

## 11JPR's Top Tips for exam success



I get my brain in gear by starting on a part of the revision that I already understand very well, then I go on to something more difficult.

✓

I used to copy out my notes but I found that it wasn't helping me to remember. If I only write down key words, then copy them out without looking, then I do it again, and again I find I can remember. Each time I do it I test myself so I know I can remember it all.

✓

I start by revising a part of the work that I already understand very well, then I go on to something more difficult. Then, when I am revising it again, before I start I make sure that I know what the gaps are in my understanding so I can spend most of the revision time on them.

✓

When I'm reading through work I've done before, I use a highlighter pen to highlight all the key information and ideas. I copy the key words onto a revision card. I use the card to test myself or get someone else to test me.

✓

I listen to the teacher's feedback, then I write it down in my own words, so that when I am not with the teacher I still know what to do.

✓

I improve vocabulary and confidence by speaking French/Spanish to my partner.

✓

I make a note of anything I don't understand so that I can remember to ask my friend, mentor or teacher to explain later. I've started using online resources like BBC Bitesize to fill in gaps in my knowledge.

(Mr Pratt adds: I don't use AI because a lot of what it tells me is actually wrong!)

✓

We work in pairs or threes. We take it in turns to explain something to each other, then we go and explain it to someone else to check that we have fully understood it.

✓

We pick a topic. We look for someone who does do the same subject. We get them to test us on the topic. This helps us both to check what we've understood and know what we still need to work on.

✓

We pick a topic. We look for someone who *doesn't* do the same subject. We get them to test us on the topic. This helps us both to check what we've understood and know what we still need to work on.

✓

We get a past exam paper. We work on the same question, then when we've finished we check each others' answers and use the markscheme to give feedback to each other. Then we do the question again to check.

✓

When I am working on something that I have already revised, before I start I make sure that I know the gaps in my understanding so I know what to concentrate on.

✓

We all had to research something, then summarise the key facts. I decided to write them down using just the key words. Then I learnt them. Finally some of us gave a speech to the class about the topic and we had a discussion about it.

The first time we did it we all chose something easy, then we had to give a speech about something more difficult. Then he (tutor) read out a big mark question and we had to speak about it without using notes.

✓

Working/quizzing with another person (retrieval) really helps to get me thinking. Then, when I'm at home, I start by remembering what we said. I write it down, then I check it, then I write it down again without looking at my notes.



It's all about remembering stuff from longer ago. So I constantly go back over work and check it so I keep it fresh in my brain – I don't wait until the test or exam to recall.



Sometimes we have to give a short talk to the group or class.

It's best to choose an actual exam question and talk about it.

Every time you make a good point someone puts a tick on the board.

When you get something wrong or waffle people make a face at you.

When you need to say more about part of the question people stand up and ask you a challenge question.



We recite (speak aloud from memory) something together so that we know what we still had to do. Working with another person really helps to get us thinking. Then, at home, we start revision by remembering what we said.



Get someone like a parent or talk about my revision plan using these questions:

- Pick a subject
- What did you learn in that subject last time?
- What were the challenges/difficulties?
- What were the gaps in knowledge and understanding?
- How did you overcome them?
- Who helped you? What did they do? What did you do next?
- How do you move on from here?
- Could you teach us what you learnt?
- How do you know that you will remember what you learnt in six months' time?

