



HOW TO STUDY EFFECTIVELY FOR YOUR GCSEs

# Planning your study schedule - principles

1

Little and often: 5 hours over 2 weeks is better than 5 hours at once.

2

Plan what you are going to revise.

3

Revise learning from last year, last month – do not review learning straight after the class.



# PLANNING YOUR REVISION SCHEDULE

# When to study?

1

What commitments do you have afterschool and at the weekend?

2

What time do you get home? When do you eat? When do you go to bed/wake up?

3

When do you feel most awake? 7.30am? 8pm?

# What to study?



Ask

Ask your teacher for the topics are important



Look

Look at your exercise books



Look

Look at your study guides

3



Student Careers & Skills

# Let's start

1. Be honest with yourself and answer the questions to decide when to study
2. Choose a subject: English, Maths, History, Science .....
3. Choose a topic: Medicine through time, Macbeth ....
4. Break the topic down into smaller units: 4 humours/Galen, Medieval Public Health - Black Death .....
5. Using the timetable of the week write in when and what you will revise.

# Daily timetable

BBC  
**THE MIND SET**  
DAILY PLANNER

TIMES	SUBJECT / ACTIVITY	DONE × ✓







# HOW TO REVISE

To learn effective strategies to revise your learning

# Retrieval practice



Choose

Choose a topic  
you studied last  
year



Write

Write everything  
you can  
remember about  
it be as thorough  
as you can



Check

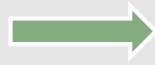
Check the  
accuracy of your  
notes against your  
study guide or  
exercise book

# Retrieval practice



# Your turn

In your tutor book – jot  
down the steps of effective  
retrieval practice



Choose a subject and a  
topic and have a go – refer  
to the study  
guide/teacher/exercise  
book to check the accuracy  
fo your notes

# Interleaving

1

## Switch

- Switch between ideas in the same session – don't study an idea for too long

2

## Study

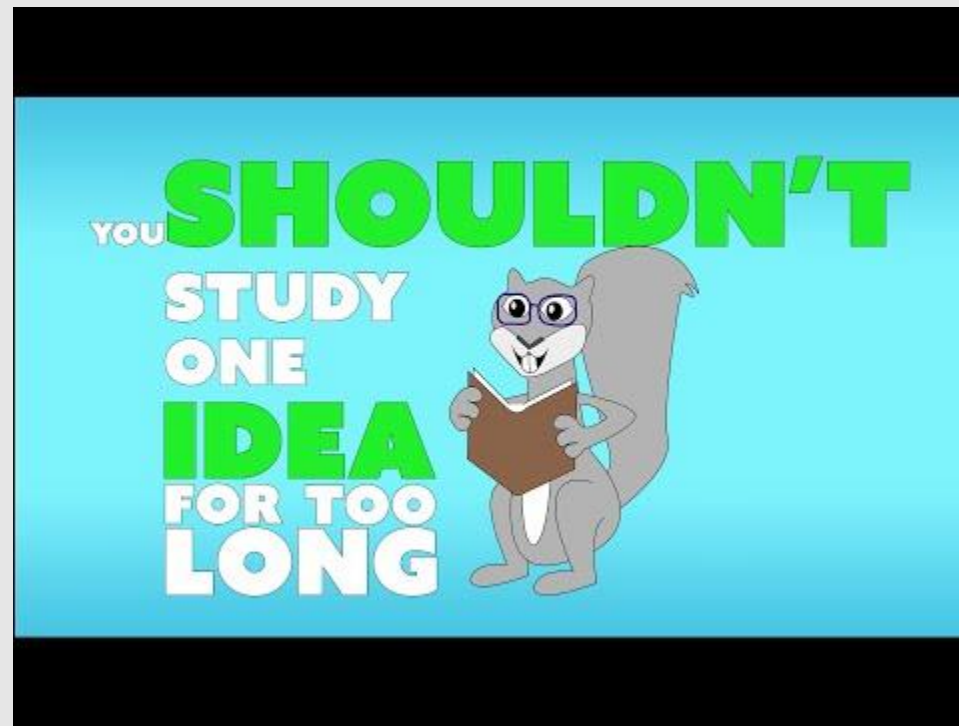
- Study ideas again in different orders to strengthen your understanding

3

## Make

- Make links between different ideas

# Interleaving



TOPIC  
A



TOPIC  
B



TOPIC  
C



TOPICS  
A B C



STUDY  
SESSION  
1

TOPICS  
C B A



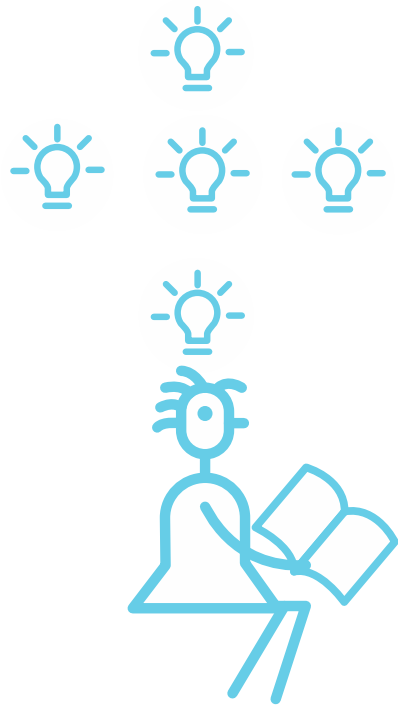
STUDY  
SESSION  
2

TOPICS  
A C B



STUDY  
SESSION  
3





# Hold on!

1

Don't switch ideas too often or spend too little time on an idea – you need to understand them.

2

Interleaving will make studying feel harder but by making you think harder it is helping your learning.

# Your turn

- In your tutor book jot down the steps of how to use interleaving in your studying

# Elaboration

1

Ask

- Ask how and why

2

Talk about

- Talk about your answers with your friends

3

Make

- Make connections between ideas how are they different how are they similar

4

Make

- Make links between the ideas and your own experiences, memories and learning in class



# Your turn

In your tutor book write down your understanding of elaboration.

Choose a topic and try it out work with a partner to help you.

# Flash cards and concept maps



FLASH CARDS =  
DEFINITIONS, KEY FACTS  
AND FORMULA



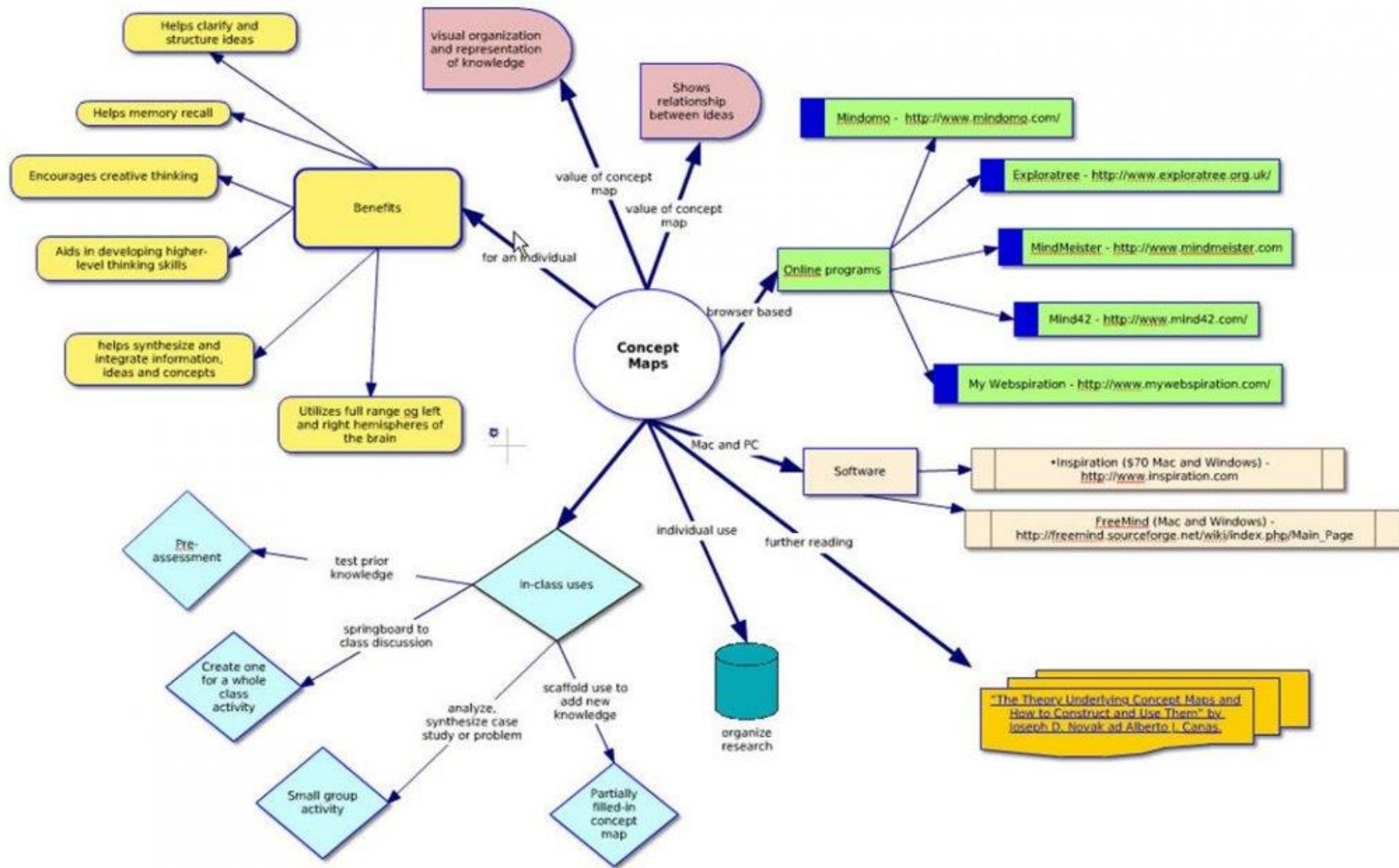
CONCEPT MAPS = IDEAS,  
CONCEPTS AND HOW THEY  
LINK TOGETHER

# How to make effective flash cards

Write down the top tips for making effective flash cards.



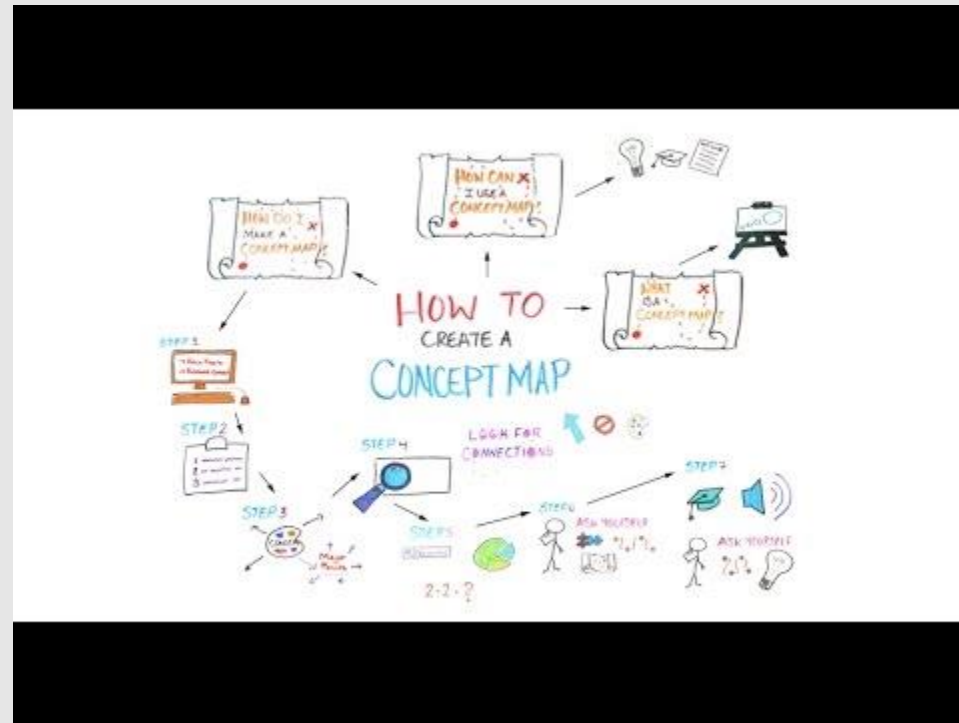




# Leitner system



# Concept maps



# Your turn

Make a concept map for a topic you have studied

OR

Make a concept map on how to revise

# What does it look like when I sit down to revise?



A revision session should be ideally 25 minutes



Write everything you know about the topic



Check for accuracy against your class notes



Where are the gaps in your knowledge?



Create flashcards



Test yourself on your flash cards



Practice an exam question