

# Ancient History

## TOP TIPS

- Revise each small chunk of the course in an organised way, using the sub-headings of the textbook to guide you. These sub-headings exactly match the course content in the specification, which is where exam questions are set from.
- Make sure you have specific knowledge and examples you can use as evidence to support your answers.
- Make sure you are familiar with every style of question, and how you go about answering them. Past papers will help with this, as well as all the sample questions in the textbook.
- Practice exam questions regularly to secure your knowledge of a topic. It is the best way to learn key knowledge.
- Attend at least one of the revision sessions outlined below per week.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Start with an exam style question - revise the section - then write the answer.
- Eventually build up to answering the exam question without the revision notes in front of you.
- Quiz yourself or ask someone to quiz you. It works.
- Use your exercise books from Year 10-11 to help with revision – write in them, annotate and highlight key details. Use these alongside your textbooks. **Both textbooks are on Teams – make sure you can access them or have your own copies.**
- Revise weekly, ideally over two sessions - get into a routine of doing this. Bring the revision into class every week so that your teacher can advise you on improving exam technique and understanding.
- Always ensure you mind-map/note the key points. Just reading will not work as effectively. Ideally, apply to a practice question.
- THINK about what you are revising and practice re-calling it. Don't just go through the motions.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

<https://www.bloomsburyonlineresources.com/ocr-gcse-ancient-history/> - excellent multiple-choice quizzes

**REVISION SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY AFTER COLLEGE IN HY1 AND THURSDAY BREAK 2 IN HY1**

# Business

## TOP TIPS

- Watch bizconsesh YouTube videos (250 on site) to help with understanding of topics and exam technique.
- Familiarize yourself with the Assessment Criteria / answer structures for 3, 6, 9, 12 markers.
- Practice the BLT technique, Point: Because... Leads To...
- Practice adding context to answers in section B & C questions which have a case study.
- Remember to use TOPIC (The Figures, Owners, Products, Industry, Competitors/Customers).
- The CONTEXT/APPLICATION Assessment Objective is the easiest way to gain or throw away marks. Using this effectively can easily boost grades 2 levels, or drop grades 2 levels if not applied.
- Attend the additional support sessions (Thursday break 2 in MA5).

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are key – available on Teams and the Edexcel website. Attempt (with/without notes/use of mark scheme), then mark using the mark scheme, clearly identifying where you gained marks.
- Do ‘little and often’ active revision, such as the task above – e.g. 30mins in addition to HL per week, or 15 -20 marks worth of questions.
- Speak to the ‘experts’ if you are struggling, i.e. your teacher!

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SESSION: THURSDAY BREAK 2 IN MA5**



# Child Care

## TOP TIPS

- Learn the key terms which are in your knowledge organiser – this will help you to understand what the question is asking.
- Look at different activities/ events in children's lives and link to holistic development (a good idea is to use a mindmap which looks at PILES).
- Watch episodes of:  
The Secret life of a 4-year-old  
Child of our Time  
Rich House Poor House

These will help you to make links and gain an understanding of what it is like to work with children of different ages.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are key.
- Do 'little and often' active revision, such as the task above - e.g. 20 minutes in addition to HL per week, or 10 marks worth of questions.
- Speak to the 'experts' if you are struggling, i.e. your teacher!

# Dance



## TOP TIPS

- **Activity 1: Ideas Log** – all initial ideas must refer to the brief. It has to guide all decisions that you make for the Ideas Log. Think about what has influenced your creative choices in relation to the brief and prepare your notes individually.
- **Activity 2** – Skills Log – Get to know the skills and techniques that you are expected to demonstrate in your practical work. Consider how you use influences to support skill and technique development and ensure that you contribute to the rehearsal and development process of the practical work.
- **Activity 3** – Workshop Performance – this is the practical element which is filmed. Your work for this activity should demonstrate effective communication and group work which shows your individual contribution to the process.
- **Activity 4** – be an active member of your group work in order to strengthen your evaluation of individual contribution. Maintain a connection with the brief so that your evaluation makes comprehensive links with it and document your strengths and further development.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- **Organise your notes** for the written activities in Component 3; Activity 1, Activity 2 and Activity 4. 3 x 1 hour exams and limited notes to take into each exam. These notes need to be clear and well organised using the brief provided.

**DANCE CLINIC: THURSDAY LUNCHTIME IN DA1**

# Design and Technology

## TOP TIPS

- Familiarize yourself with the marking schemes for the NEA. Cross-reference and self-assess your work to identify how it can be improved, and what specifically needs to be done.
- Maximise all lesson time. Complete your NEA assessment. 100 marks - 50% of GCSE.
- Have a go at past papers, read through the mark schemes.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are **key** – available on AQA (D&T).
- Attempt (with/without notes/use of mark scheme) the questions, then mark these against the marks scheme. Clearly identify where you gained marks. Then, extend the answers using the answer sheets (green pen - to show where the additional work has been done).
- Use the online resources listed below.
- Consider purchasing the **GCSE Design & Technology AQA Revision Guide**

## USEFUL WEBSITES

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zb6h92p>  
<http://www.technologystudent.com/>  
<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/AQA> | [Subject specific vocabulary](#)

# Drama

## GENERAL TIPS

- Manage your time wisely – use lesson time and home learning time effectively.
- Use the resources available – the revision guide in Teams; the class power points in Teams; the hard copy of the revision guide.
- Use the education packs for your live theatre revision.
- Explore past papers in the Eduqas Drama website.

## WRITTEN PAPER

- Ensure you are aware of how to create a character – what is on the skills list?
- Ensure you know the different staging types – how would 'An Inspector Calls' look on each and how would you direct the play?
- What are the direction skills that you can explore – developing character, rehearsal techniques, lighting, sound, staging, props?
- Know the key themes and contexts for both plays.
- Re-read the play; spot key quotes and speeches so you can reference these quickly in the exam.





# English Language and Literature

## TOP TIPS

- Make sure you understand what each question is asking you to do e.g. What's the big idea? Think about connotations. Write a lot about a little.
- Attend the intervention sessions (AWF and LAH on a Tuesday after school). Please remember that all resources from these sessions are posted weekly on the Year 11 Teams channel.
- There is an invite only session on Thursday break 2 (KEC).
- Re-read the poems and texts for Literature. The texts this year are: A Christmas Carol, Macbeth, An Inspector Calls and the AQA Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are key -available on the Year 11 Teams channel -->attempt without notes wherever possible. Bring past paper questions to your teachers for marking.
- Make 10-minute plans for questions.
- Read widely and try to read some academic articles.

**For Literature** - ensure you know plot, make character and theme maps. Have you made poetry flashcards to help you revise? Speak to your teacher if you need help.

**For Language** - find any piece of writing - what techniques can you find? Get used to being able to identify different techniques and explain the **effect**. Practice your SPAG and make vocabulary flashcards – remember to be ambitious.

**REVISION SESSIONS: TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL IN EN2 AND EN3 AND THURSDAY BREAK 2 (INVITE ONLY) IN EN8**

# Fine Art

## TOP TIPS

GCSE Fine Art is an evidenced based course. The work you do during the course is assessed for your GCSE. It is split into two areas:

### Component 1: Coursework Portfolio

**Worth 60%** of your overall mark.

What evidence do I need in my portfolio?

- Your Year 10 digital portraits project with final outcome
- Your year 11 project developed in a personal way

### Component 2: Externally Set Assessment

**Worth 40%** of the GCSE.

This consists of 10-12 weeks to prepare for 10 hours of supervised time. This is over 2 days on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April. During this supervised time you work to produce a final outcome.

The exam project should demonstrate all Assessment Objectives and link to inspirational artists.

## GENERAL TIPS

- Dedicate time outside of lesson to continue your creative process, 1 hour a week.
- Go and SEE some artwork in the flesh at local or national exhibitions
- Explore ideas with depth trying many different approaches both practically and conceptually
- Spend time on the presentation of your sketchbook/PowerPoint. Follow the Photography creative cycle.

## MEET THE AO's

- Make visual and conceptual links from everywhere and anywhere that inspires you throughout your project to evidence your thinking for AO1.
- Experiment to achieve AO2 by trying and combining different mediums and techniques in your project. Don't try things just once, experiment, explore and take risks in making your work
- To achieve AO3 you must record your ideas using written reflection and visual sources including techniques that you didn't like and decided not to use to show that you are being critical and evaluating your own work.
- Take your own photographs as first-hand source references to show you are making your work personal and meaningful to you to achieve AO4. Clearly link the creative process that follows to your inspired artists and processes you have already explored in your outcome and reflections.

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE 'OPEN HOUSE' SESSIONS INCLUDING MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL**



# Food Preparation and Nutrition



## TOP TIPS

- Familiarize yourself with the marking schemes for the NEA. Cross-reference and self-assess your work in order to identify how the work can be improved, and what specifically needs to be done.
- Focus on your NEA2, to place yourself in the best position before the exams.
- Have a go at past papers, read through the mark schemes or NEA assessment criteria.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are **key** - available on AQA (Food).
- Attempt (with/without notes/use of mark scheme) the questions, then mark these against the marks scheme. Clearly identify where you gained marks. Then, extend the answers using the answer sheets (green pen - to show where the additional work has been done).
- Do 'little and often' active revision, such as the task above and those described below.
- Use the website links shown below to check specific subject knowledge, watch related videos/animations and complete the tests/quizzes.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/AQA> | [Subject specific vocabulary](#)

# Geography



## TOP TIPS

- Get familiar with different current news events, including Hazard events like Climate Change stories, Hurricanes, Storms in the UK, earthquakes and volcanoes, migration stories, Sustainable cities – search and watch them on TV/YouTube, BBC News; read about them online. Current News events are SUPER impressive as case studies and set you apart from other candidates.
- Set out a table of case studies for each topic, break down the number of weeks left. Stick to the sequence you design.
- Get Revision Guides and Revision Workbooks along with online SENECA, which is the best at testing your knowledge gaps - “Go for Green” in each unit. SENECA also has exam questions to use.
- Recite sections of the Knowledge Organiser to pets/family/phone.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Attend the revision sessions on Wednesday break 2 in GE1, GE2 and GE3.
- Practice Exam questions are key – available in the work books as well as past papers on the Pearson Edexcel website → Attempt (with/without notes/use of mark scheme), then mark using the mark scheme, clearly identifying where you gained marks.
- Use the linked resources on the Class Charts Revision Tasks fact files. Use Case Study Documents to learn/write/recite case studies.
- Do ‘little and often’ active revision, such as the task above – e.g. 20 minutes in addition to home learning per week, or 10 marks worth of questions.
- Speak to the ‘experts’ if you are struggling, i.e. your teacher!

**REVISION SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY BREAK 2 IN GE1, GE2 AND GE3**

# History



## TOP TIPS

- Use the checklists that we have given you, and/or the ones at the front of the revision guides to ensure you revise each small chunk of the course in an organised way. It is essential you know a minimum of three key things about each sub-section or topic.
- Always think about how you can use examples to weigh up importance/significance/consequences/causes.
- Make sure you are completely secure with each exam paper - what will be in it and what style of questions?
- Practice exam questions regularly. It is the best way to secure your knowledge of a topic, as well as hone your exam technique
- Attend at least one of the revision sessions outlined below per week.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Start with an exam style question - revise the section - then write the answer.
- Eventually build up to answering the revision question without the revision notes in front of you.
- Quiz yourself or ask someone to quiz you. It works.
- Use your exercise books from Year 10-11 to help with revision – write in them, annotate and highlight key details. Use these alongside your revision guides and textbooks. **All textbooks and revision guides are on Teams – make sure you can access them or have your own copies.**
- Do your weekly revision from Teams - get into a routine of doing this. Bring the revision into class every week so that your teacher can advise you on improving exam technique and understanding.
- Always ensure you mind-map/note the key points. Just reading will not work as effectively.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

- [Seneca - Learn 2x Faster \(senecalearning.com\)](https://www.senecalearning.com)
- [GCSE History - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/education/gcse/history)

**REVISION SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY BREAK 2 IN HY3 AND THURSDAY BREAK 2 IN HY2**

# Maths

## TOP TIPS

- **Do your Home Learning.** SPARX has been set up to give you the best balance of retrieval and exam style questions and, together with the weekly multiple choice exam paper, should form the starting point of your maths revision schedule.
- **RTFQ - Read the FULL question.** Do not skim read, we get an examiners report every year that tell us how many silly marks were dropped by students just not reading the questions properly.
- Learn how to **use your own calculator properly** - lots of YouTube videos on this.
- Most marks are for **workings**, practice writing these down **showing every step** – don't just do the calculations in your head/on a calculator.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- **Answer questions** - you need to **practice** applying your knowledge, do this **little and often**.
- **Pinpoint booklets** are EXACTLY the topics you need to get better at to improve your grade. These are personal and individual to you - make the most of these booklets.
- Do all the **predicted papers** and **past papers** on OnMaths/Corbett Maths/Maths Genie. YouTube has past paper walkthroughs to help you mark any past papers.
- Follow the **six week revision schedule** on MathsWatch (we put this on Teams).

## USEFUL WEBSITES

- <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/> Homework and topic practice and videos).
- <https://www.pinpointlearning.co.uk/> (Your improvement topics from mocks).
- <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/> (Past papers and questions broken down by topic with solutions).
- <https://www.onmaths.com/> (Online mock and predicted papers).
- <https://corbettmaths.com/5-a-day/gcse/> (Daily practice).

**REVISION SESSION: SPARX SUPPORT EVERY DAY BREAK 1 AND 2 / WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY 3:10 – 4:10**

# Modern Languages

## TOP TIPS

- Prepare answers to all the topics in your **Speaking Booklet**. Preparing these will have a positive impact on your writing grade too. Remember '**DOCS**' as a checklist for what to include (**D**ifferent Tenses, **O**pinions, **C**onnectives/**C**omplexity, **S**tory).
- Complete as many **past papers** as you can. You can do this in exam conditions or looking up vocabulary as you go. Use the **transcript** after a listening paper to help you find words that caught you out.
- Revise **vocabulary** from your '**High Frequency Vocabulary**' booklet as this is the vocab that has appeared in previous exams.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- **Little and often** is the most effective way to revise vocabulary. **Languagenut** is very effective for learning lots of vocabulary.
- Try using a 'Pomodoro' timer to do a 25-minute block of revision followed by a 3-5 minute break: [25:00 - Time to focus!](https://pomofocus.io/) ([pomofocus.io](https://pomofocus.io/))
- Ensure there are no distractions (phone somewhere else or notifications switched off if using a website).

## USEFUL WEBSITES

- [Pearson Edexcel GCSE French \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#) (French past papers).
- [GCSE French - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](#) / [GCSE Spanish - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Edexcel GCSE Spanish \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#) (Spanish past papers).
- [Seneca Learning](#)
- [languages online](#) (select the language and then 'Grammar').

**REVISION SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY 1:30-2:00 – INVITATION ONLY (YOUR TEACHER WILL ADVISE ON THE FOCUS IN ADVANCE) AND FRIDAY 13:30 - 14:00 (HOME LEARNING SUPPORT AND SPEAKING PREPARATION)**





# Music

## WRITTEN EXAM - EDUQAS

- Use a revision guide to support your independent study.
- Work through and revise key language to ensure you understand. (This can be found on Teams in the files area)
- Make sure that you know as much information as possible about the set works (revise and listen).
- Complete practice questions - these will be shared in class and added to Teams for additional independent study.
- Use Focus on Sound to revise and complete online lessons.

## PRACTICAL/COURSEWORK

- Use additional time in College to ensure that you are rehearsing all practical components regularly. Consistent rehearsal and composition work will support your coursework.
- Utilise the resources in College, use Sibelius, book in time to record.
- Record your performance work regularly.
- Compose regularly and back up your files so you can access from home.
- Speak to your instrumental teachers and seek advice and support with your coursework.
- Join a music club to build your confidence and performance skills.

**RESOURCES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY BREAK 1, AND AFTER COLLEGE ON TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY: PLEASE SEE RJL TO ARRANGE**



# Photography

## TOP TIPS

GCSE Photography is an evidenced based course. The work you do during the course is assessed for your GCSE. It is split into two areas:

### Component 1: Coursework Portfolio

**Worth 60%** of your overall mark.

What evidence do I need in my portfolio?

- Your Year 10 digital and darkroom projects
- Your year 11 project developed in a personal way

### Component 2: Externally Set Assessment

**Worth 40%** of the GCSE.

This consists of 10-12 weeks to prepare for 10 hours of supervised time. This is over 2 days on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April. During this supervised time you work to produce a final outcome. The exam project should be a minimum of 8 shoots fully presented.

## GENERAL TIPS

- Dedicate time outside of lesson to continue your creative process, 1 hour a week.
- Go and SEE some artwork in the flesh at local or national exhibitions
- Explore ideas with depth trying many different approaches both practically and conceptually
- Spend time on the presentation of your sketchbook/PowerPoint. Follow the Photography creative cycle.

## MEET THE AO's

- Make visual and conceptual links from everywhere and anywhere that inspires you throughout your project to evidence your thinking for AO1.
- Experiment to achieve AO2 by trying and combining different mediums and techniques in your project. Don't try things just once, experiment, explore and take risks in making your work
- To achieve AO3 you must record your ideas using written reflection and visual sources including techniques that you didn't like and decided not to use to show that you are being critical and evaluating your own work.
- Take your own photographs as first-hand source references to show you are making your work personal and meaningful to you to achieve AO4. Clearly link the creative process that follows to your inspired artists and processes you have already explored in your outcome and reflections.

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE 'OPEN HOUSE' SESSIONS INCLUDING MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL**

# Physical Education



## TOP TIPS

- Once you have submitted your Analysis and Evaluation coursework you will receive a 2024 **GCSE PE Revision Guide**. The guide includes knowledge organisers and numerous past paper questions with marks scheme included - use this as a starting point for all your GCSE PE revision needs.
- Create **flashcards** for units that have already been completed: (1) Health, Fitness & Wellbeing (2) Sports Psychology, (3) Physical Training.
- To maximise practical grades, **video any competitive performances** in sport outside of school and upload to your MS Team - this is vital for those who (a) compete in sport at a representative level (country, national etc) or (b) compete in sports that require specialist equipment (skiing, equestrian etc). Speak to your teacher about this if you are unsure.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Past Paper questions are key – available on the AQA website → Attempt (with/without notes/use of mark scheme), then ‘self mark’ using the mark scheme, clearly identifying where you gained marks in green pen.
- Seneca learning - teachers post assignments throughout the unit being covered for HL. **Re-learn**, it’s just like practicing a sports skill - the more you practice the better you’ll get at retrieving the information.
- Do ‘little and often’ active revision, for example 20mins in addition to HL per week, or 10 marks worth of questions.
- YouTube can be great as a revision aid, BUT make sure you cross reference the information with your lesson notes to make sure the content matches the GCSE content!
- Speak to the ‘experts’/your teacher for advice!
- Download a free sports news app (Sky Sports/BBC Sport) and turn on notifications so that you are kept up to date with sports news that relates to the course (AO2 information.)

**REVISION SESSION: FRIDAY BREAK 2 IN PE1**

# Psychology

## TOP TIPS

- Using past papers as a revision tool is a great way to get to know the layout of each paper, as well as the types of questions you could be asked. Past papers are also useful as they can help you identify any weak areas in your learning, and show you where you need to improve. You'll also be able to monitor your progress by checking your past paper answers against the provided marking schemes.
- As your exam gets closer, try to complete your practice papers under exam conditions, i.e. timed and with no additional resources, as this will improve your time management skills. This will also help to show you where you are spending the most time on the papers, and help you to get quicker at answering the questions. Past papers can be downloaded directly from the AQA website.
- Take breaks, split your revision into 20 minute sections before taking a short break.
- If you are a visual learner **create mind maps** from your notes – one mind map per topic and stick it somewhere you will look at it!

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Make summary notes from revision materials.
- Make summary notes from summary notes and reduce down onto revision cards.
- Underline keywords on cards.
- For each topic, good revision sub headings are the title of the unit: Memory, Perception etc.
- Finally, include: keywords, key studies, possible exam questions and limitations with key studies, application of knowledge to real life.

**PSYCHOLOGY CLINIC: TUESDAY BREAK 2 IN RS3 / PSYCHOLOGY DROP-IN: THURSDAY BREAK 2 IN RS1**

# Science

## TOP TIPS

- Use Seneca to go over the basics. You can choose a topic that you find hard, and work on that section. Make sure you repeat a section until you get over 80%. Repetition of the basics is really important!
- Bring your revision guide to lessons. It can really help to have an extra source of information in front of you that you will then revise from.
- Focus on the topics you find hard! There is the most amount of progress to be made here.

## KEY REVISION TECHNIQUES

- Use Seneca, BBC Bitesize, or YouTube to revise the basics of a topic that you find challenging.
- Use the specification to make flashcards, focusing on content that has bullet points to learn.
- Try some past paper questions on Physicsandmathstutor.com.
- Make a list of any areas/concepts that you don't understand, and take them to your teacher.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrkw2hv>  
<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/>  
[GCSE: Top revision techniques to help you pass your exams](#) (www.gcse.guru)

## GENERAL TIPS

- Use the revision guides or the topic areas listed on BBC Bitesize (see Useful Websites listed above) to find an overview of all the material you will need to cover for your science exams.
- Use these resources to make **lists** of the topics to cover and decide where you are feeling strong or weak
- Create your revision timetable around the weakest areas first.
- Use past papers found on [physicsandmathstutor.com](https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/) to help you practice what you've been studying
- There are lots of ways you can revise; try different approaches. Writing loads of notes isn't always the best way to remember a lot of information. Look at some of the ideas on [gcse.guru](https://www.gcse.guru)

REVISION SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY BREAK 2 IN SC4 AND THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL