > Ageing population

Revised ☐

Result  
 • **increased**  
 expectation  
 living long  
 age)  
 • Decline  
 (nowhere  
 anyone  
 • Decline  
 (few  
 being  
 to  
 One  
 h  
 14

Put the topic heading on the front and the key points on the back, ask family or friends to test you.

**Reasons for the decline in birth rate since 1950**

**Changes in the position to women**

1950s - England had a birth rate of 26.7. 2001 it had fallen to an estimated 10.7

**Decline in the infant mortality rate**

1950 - The fall for the 1st year 1950-1951 was 26.7 per 1000 live births. The decline was due to an increase in knowledge of technology leading to better medical care and more safe delivery.

**Improved housing, better sanitation, better nutrition, better knowledge of hygiene, improved medicines for children and children.**

2001 - The fall for the 1st year 2000-2001 was 10.7 per 1000 live births.

**For a result this shows the decline in birth rate, however some countries like India still have a rate of 16.**

**Children are now an economic liability**

Before the late 19th century children were economic assets to their parents because they could be sent out to work at an early age and earn an income.

However, since the late 19th century children have gradually become an economic liability.

**Compulsory schooling and raising the working age mean that children cannot economically support their parents for longer and longer and then leaving child care.**

**Changing norms**

There is about what children have a right to a better parents in material terms meaning that bringing up a child has risen.

**At these financial pressures or willing to have a child.**

**Net Migration = difference between immigration + emigration.**

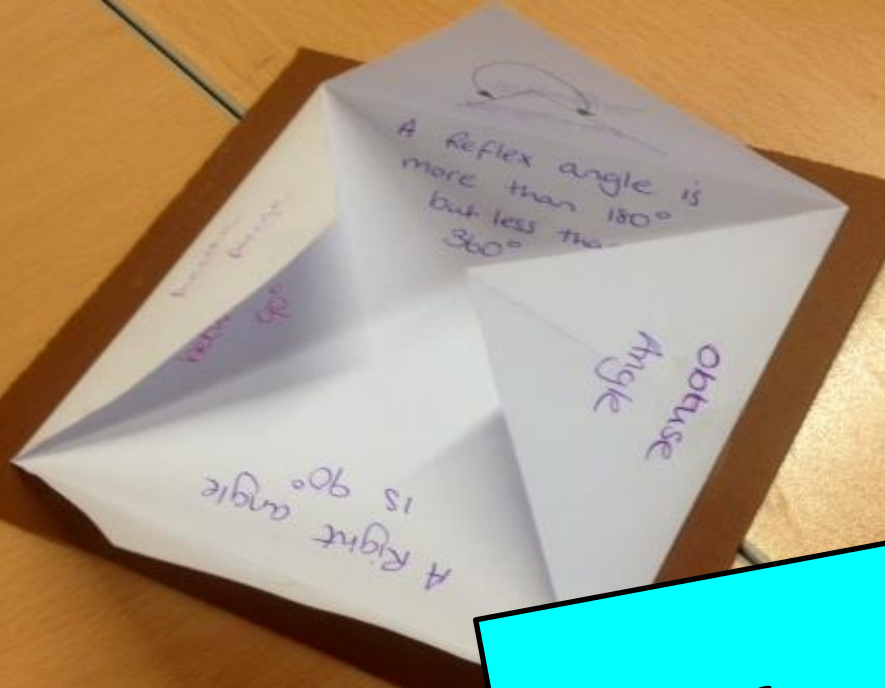
**Death Rate = The number of deaths per 1000 of the population per year.**

**Dependency Ratio = relationship between the size of the working population and the non-working dependant population.**

**Immigration = movement of people into an area of society.**

**Emigration = movement of people out of an area of society.**

Flashcards



**Make foldables**



# For students who find it difficult to reduce down key information

- **Cornell notes** will help. The principle was developed at Cornell University – one of the most prestigious universities in the USA.
- It involves dividing up your page (or using a template) which you use to give your notes structure.
- It forces you to be brief and pick out the key points.



# The "Cornell Method"

CUES	NAME, DATE, TOPIC, CLASS
	NOTES
WRITTEN SOON AFTER CLASS	TAKEN DURING CLASS
ANTICIPATED EXAM QUESTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAIN POINTS</li> <li>• BULLET POINTS</li> <li>• DIAGRAMS / CHARTS</li> <li>• ABBREVIATE</li> <li>• PARAPHRASE</li> <li>• OUTLINES</li> <li>• LEAVE SPACE BETWEEN TOPICS</li> </ul>
MAIN IDEAS OR PEOPLE	
VOCABULARY WORDS	
USED FOR REVIEW & STUDY	CORNELL NOTE-TAKING METHOD
2 1/2"	6"
2"	SUMMARY
	WRITTEN AFTER CLASS. BRIEF SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTING THE MAIN POINTS IN THE NOTES ON THIS PAGE. USED TO FIND INFO LATER.

Topic: Weimar Republic	
Problems After WWI	After WWI (Germany) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human losses: Millions dead</li> <li>- Economic losses: Ger owes \$ to allies and has lost resources and colonies</li> <li>• massive unemployment for citizens</li> </ul>
Democracy Trial	Germany and Europe try Democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New gov'ts are unstable</li> <li>- no experience</li> <li>- can't compromise so decisions don't get made</li> </ul>
Weimar Republic	Def: Germany's new democratic gov't. Weimar Republic faces economic and social problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prints \$ to pay war debt</li> <li>• This causes massive inflation</li> <li>• Germans lose savings. \$ becomes worthless</li> </ul> (Example) Children play w/ blocks made of bills tied together.
How does printing money cause problems?	
V. Dawes Plan	Def: Economic recovery plan created by Charles Dawes (USA) to loan \$200m to Ger. It works! Economy stabilizes
Summary	After WWI, Germany is having a hard time w/ a weak government, \$ and no clear solutions. USA tries to help.

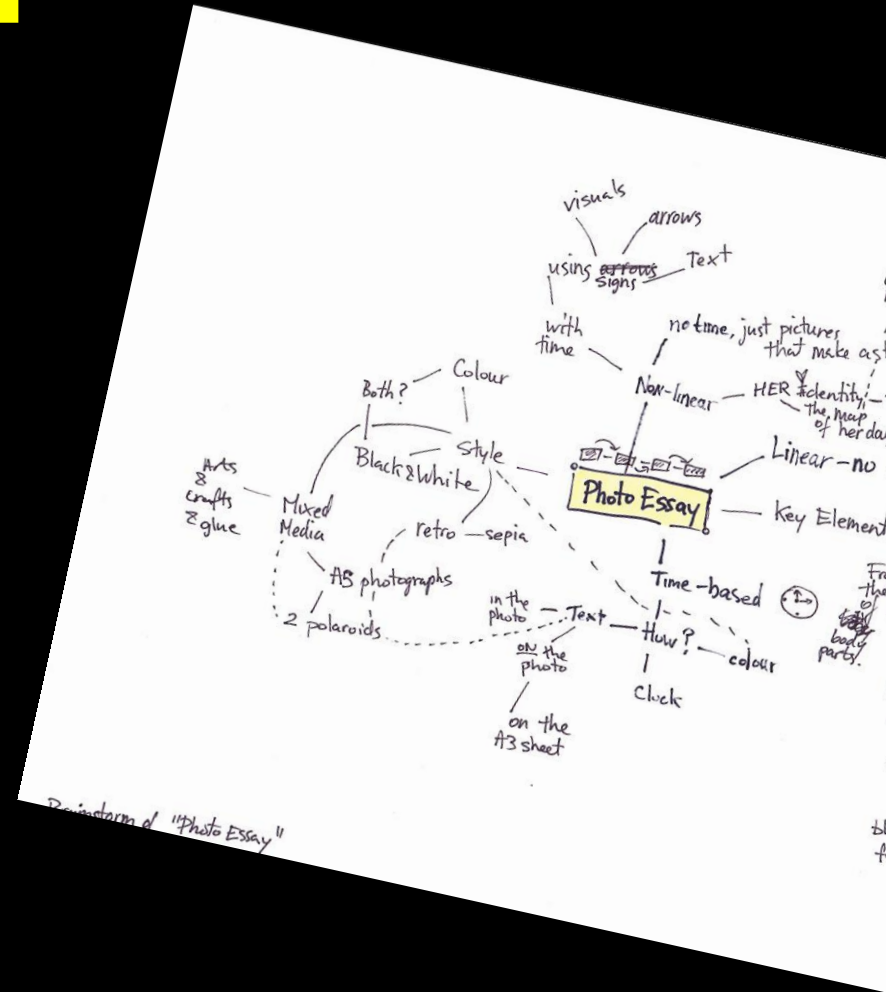
# Revision books – mix it up!





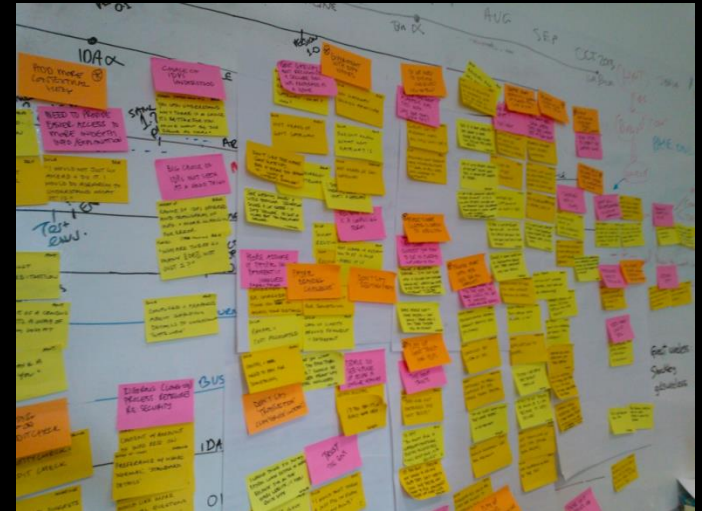
# Mind map Papers

- Write an essay or exam questions on A3/A4 paper.
- Mind map as much as possible in relation to the question.
- When finished, the student can use their notes to add more detail (*in another colour so they know what to go over*)



# Post-its and posters

- Movable revision!
- Students can stick them around the house
- Put the things you find difficult on your fridge and ask some one to test you till you have got it



# Graphic organisers

*The list of these is huge:*

- *Venn diagrams for agree / disagree*
- *Ripple diagrams for most important cause in centre and less important causes moving outwards*
- *Simple cause / key features / consequences arrow diagrams*
- *Structure diagrams*
- *Pie charts for top 3 /4 causes*

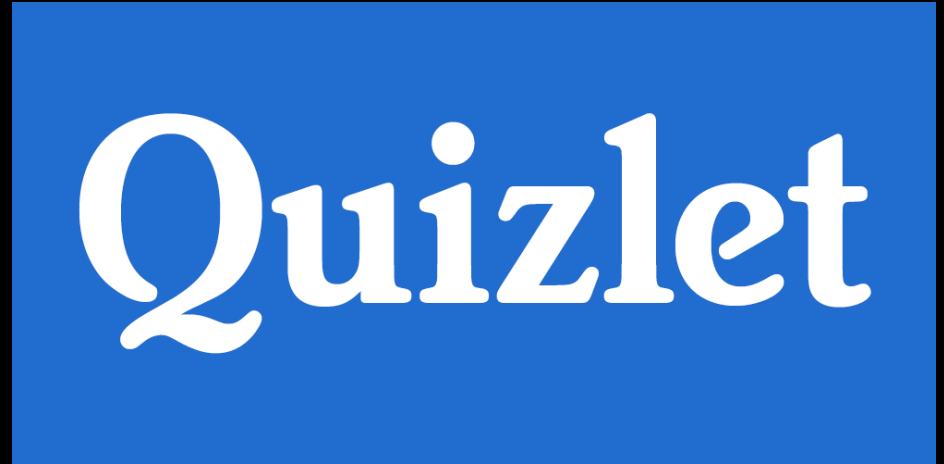


# RAGging

- For unit topics
- For subtopics
- For specific key terms/ key events etc.
- Auditing knowledge

# Useful revision websites / apps:

- GCSE Pod
- Maths watch
- Singh Science
- Quizlet
- Get Revising
- Reviser
- Flashcards+



# Revision Tip: Use Quizlet

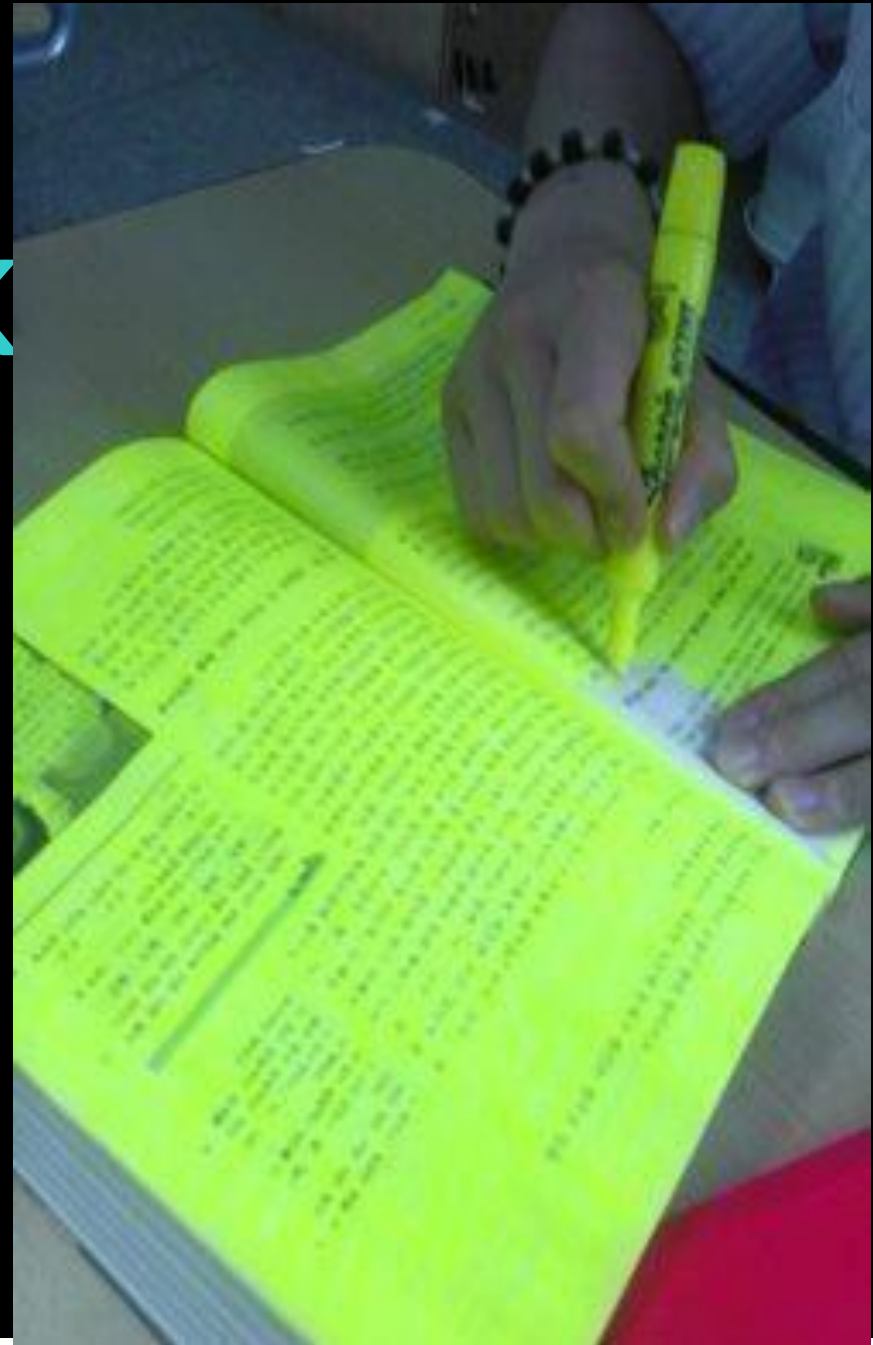
- Quizlet is both a website and a mobile/tablet app
- It lets users create a series of flashcards or revision aids
- Once made you can then print them as:
  - glossaries
  - different sized flashcards
  - tables
  - tests

# Revision Tip

## Paragraph Summaries

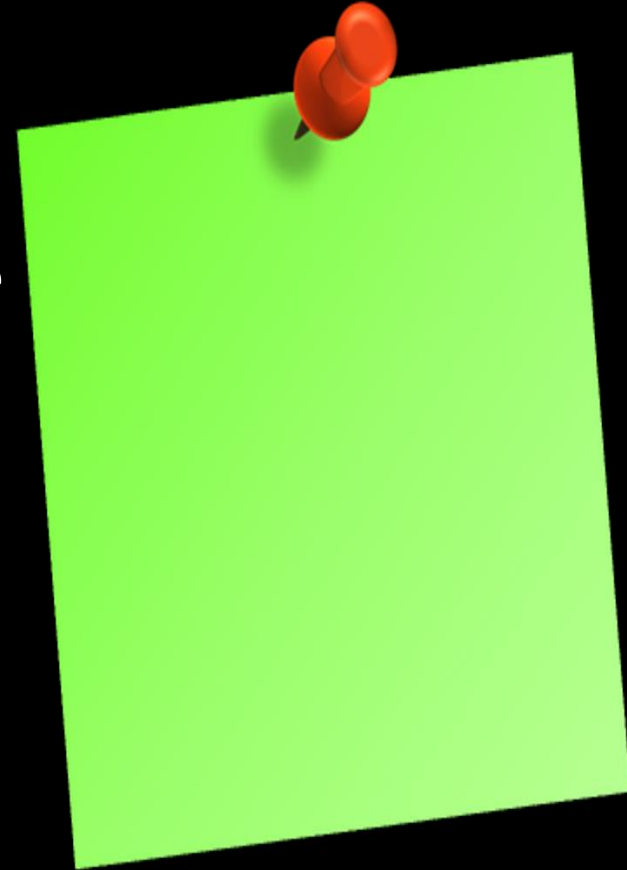
# HIGHLIGHTING DOESN'T WORK

It can be a good method for picking out key chunks of information or key words – but how many times have your sheets looked like this?

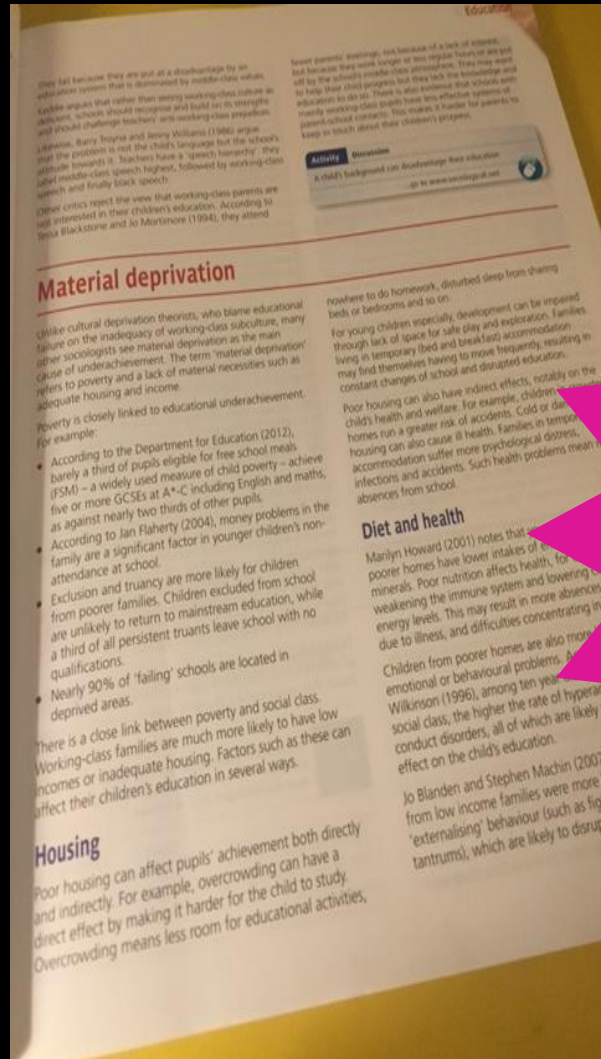


# Try this instead...

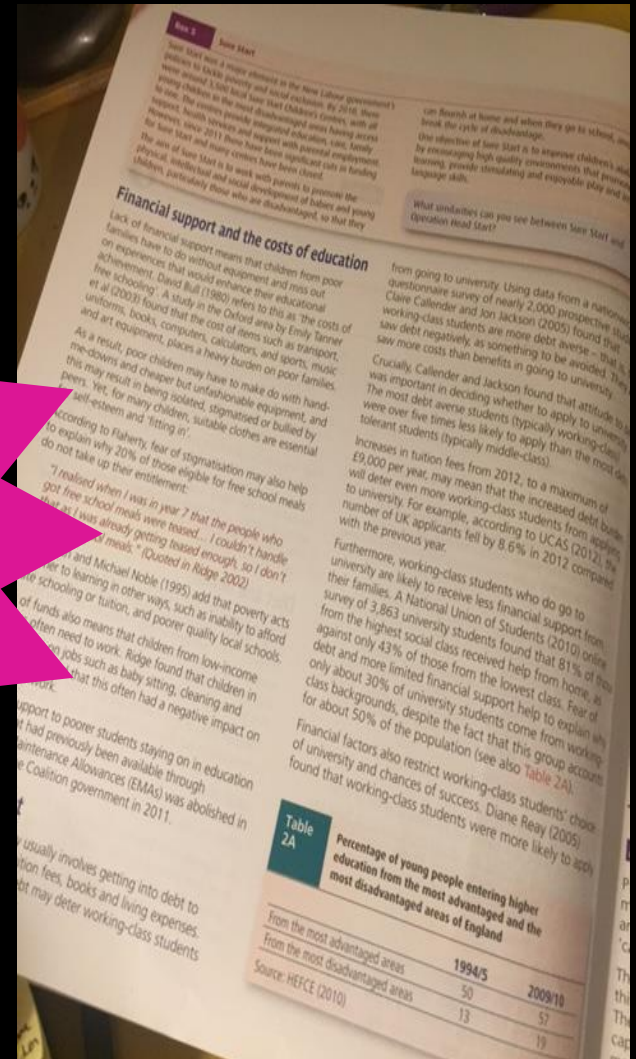
- In class/at home, set the task of reading through a text and making notes, write a post-it summary at the end of each paragraph.
- This exercise forces you to extract the key meaning from the paragraph and reduce it down to something more palatable and memorable.



e.g.

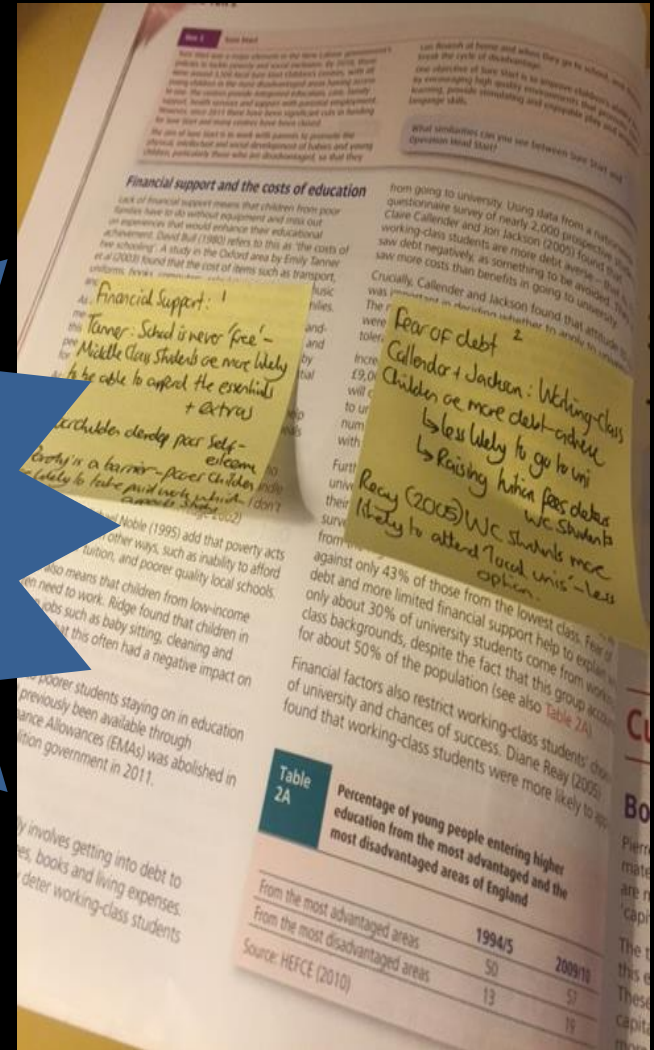
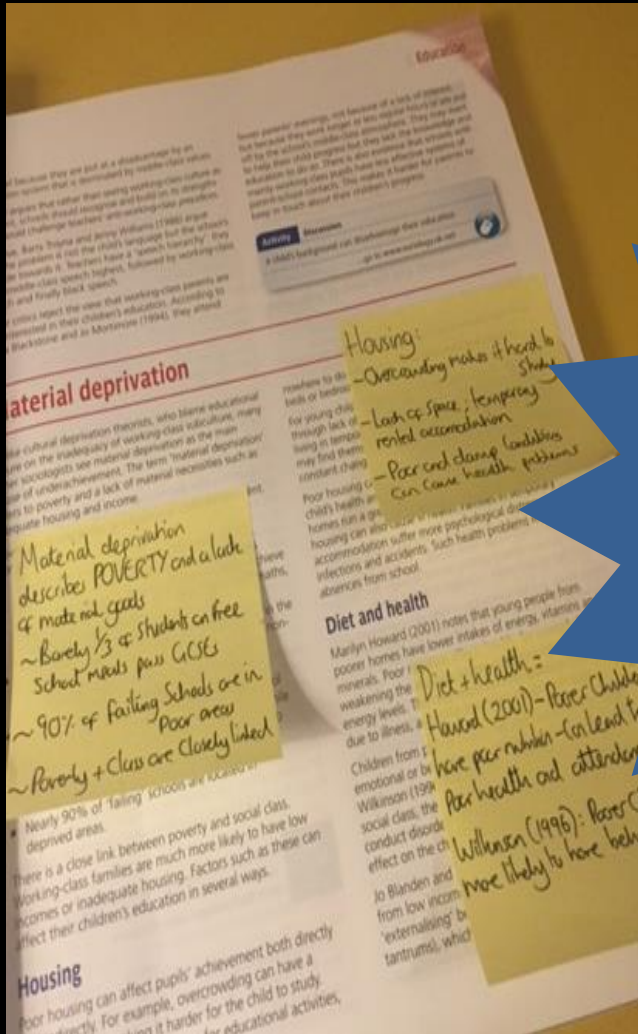


From  
these  
two  
pages in  
a text  
book...





# To 5 brief Post- Its

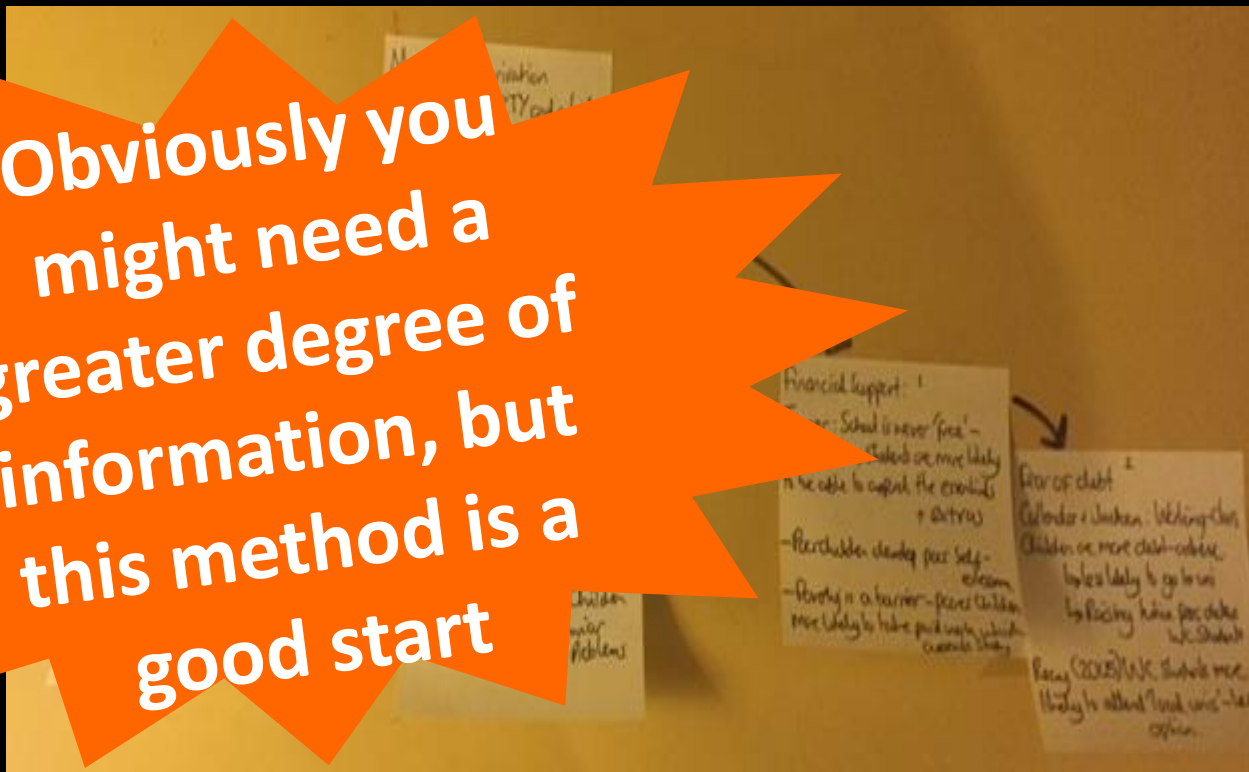




# If you then take the post-its away from the text, you have a series of notes that can be arranged

- For self-testing
- To sequence key points into a flowchart or diagram

Obviously you might need a greater degree of information, but this method is a good start



# TESTING

## How do they know it worked?

- ❑ This is where deliberate practice is essential
- ❑ Revision guide questions
- ❑ Stand-alone exam questions
- ❑ Knowledge tests
- ❑ Online / app quizzes e.g.
- ❑ Test a friend
- ❑ Sparx Maths
- ❑ Kay science

Kahoot!

Quizlet

So let's look at an  
example using all of  
what has been  
explained

	<b>Maths 4 pm – 4.15</b>	<b>Science 5.15pm - 6</b>	<b>English 8pm – 8.45</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>What you are going to revise?</b>	<b>% to fractions and decimals</b>	<b>Photosynthesis and food reaction experiment</b>	<b>Macbeth</b>
<b>Revision tool / method</b> <b>What you will use to revise? 20 min</b>	<b>Maths revision guide pg 18-19</b>	<b>Flow chart in workbook and pg 76 in text book</b>	
<b>Deliberate practice</b> <b>How will you know you can do it?20 min</b>	<b>Maths watch Number section</b>	<b>Workbook Q 4 and 6 mark questions</b>	
<b>Red Amber Green</b> <b>Can you do it?</b> <b>If not go over it till you do 5 min</b>	<b>Green 95% correct on Maths watch</b>	<b>Amber Compare answers</b> <b>Missed out step 2 and 4</b>	

# Next steps



Find out the specific topics you are weak on.



Ask your teachers



Plan these into your revision schedule



Commit to memory then test.



If you are not getting 75 % plus – you don't know it.