

GCSE Preparation (2)

We are going to reflect on:

- what went well in your PPEs
- what (if anything) you struggled with
- how we need to make GCSE preparation easier, less stressful and highly effective



Activity 1 (5mins)

Think back to your Year 10 PPEs and then discuss in pairs:

- When did you start revising?
- How did you manage your time?
- What revision techniques did you do?
- What if anything did you find most difficult?

Activity 2 (5 mins)

Feedback your conversations to the group

Activity 3 (5mins)

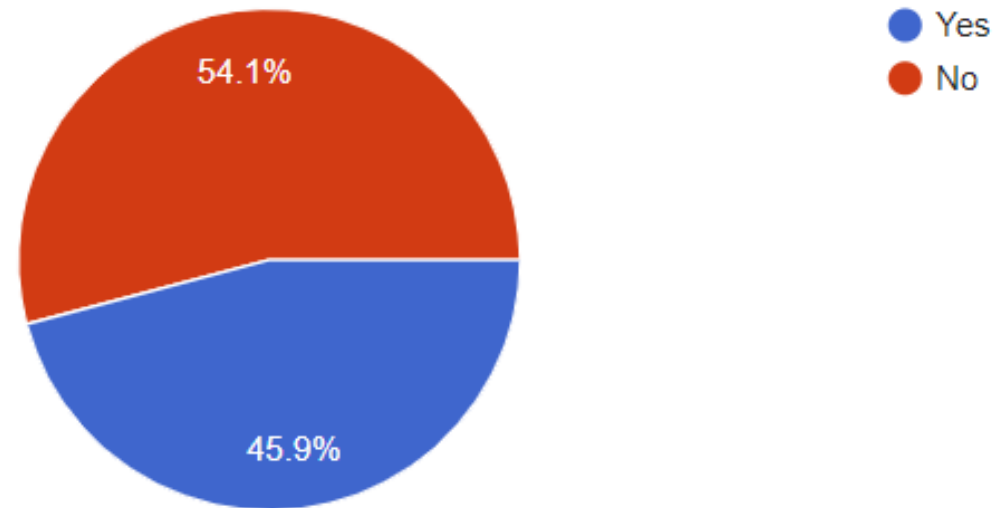
Ask a sixth-former what they did last year. How was it for them in the real GCSEs?

GCSE Preparation Survey - Results

Activity 4 - Go through slides as a class (5mins)

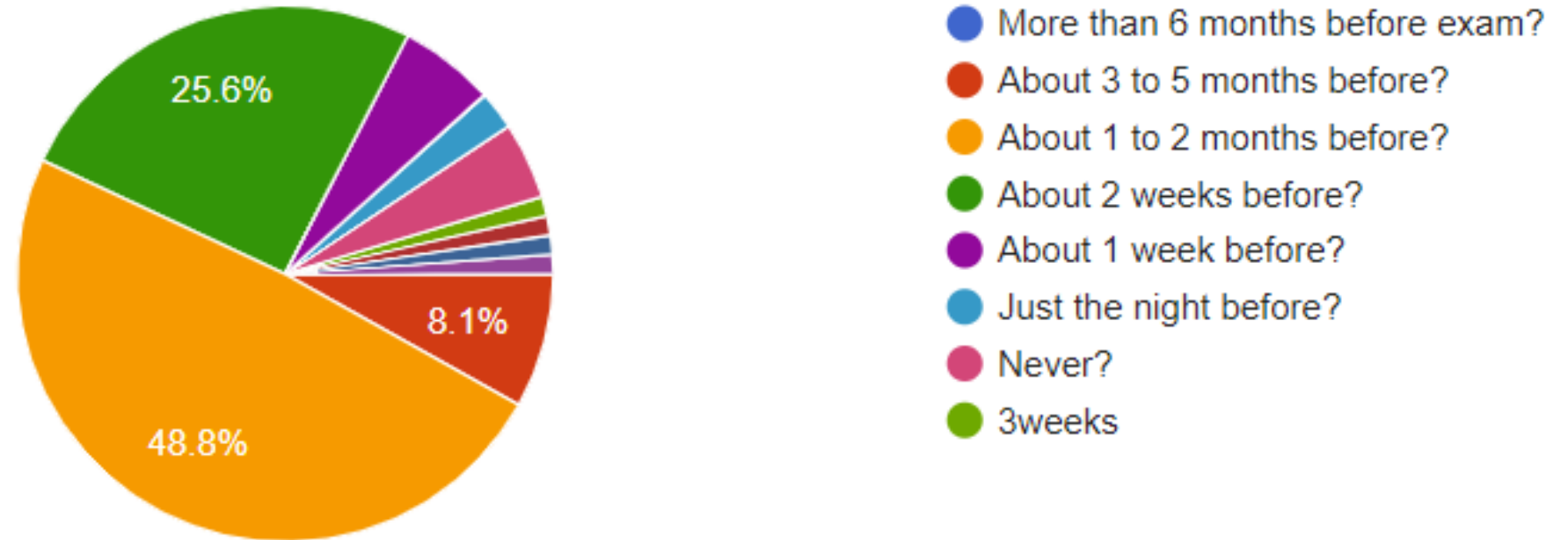
270 of you were surveyed last week and you told us that...

Were you happy with your PPE grades?



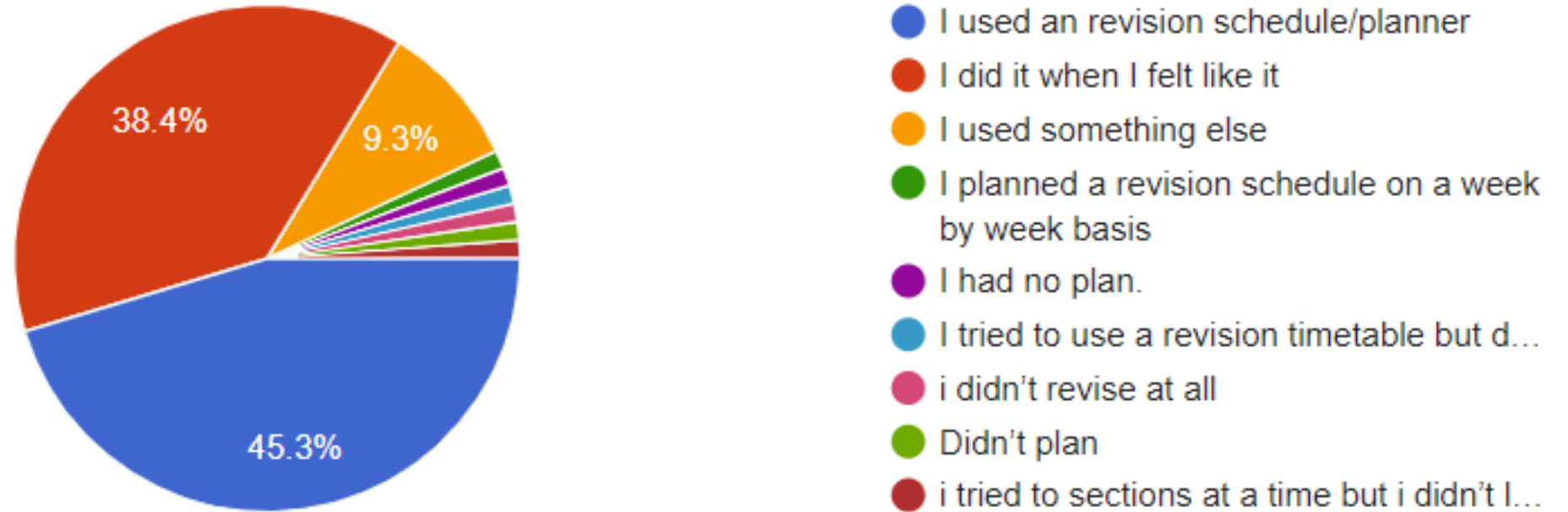
The majority of you are not happy with your grades and want to do better

When did you start revising?



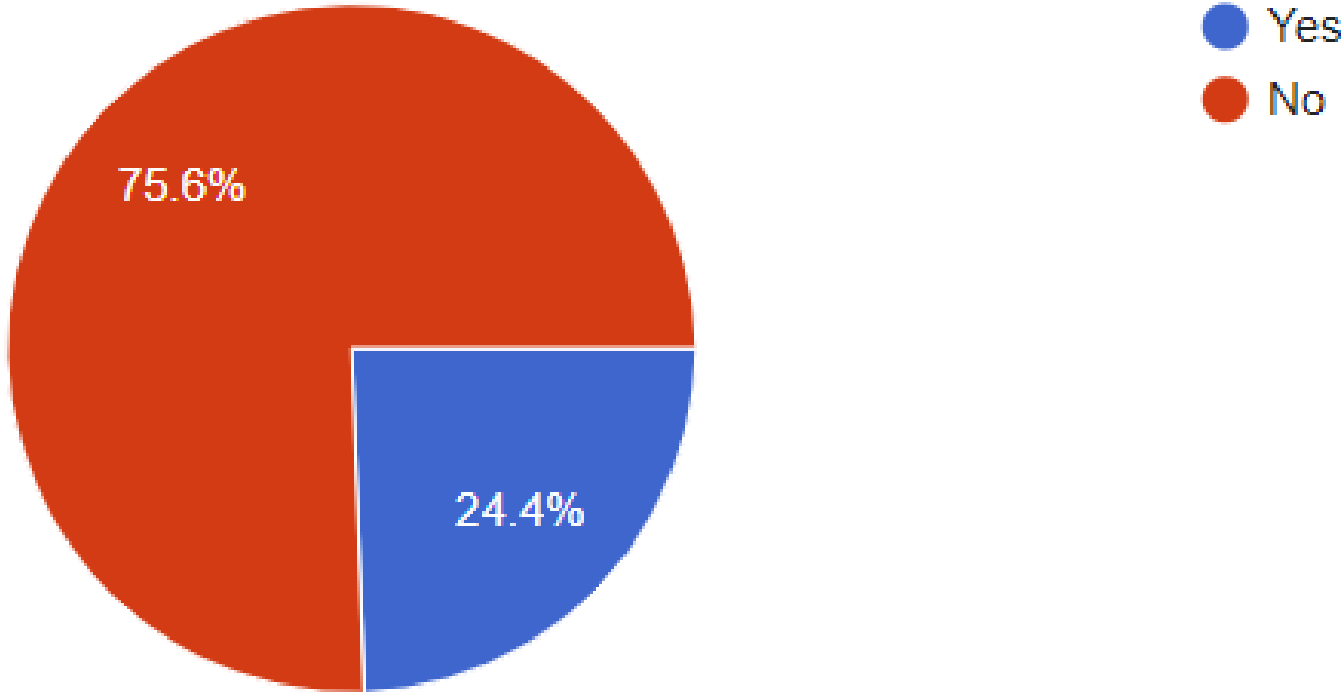
**Most of you started revising for your PPEs about 1 to 2 months before.
However, over a $\frac{1}{4}$ of you only started 2 weeks before.**

How did you plan your time?



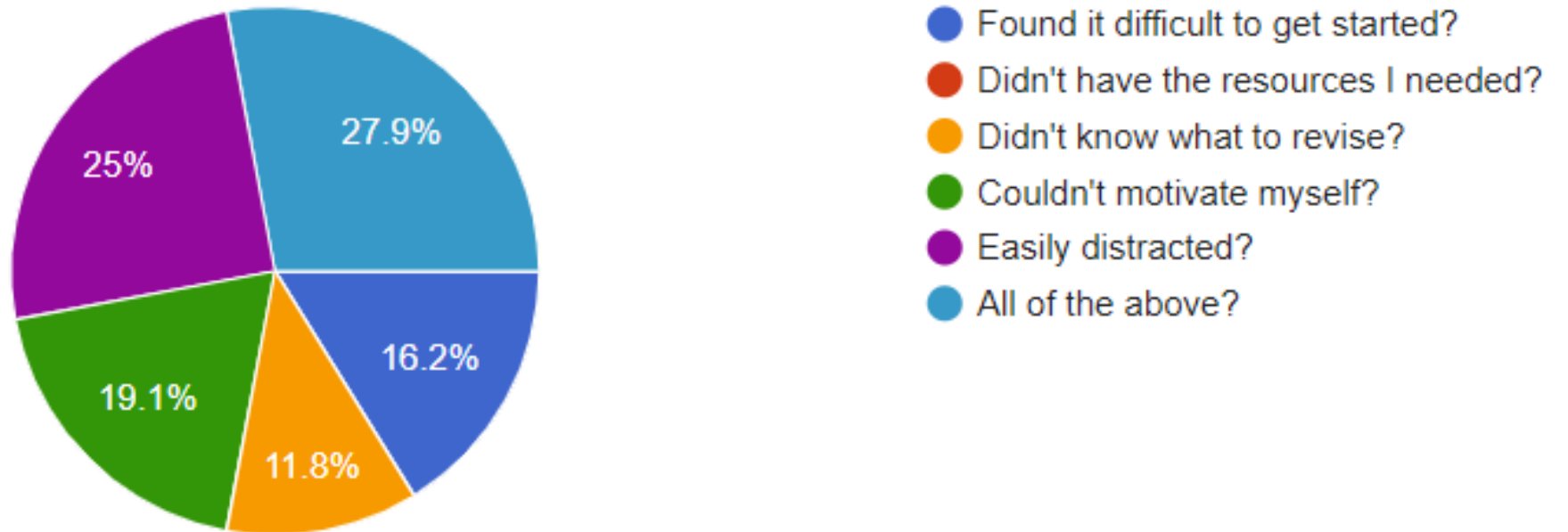
Less than ½ of you used a revision schedule/planner and just revised ‘whenever’.

Did you keep to your revision schedule?



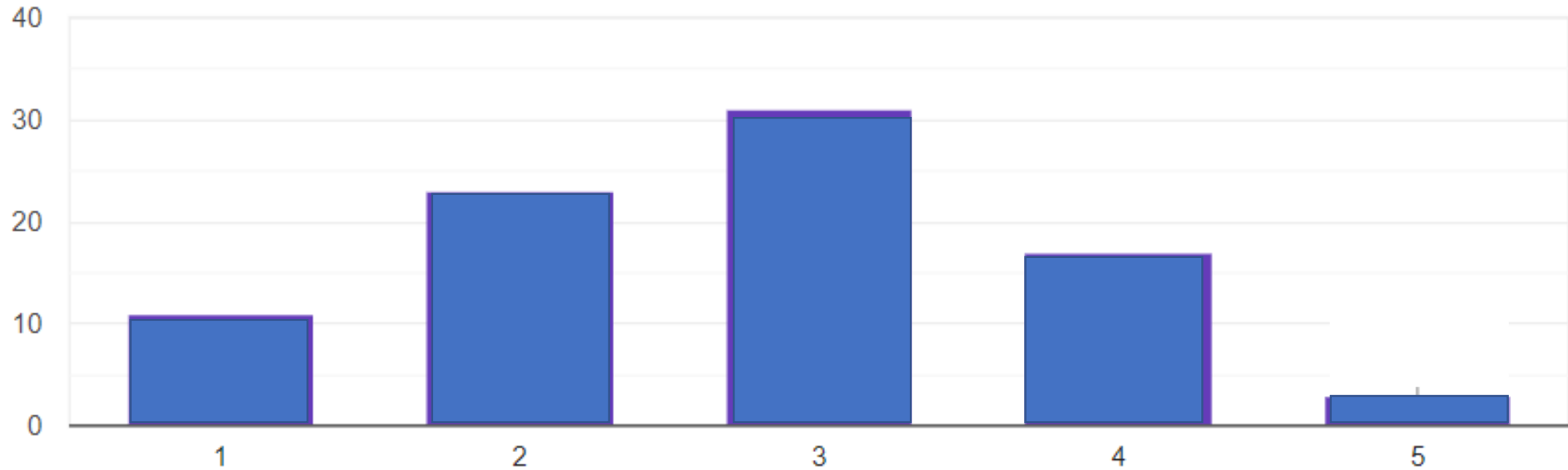
Of those of you who did use a revision planner, over 75% didn't stick to it.

If you didn't keep to your schedule. Why did you find it difficult?



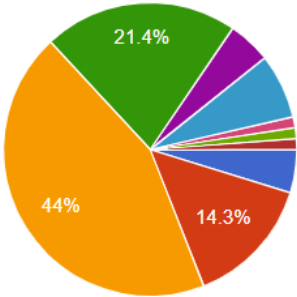
When asked why, you said it was difficult to get started, difficult to motivate yourselves and most of you were easily distracted.

How anxious are you about exams?



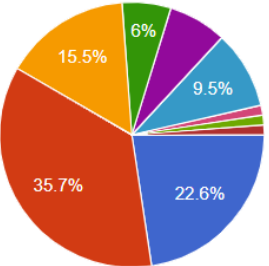
Most of you had a healthy balance of nerves (i.e. not too laid back but not too anxious). A little bit of nerves are good.

How much revision did you do a day during school days?



- 4 or more hours
- about 3 hours
- about 2 hours
- about 1 hour
- Less than 1 hour
- none
- Sometimes 2 sometimes 3hours
- Nothing but 50 minutes 1 exam.
- Depends if I have a test or not

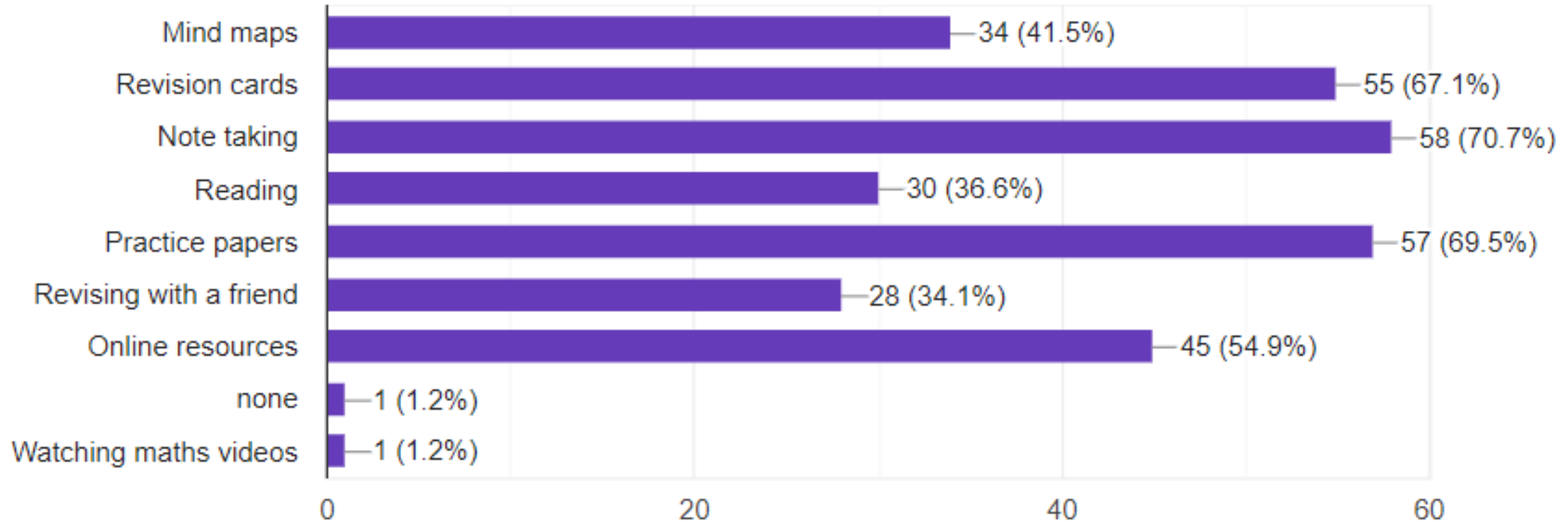
How much revision did during week ends?



- 4 or more hours
- about 3 hours
- about 2 hours
- about 1 hour
- Less than 1 hour
- none
- i only do it sometimes on weekends because the school sets me so much...
- depends
- Depends if I have a test or not

Most of you did 2 hours of revision on a school night and 3 to 4+ at the weekends.

What revision methods did you use?



Your most popular revision techniques were:

- 1. Note taking**
- 2. Practice papers**
- 3. Revision cards**

When asked how you need to improve for your GCSES, many of you said:

What do you think you need to do to be more confident and improve your grades?

71 responses

Revise earlier and revise better

Consistent revision and practice

dont leave all revision to the last minute

Revise

Begin revising at least 3 weeks prior

revise more

Revise more and try to revise from an early stage so I don't feel pressured to fully revise for hours on end and I need to get motivated to

Pay more attention in some classes, which I have started doing, aswell as simply just revising more

Keep striving to be better.

Activity 5 (5 mins)

Discuss the following question in pairs:

What do you think the top takeaways are from this survey?



Activity 6 (5 mins)

Feedback to group:

- What Went Well?
- Even Better If...?



The main takeaways are:

1. You need to start revision earlier and use a revision schedule. You have more content to cover now and the earlier you start the better you will feel.
2. Procrastination and distractions are an issue with many students.
3. There shouldn't be an overreliance on note taking as this is often passive. Active revision is more effective so test yourself on your notes, use revision cards, use a mindmap. You should also be using retrieval and testing yourself on what you have learnt. Use a revision clock model of how you revise something.



Creating a Revision Timetable

Creating a Revision Timetable



Watch video - (13 mins long)

<https://youtu.be/SbWtYLd-cJk>

Top Tips:

If your plan didn't work before:

- Use a digital timetable which you can adapt and change
- Make sure you have gaps in your days which you can add to
- Don't try and pack too much in and add rewards for yourself
- Make sure you know what you are doing for each subject and have the necessary resources
- If you can't do something or it's not working, change to a different topic

Revision Timetable (on MS Excel)

	9-10am	10-11am	12-1pm	1-2pm	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	
Monday 4th March													ENGLISH
													MATHS
													FRENCH
													HISTORY
													RE
Tuesday													BIOLOGY
													PHYSICS
													CHEMISTRY
Wednesday													ART
Thursday									CHEMISTRY		PHYSICS	PHYSICS	
									topic		Forces		
									resource		Electricity		
											resource		
Friday								BIOLOGY	BIOLOGY		PHYSICS	PHYSICS	
								topic	topic		topic	topic	
								resource	resource				
Saturday		PHYSICS	PHYSICS			CHEMISTRY	CHEMISTRY		CHEMISTRY	CHEMISTRY			
Sunday		ART	ART			BIOLOGY	BIOLOGY		CHEMISTRY	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS	PHYSICS	
	9-10am	10-11am	12-1pm	1-2pm	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	

Topic Lists

Ensure that you have a topic list for each of your PPE (and GCSE) exams before you start creating your timetable. Topic Lists have been posted onto Satchel One by your class teachers or the Head of Department. Please let your teacher know if you are missing any.

Once you have the topic lists, use the topics to create your timetable. Rather than just putting, for example, 'Jekyll and Hyde' onto your timetable, list the specific topic e.g. 'Duality'.

AQA 2024

FOUNDATION - Grades 1 - 5

Geometry and Measures

I can do this	Grade	Title
	5	Arc lengths and sectors
	5	Derive triangle results
	5	Enlargements and negative SF
	5	Loci
	5	Pythagoras
	5	Similarity and Congruence
	5	Standard constructions
	5	Surface Area
	5	Trigonometric ratios
	5	Volume
	4	Alternate and corresponding angles
	4	Area of a circle
	4	Areas of composite shapes
	4	Areas of triangles, trapezia and parallelograms
	4	Bearings
	4	Circle terminology
	4	Circumference of a circle
	4	Congruent triangles
	4	Enlargements and fractional SF
	4	Perimeter of 2D shapes
	4	Plans and elevations
	4	Polygons
	4	Solve geometrical problems
	4	Vector arithmetic
	4	Volume of prisms
	3	3-D Shapes
	3	Congruent and similar shapes
	3	Geometrical terminology and diagrams
	3	Measuring lines and angles
	3	Properties of quadrilaterals
	3	Properties of triangles
	3	Translations and vectors
	3	Using standard units

Algebra

I can do this	Grade	Title
	5	Algebraic terminology
	5	Cubic and Reciprocal graphs
	5	Deduce quadratic roots algebraically
	5	Derive an equation
	5	Equation of a line
	5	Expand the product of two binomials
	5	Factorising quadratic expressions
	5	Fibonacci, quadratic and simple geometric sequences
	5	Graphical solution to equations
	5	Inequalities on number lines
	5	Linear equations
	5	Quadratic graphs
	5	Reciprocal real-life graphs
	5	Simplify indices
	5	Simplify surds
	5	Solve linear inequalities in one variable
	5	Writing formulae and expressions
	4	Changing the subject
	4	Collecting like terms
	4	Expressions
	4	Factorise single bracket
	4	Finding the equation of a line
	4	Graphs of linear functions
	4	Graphs of quadratic functions
	4	Linear equations one unknown
	4	Multiplying single brackets
	4	Non-standard real life graphs
	4	n th term of a linear sequence
	4	Number machines
	4	Substitution
	4	Using " $y = mx + c$ "
	3	Coordinates in four quadrants
	3	Plotting straight line graphs
	3	Position to term rules
	3	Sequences of square, triangular and cube numbers
	3	Using Formulae
	2	Sequences and Rules

Revision Timetables – Spaced Practice

Example School Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	School					Biology – Genetics and Evolution	Review Science (Saturday's content: Biology)
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM						Break	Break
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM						Maths - Probability and Stats	Review History (Saturday's content: Cold War)
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM						Lunch	Lunch
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM						Review Science (Friday's content: Physics)	Macbeth
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM						Break	Break
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Algebra and Equations	Spanish - Vocab and Verbs	Sketchbook Work	Maths - Trig	Physics – Forces and Motion	Review Science (Friday's content: Physics)	Maths - Past Paper Practice
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Jekyll and Hyde	History - World War I Causes and Events	Chemistry – Atomic Structure	Spanish - S&L	Poetry	Review Maths (Saturday's content: Probability and statistics)	Chemistry – Chemical Reactions
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Biology - Cell Structure	Review English Literature (Monday's content: Set text)	Review Spanish (Tuesday's content: Vocabulary)	Review History (Tuesday's content: World War I)	Review Maths (Thursday's content: Trigonometry)	History - Cold War Origins	Review Maths (Sunday's content: Past paper)
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
7:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Review Geometry and Shapes	Review Science (Monday's content: Biology)	Review Maths (Monday's content: Algebra and Equations)	Review Science (Wednesday's content: Chemistry)	Review Spanish (Thursday's content: S&L)	Chemistry – Chemical Reactions	Spanish - Exam-style Questions

Top Tips:

- After you have organised your notes, you must practice answering questions on the topic
- Add these checks to your revision timetable. It could be the next day, or even a week later. You need to give your brain time to let the information stick and then test your recall.
- Practice could be testing yourself on your revision cards or using past paper questions. Remember to check answers and relearn/revisit if necessary.

Spaced Practice and the Revision Clock

Our key message to you is you revise in structured chunks which include these three stages:

Review – What do I need to learn?

Practice – Can I retrieve it from memory?

Check – What do I know? Where are my gaps?

...and repeat!

In a nutshell



Start with making sure you have the **exam specs** or **knowledge maps**.

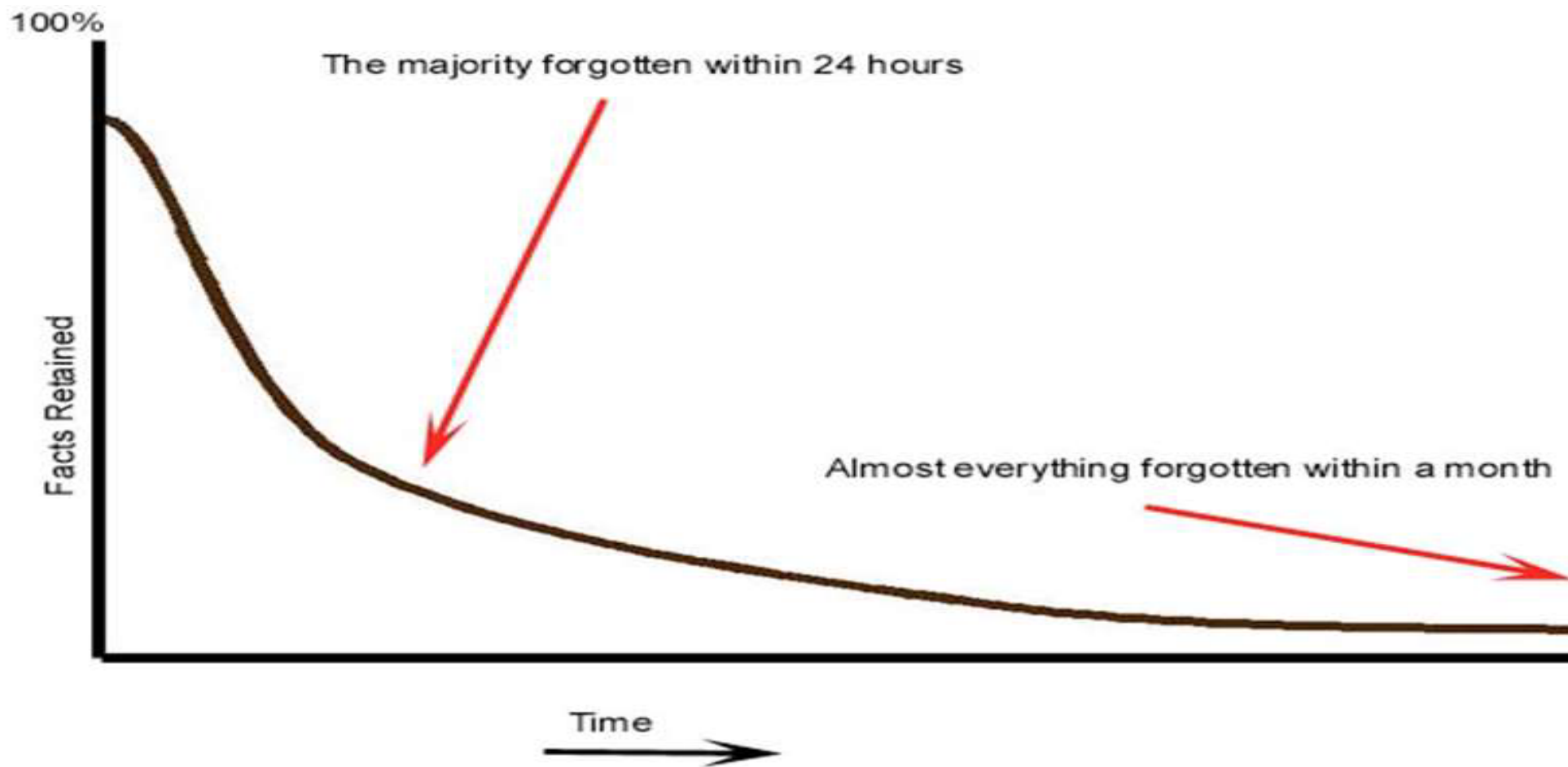
Plan 'what and when' on your **revision timetable**

Review activities such as writing out **flashcards** or creating **mind maps**. But don't stop here.

You need to build on the review of your learning with **active retrieval practice** such as **knowledge tests** or answering **longer questions** from **memory**. Then you need to check your answers to identify mistakes, or misconceptions, or areas for improvement.

These are the stages of revision that give you the best chance of **remembering** and **embedding** the knowledge and skills you need.

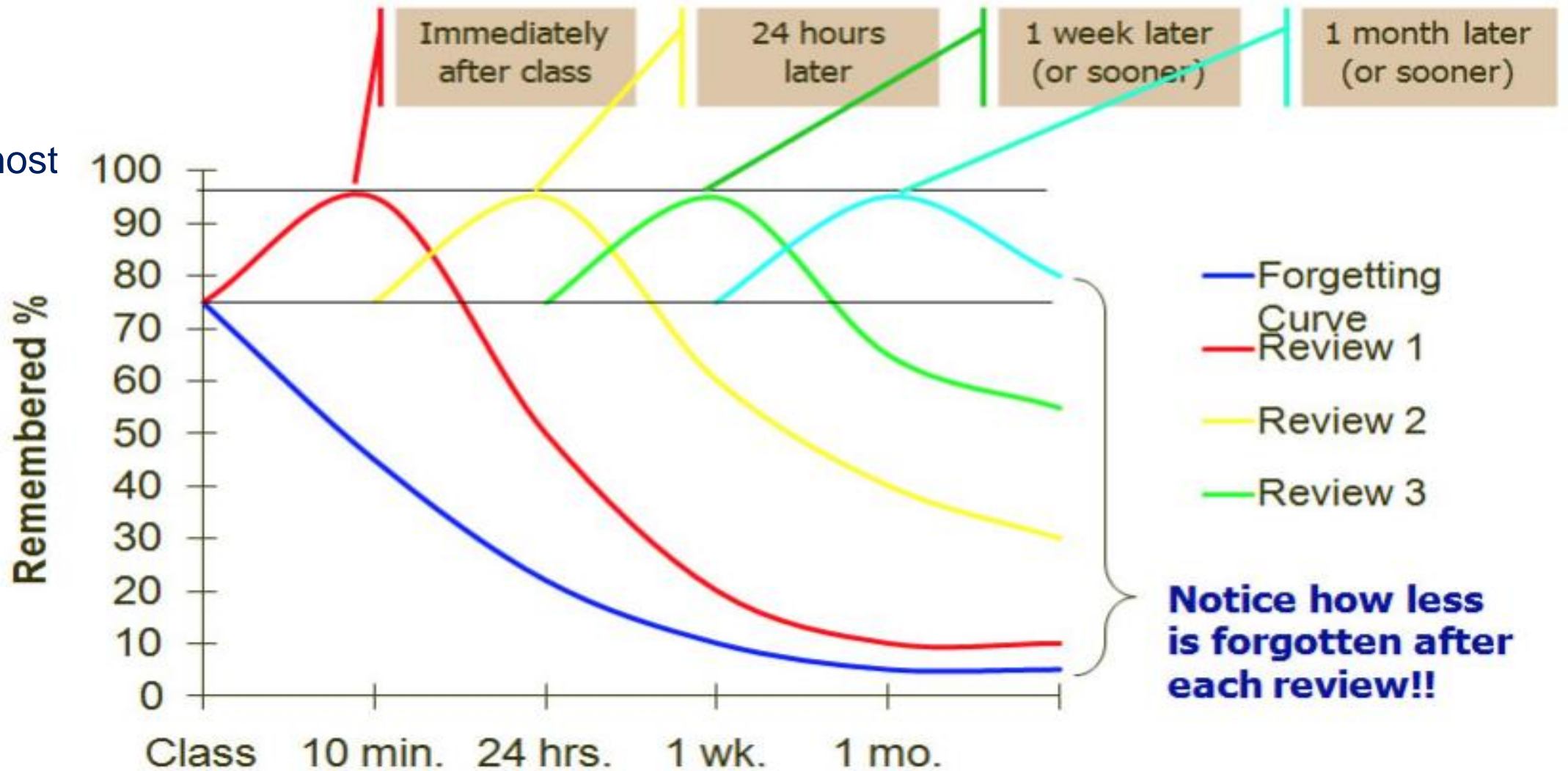
Why is spaced practice so effective?



The Curve of Forgetting

Overcoming the Curve

You can almost halve study time by spacing study sessions rather than 'massing' them (i.e. cramming)



Subject + topic

Remember our revision clock.

This is the most effective way of revising, whether you like to make notes, make revision cards or mindmaps.

Key to it is that you

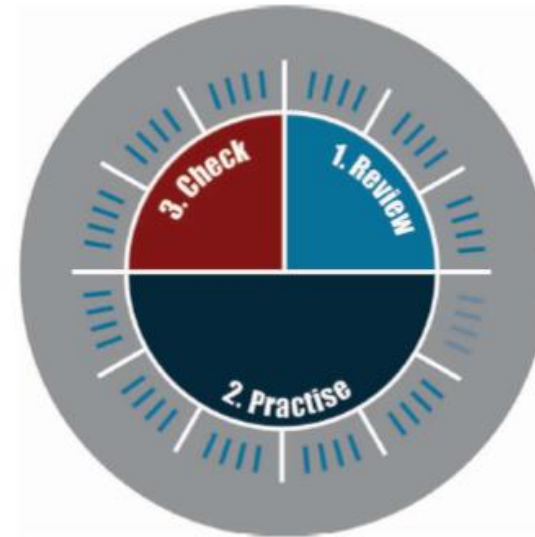
Practice and check what you are doing.

Then go back and practice and review at a later stage

3. Check (15 mins):

Examples:

- Go back to...
- Redraft...
- Check mark scheme...
- Compare...
- Mark...
- Set a target to...



2. Practise (30 mins):

Examples:

- Without looking at notes, write out...
- Without looking at notes, complete a practice question on...
- Test yourself on your flashcards until...
- Without looking at notes, write one paragraph on...
- Complete online quizzes on...

1. Review (15 mins):

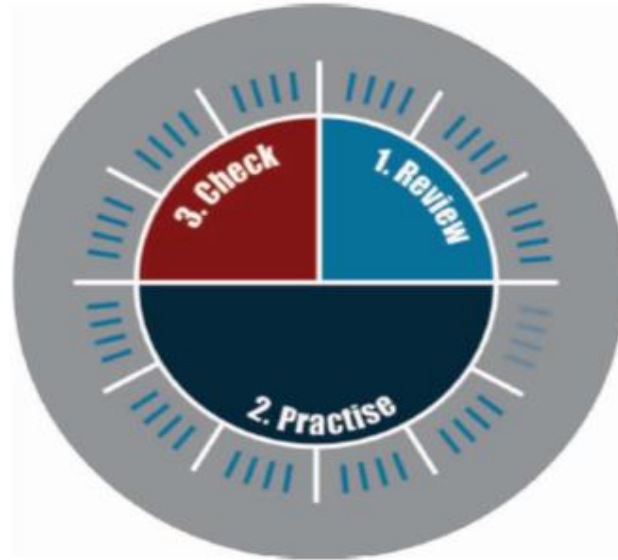
Examples:

- Review / re-read notes on...
- Create flashcards...
- Draw a mind map...
- Summarise...
- Add to...

Subject: Maths + topic: Any topic!

3. Check (15 mins):

- Mark using provided answers
- Re-do the questions you got wrong until you see why the correct answer is the correct answer



2. Practise (30 mins):

- Complete the questions on Maths Genie on that topic

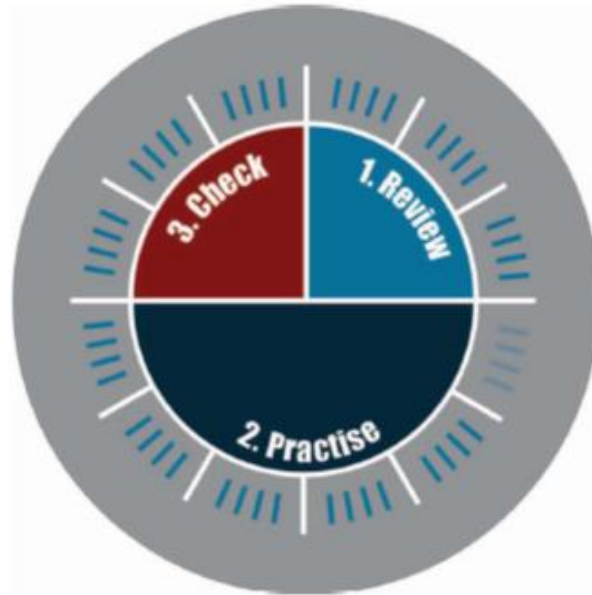
1. Review (15 mins):

- Watch the 'How To' video on Maths Genie explaining how to do the calculation you're revising

Subject: **English Literature** + topic: **The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde**

3. Check (15 mins):

- Mark using mark scheme
- Compare to example response
- Compare to a friend's response
- Compare to a self-written previous response



2. Practise (30 mins):

- Write down quotations from memory, with techniques and contextual knowledge
- Write introductions to various questions
- Write a series of paragraphs in response to extract/question

1. Review (15 mins):

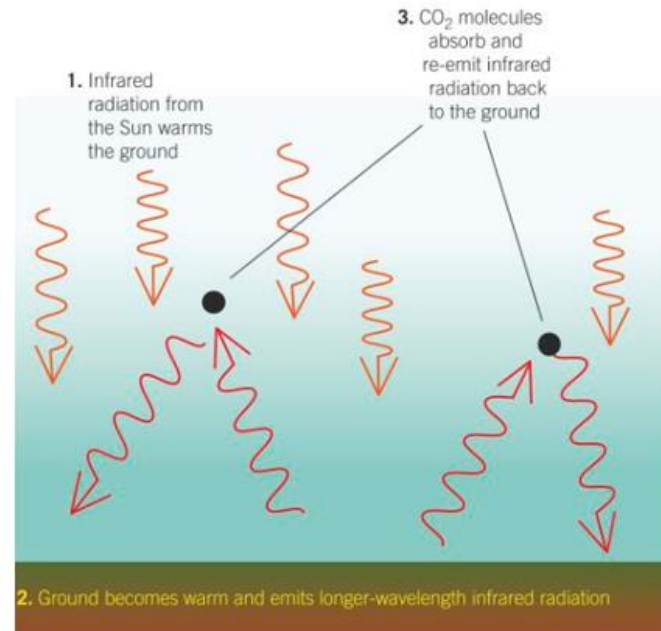
- Read an extract
- Choose/invent an essay question
- Highlight/jot down key quotes
- Note down key techniques
- Note down effect/s on reader
- Note down relevant contextual information

Flashcards

Problems caused by energy sources

Activity 5 (20 mins)

- Last time you made a revision card on energy sources.
- Your task is to do it again but this time, you need to use it by writing some key questions on the back of the card.
- Test yourself.
- Now test the person next to you by asking them questions.



Fossil fuel problems

When coal, oil, or gas is burnt, greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are released. The amount of these gases in the atmosphere is increasing, and most scientists believe that this is causing more global warming and climate change. Some electricity comes from oil-fired power stations. People use much more oil to produce fuels for transport.

Burning fossil fuels can also produce sulfur dioxide. This gas causes acid rain. The sulfur can be removed from a fuel before burning it, to stop acid rain. For example, natural gas has its sulfur impurities removed before it is used.

Renewable energy sources and the environment

Disadvantages

- Renewable energy resources are not currently able to meet the world demand. So fossil fuels are still needed to provide some of the energy demand.
- Wind turbines create a whining noise that can upset people nearby, and some people consider them unsightly.
- Tidal barrages affect river estuaries and the habitats of creatures and plants there.
- Hydroelectric schemes need large reservoirs of water, which can affect nearby plant and animal life. Habitats are often flooded to create dams.
- Solar cells need to cover large areas to generate large amounts of power.
- Some renewable energy resources are not available all the time or can be unreliable. For example, solar power is not produced at night and is affected by cloudy weather. Wind power is reduced when there is little or no wind, and hydroelectricity is affected by droughts if reservoirs dry up.

Example: Problems caused by energy sources

- Not too long
- 5 or 6 bullet points
- Key information
- Maybe highlight key words?

- Fossil fuels emit CO_2 when burnt
- CO_2 absorbs I.R. radiation
- More CO_2 more I.R. absorbed
- absorbed heat radiated back to Earth, increasing temperature
- Increased temp = sea levels rising, extreme weather, floods, droughts

Renewables take up land that can be used for crops / can harm ecosystems

Final Tips and Strategies

- Start early
- Split work into small chunks and use a revision schedule which can be changed
- Space your revision out and return to what you've previously revised in order to test yourself
- You feel much better and pleased with yourself when once you've started.
- Turn your phones off or any other distractions.
- Reward yourself.
- If you find it hard starting, try this method. Lots of people do and it works!



<https://youtu.be/v0QCsc02xus>

Watch video clip on how to just do it - (5mins)

Managing Stress and Anxiety

Headspace Activity - Decompress!



Watch video clip on how to just do it - (3 mins)

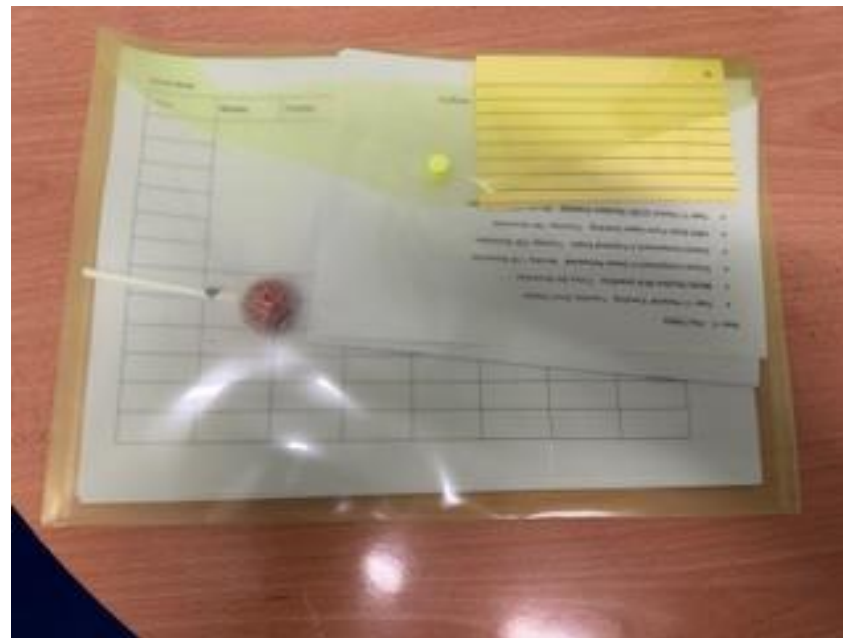
Managing Stress and Anxiety - Support at HWS

Managing Stress and Anxiety - Support

Year 11 Packs

Year 11 Packs

- Your tutors will now give you your packs of revision materials so that you can start revising over half-term.
- The following slides explain what you can find within your pack.



PPE Timetable

PRE PUBLIC EXAMS TIMETABLE JANUARY 2025

School Week 2					
	Monday 6th January	Tuesday 7th January	Wednesday 8th January	Thursday 9th January	Friday 10th January
8:35	English Literature 2hr 15m	Maths Paper 1 Non- Calculator 1hr 30m BTEC Science Chemistry 40 mins	Physics Triple 1hr 45m Physics Combi 1hr 15m	REP 1hr 45m	English Language Paper 1 1hr 45m
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:35					
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:50	Chemistry Triple 1hr 45m Chemistry Combi 1hr 15m	History P1 USA & Conflict & Tension 2 hrs Phys Ed P1 1hr 15m BTEC Science Physics 40 mins	Geography P1 Global Issues 1hr 30m Media Studies 1hr 30m BTEC Science Biology 40 mins	Maths Paper 2 Calculator 30m 1hr	Biology Triple 1hr 45m Biology Combi 1hr 15m
School Week 1					
	Monday 13th January	Tuesday 14th January	Wednesday 15th January	Thursday 16th January	Friday 17th January
8:35	Maths Paper 3 1 hr 30m BTEC Social Care 90 mins Health &	2hrs Sociology Science Chemistry II 40 mins BTEC	Prod Design 1hr 45m Textiles 1hr 45m Food Prep 1hr 45m BTEC Science Biology II 40 mins	English Language Paper 2 1hr 45m	Comp Science 2 2hr (O/S) BTEC DIT/IT Comp 3 1hr 30m Drama Comp 1 1hr 45m
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:35					
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:50	Media Studies P2 1hr 30m (Viewing) Science 1 1hr 45m Comp	Music (main hall) 1hr 10m History P2 (MEP) 1hr BTEC Child Development 2 hrs	French (main hall) listening/reading 1hr 45m Science/Physics II 40 mins BTEC	Phys Ed P2 1hr 15m Spanish (main hall) Listening/reading 1hr 45m	Spanish Writing 1hr 15m French Writing 1hr 15m Geography P2 UK Issues 1hr 30m

Blank Revision Timetable - Term Time

School Week

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday																				
	School																										
						School																					
											School																
																School											
																					School						
																										School	

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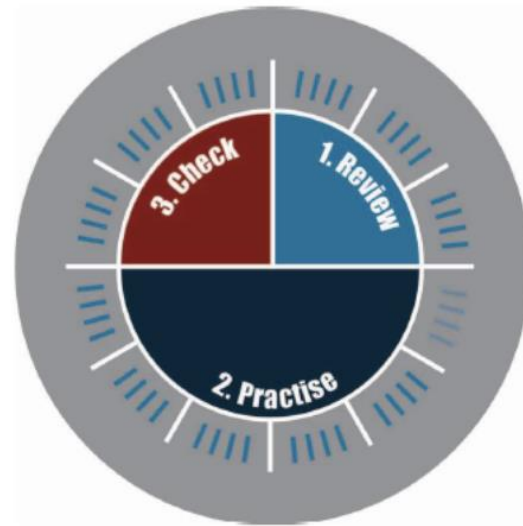
*This is an example of a student who is about to start their exams. You will not (and should not) necessarily be revising all weekend at this stage in the academic year.

Revision Clocks

Subject: _____ + topic: _____

3. Check (15 mins):

1. Review (15 mins):



2. Practise (30 mins):

Booklet of Key Resources

GCSE Recommended Revision Guides and Websites

This document contains recommended revision guides and websites from our Curriculum Leaders to support your revision at home. You only need to purchase a revision guide if you wish to have your own revision guide for a specific subject. You do not need to buy every book for every subject.

List of Key Dates

Year 11 - Key Dates

- **Year 11 Parents' Evening** - Tuesday 22nd October
- **Media Studies NEA Deadline** - Friday 8th November
- **Drama Component 2 Dress Rehearsal** - Monday 11th November
- **Drama Component 2 Practical Exam** - Tuesday 12th November
- **HWS Sixth Form Open Evening** - Thursday 14th November
- **Year 11 Parent GCSE Revision Evening** - Monday 25th November
- **PE NEA Deadline** - Monday 2nd December
- **Year 11 PPEs** - Monday 6th January to Friday 17th January
- **Year 11 PPE Results Assembly** - Wednesday 12th February
- **Year 11 Celebration/Dress Up Day** - Friday 2nd May
- **GCSE Examinations** - Thursday 8th May to Friday 20th June
- **Year 11 Celebration Evening** - Thursday 26th June (Union Chapel, Islington)
- **GCSE Results Day** - Thursday 21st August