



Revision methods activity

This activity is designed to get students thinking and engaging with what methods they can use to revise. Go through each of the following methods and ask students, in small groups, to draw up a brief list of strengths and limitations of this method. You can use the lists provided on this document to add to their answers. Hopefully students will get an idea of which methods will work for them.


The mind map

<p><u>General Information</u></p> <p>We all know what mind maps are but did you know there has been evidence of the use of mind mapping since 300BC. Mind maps are useful for students who like to link their learning together and see the bigger picture. But also to those who like visually attractive revision notes. Very good for sticking on walls.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Links ideas together ● Visually interesting to look at ● Can make good use of colour ● Active revision and easy to do ● Adaptable to any topic or piece of work ● Can condense a lot of information onto one page 	<p><u>limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can't include large chunks of text ● Potentially quite time consuming


Note taking

<p><u>General information</u></p> <p>Note taking is an efficient way of extracting the key points from a larger text in a simple way. Some may take notes from lecture slides, others from textbooks or even adapting notes from original lecture notes. This is a very common technique useful for those with a structured and time efficient approach.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Time efficient ● Covers everything in as much detail as student would like ● Active form of revision ● Great for selecting key points ● Very accessible and easy to do 	<p><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does not look visually appealing ● Can become a repetitive, boring task ● Danger of just copying from a source ● Difficult to come back to


Reading notes/books/ lecture slides

<p><u>General information</u></p> <p>Books, journals, notes and revision guides all provide a credible source of information that students can use when revising. For some this may be just a last minute reminder of key content but for others it may provide a more substantial part of revision. It is suggested this is not the best form of revision to rely on.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Quick method where lots can be covered● Provides a good last look overview before an exam● An effective method if coupled with note taking	<p><u>Limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Passive method where student may not engage● Easily miss information● Some sources may not be credible● Information is not absorbed well

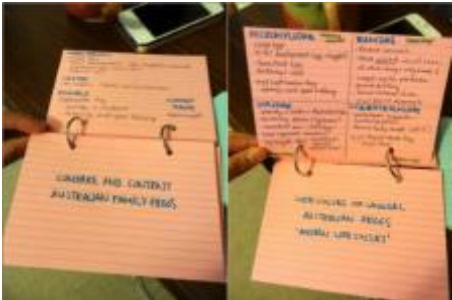
Past Papers

<p><u>General Information</u></p> <p>Past papers are easily accessible via the library tab on sussed and can be used to practice exam technique as well as apply revised content. Past papers are often used to revise later on in the revision process once some content has been revised and can be used to answer questions. Every student should aim to use an element of this method.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Practice exam technique● Writing out content into an extended answer aids remembering● Practice time management in exam● Become familiar with structure of exam● Tests understanding so far and identifies areas for improvement	<p><u>Limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Some students over rely on just using past papers● Requires strong will power to replicate exam conditions outside of an exam but of course working through individual questions slowly is also beneficial.


Classwork Revisits

<p><u>General Information</u></p> <p>Work for classes is set in order to test understanding of the module syllabus. Therefore the classwork is directly related to exam questions. By using the question sheets and worked solution from classes gone by students can benefit from essentially a worked example of an exam based question. This is particularly useful for accounting and analytics modules.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● You have done it before so have a starting point● The solutions are often available● Completing all classwork should cover most of a module● Practice exam style questions● Can go to tutors for any help needed	<p><u>Limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Danger of ignoring other content perhaps not covered in classes.● Limited scope for development

Creating flashcards/quiz games

<p><u>General information</u></p> <p>Creating small games or flashcards about a topic is an effective revision technique used by many students. It is a little more fun than and interactive than other methods and it can be done in pairs or small groups to make revision more of a social activity. Particularly useful for students wishing for an active revision plan.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Making the games and flashcards is a form of revision● Easy to take around and use in spare time● Promotes a social aspect● Can work with peers to create a variety of resources then swap/play together	<p><u>Limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Limited space on a flashcard● May spend too long creating games rather than learning

Attending revision lectures/classes

<p><u>General Information</u></p> <p>Most class tutors and lecturers will run some sort of revision class/lecture towards the exam period. Attending one of these is extremely useful as usually the session leader will ask what particular topics students want to cover. It is an opportunity to ask the experts. Very useful for those struggling with particular issues.</p>	
<p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opportunity to ask specific questions● Covers key content● Easily accessible on campus● An active session	<p><u>Limitations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Concentrate!

The Key things to stress to students

1. Revision is most effective when students use a combination of these techniques. Combining these methods throughout the revision period will lead to a well rounded bank of knowledge, skills and experience for the exam.
2. What works for one person may not work for another. It's all about finding out what methods individual students prefer and how long they want to spend doing each method.