

1

What do you know
about the exam?



Reviewing, judging
success, planning
next steps

1

Questions to prompt thinking

Knowing what you will be asked to do:

- What are the key topics for the examination?
- Do you have a list of what will be included in the examination?
- Give a number to each topic in terms of your confidence from 1 to 10, with 10 being 'you think you know this inside out' to 0 being 'you know nothing'. Prioritise topics which you feel the least confident with and those that are central to the examination.
- What type of questions will you be asked, e.g. multiple choice, short answer, essay questions.

How would you rate yourself on 'Knowing what you will be asked to do':

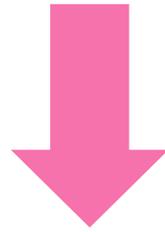
Did you have a really good understanding of what would be required in the examination? How did this impact on your result?

For example:

- Did you know what key topics would be covered in the examination?
- Did you have a list of what was to be included in the examination and how did you use it?
- Did you consider your confidence level for different topic areas? How did you prioritise what to revise?
- Did you know what type of questions you would be asked, e.g. multiple choice, short answer, essay questions. How did you use this information? How did this help / not help / could have been used more?
- How do you think you could have improved your knowledge about what you would be asked to do in the examination.

2

Considering your approach
to revision and building a
bank of revision strategies



Reviewing, judging success,
planning next steps

2

Questions to prompt thinking

Considering your approach to revision:

- Is there a revision sheet or summary document? Do you know what to revise from?
- What revision strategies do you know of?
- Which revision strategies do you usually use? Do these strategies work for you?
- Talk to other students about what their revision strategies are.
- Which revision strategies would be most suitable for revising: key words, definitions, key points, factual information, formulating an argument, longer answer questions such as essays? What type of information will I need to revise for this exam? How will you match this to a revision strategy?
- Consider trying to expand the number of revision strategies you use and think about trying out some new ones when revising for this examination.
- What will you revise?
- How will you approach revision?
- Where will you revise? Why does that matter?
- How long will you spend revising? When will you revise? How long will each revision chunk be? Why is it important to break revision time into chunks?

How would you rate 'your approach to revision':

- Which revision strategies did you use?
- How successful do you think these strategies were?
- Have you used these strategies before?
- Would you use these strategies again?
- Could you improve on the revision strategies used?
- Do you need to increase your knowledge and understanding of revision strategies?
- How did you approach your revision?
- Where did you revise? Did this work for you? Would you make any changes?
- How long did you spend revising? When did you revise? How long was each revision chunk? Did this work for you? Would you make any changes?

3

Preparing for the exam



Reviewing, judging success,
planning next steps

3

Questions to prompt thinking

Dealing with difficulties that arise during revision:

- What will you do if you don't understand the content you are revising?
- What will you do if you don't understand some of the terminology?
- What will you do if you are feeling very under confident in preparing for the examination?
- What will you do if you are struggling with how to actually revise?
- How will you test out if your revision strategy is working during the revision period?

On the run up to the exam:

- How will you prepare for the exam the night before?
- How you spend your time three hours, two hours and one hour before the exam?
- What will you eat and drink? Why do you think this matters?
- What equipment will you bring to the examination?
- How have you approached examinations in the past? Was this successful? Will you try anything different this time?

How would you rate your approach to 'dealing with difficulties that arose during revision':

- How did you deal with any aspects of the content / terminology that you did not understand when you were revising? Did this work? Would you use the same approach next time?
- What did you do when you were feeling very under confident in preparing for the examination? Did this work? Would you use the same approach next time?
- What did you do if you found yourself struggling with how to actually revise? Did this work? Would you use the same approach next time?

How would you rate you approach 'to the run up to the exam':

- How did you prepare for the exam the night before? How did spend your time three hours, two hours and one hour before the exam?
- What did you eat and drink?
- What equipment did you bring to the examination?
- Would you make any changes to your approach the examination?
- How do you think your approach impacted on the result?

4

Formulate strategies to
apply during the exam



Reviewing, judging success,
planning next steps

4

Questions to prompt thinking

Thinking about during the examination:

- What strategies will you use during the examination to help you maximise your marks?
- Brainstorm with other students approaches you can take to the following:
 - Understanding the question
 - Managing your time
 - Checking your answers
 - Making sure you get all the marks for a question
 - What to do when you think you don't know the answer
 - Making sure the examiner can understand your point
 - How you use any spare time at the end of the exam
 - Using diagrams
 - Answering essay questions

How would you rate 'your thinking during the examination':

- What strategies did you use during the examination to help you maximise your marks?
- Consider how you thought through and approached the following:
 - Understanding the question
 - Managing your time
 - Checking your answers
 - Making sure maximised the marks for a question
 - What to do when you think you don't know the answer
 - Making sure the examiner can understand your point
 - How you use any spare time at the end
 - Using diagrams
- Answering essay questions
- Would you make any changes to your 'thought processes' during the examination?
- How will you improve you 'during the examination' technique?

5

How will you deal with difficulties that arise in the exam / assessment?



Reviewing, judging success,
planning next steps

5

Questions to prompt thinking

How can you prepare for possible difficulties during the examination:

What problems have you experienced in the past? How did you deal with the problem? Was this effective and would you use this strategy if faced with the problem again? How could you avoid the problem in the future?

Brainstorm with other students approaches you can take to the following:

- You don't understand the question.
- You have left yourself with too little time to complete the paper.
- You realise you have made a mistake in one of your answers.
- You have time at the end and want to go back and add to one of your answers.
- You realise the diagram you have drawn is incorrect and have no room on the paper to draw it again.
- You feel anxious and are finding it difficult to concentrate.
- You have a really dry throat.
- You have a question that you did not revise for.
- You have to write an essay and you ensure where to start.

How would you rate your ability to deal with problems that arose in the exam?

- What problems did you experience?
- How did you deal with these issues?
- Were your strategies effective?
- Would you use these same strategies again?
- Is there any way some of the problems could have been avoided?
- How do you think these problems impacted on the result?
- What will you do differently next time?