

YEAR 9 END OF YEAR EXAMS 2015

REVISION BOOKLET

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Introduction

This booklet is designed to help you prepare for your end of year exams. You will have exams at the end of the year for the rest of your school career, so you need to start learning how to prepare successfully and get the highest grade you can.

The more organised you are, the easier it will be for you to revise. Many students find it difficult to get started and waste a lot of valuable time because they cannot find the notes they need or their original exercise books for each subject.

When you revise, it is important to use techniques that will help you remember facts. Do not just spend time reading and re-reading your notes in the hope that somehow you will take everything in.

You will need to make a real effort to learn what you are reading and that means working on your notes and using strategies that will help you to focus on each topic and pick out the key facts and fix them in your mind. The first part of this booklet offers a series of methods to aid you with revision. In the final section, Subject Leaders have provided a breakdown of what each exam will involve.

Ten Top Tips for Successful Revision

- Find a good place to work where you cannot be disturbed or distracted.
- Draw up a plan of what you are going to revise and when. Give yourself targets to achieve when revising.
- Don't work for too long at any one time and take regular breaks of 5-10 minutes during revision.
- Eat, sleep and live healthily during revision time and during the exams. Make sure you have breakfast on the day of exams.
- Try to vary the ways you revise, don't just sit reading a book. There are lots of ideas in this booklet to help you.
- Revise with a friend, talking to someone about a topic/problem often helps your memory.
- Test yourself (or get someone to test you) regularly without looking at your notes.
- Re-visit topics/subjects regularly to help you memorise them effectively.
- Mix up your weak and strong subjects when you revise.
- Make sure whatever revision you do you make it stick don't convince yourself you
 have revised by sitting in front of the TV with your book on your lap!

Timetabling Your Revision

Organising how, where and when you are going to revise is very important and varies for everyone. Good advice is to write out a timetable which you can stick to no matter what the subject.

Warm up your brain

It is always a good idea to warm your brain up before you start to revise. Try some of these:

What If?	Invent A Name	It Does What?	Plus points, Minus
♦ The moon was made of	♦ A shampoo that	♦ Oxyputer	points, Interesting
cheese	instantly gave you curly	♦ Kangastep	points
♦ All the grass	hair	♦ Aquadigger	♦ Everyone should wear
disappeared overnight	♦ A robot that takes your		a mood badge
♦ Water was poisonous	dog for a walk		♦ All children should
	♦ A pair of glasses which		adopt an elderly
	shows you what's		neighbour
	happening behind you		♦ All cars should be
			painted blue
		1.00	

Set a target and time

Decide what you want to accomplish by the end of your study time and set little targets within this time. Try not to be unrealistic to avoid rushing and missing key points.

Set a reward

When you have set a target and time frame think of a reward you can enjoy when, and only when, these are met. This could be anything from chocolate, playing a computer game or meeting up with friends.

Choose a suitable place to revise

Only you know where you work best and won't be easily distracted, try to think of a place, or better a couple of places, where you will not be tempted to check Facebook, your phone or top up your drink, etc.

Plan in breaks

Plan breaks at sensible intervals when you can stretch your legs, get a drink and have a short change of scenery. Booking in your lunch break to have a shorter afternoon session than the morning session will make the time go faster.

How well did you do?

When your time is up look over your progress, have you accomplished all you set out to do? Is there anything you could add next session? Is it time for your reward?

Revision Strategies

In the weeks before the exams, plan a revision programme. Make a list of the topics you need to revise for each subject and draw up a revision timetable. Use the revision programme sheets provided in this booklet to plan your study.

There are many ways to revise. A list of strategies is provided below followed by more detailed explanations of a number of specific strategies.

INDEX CARDS

The main points can be written out on cards to carry round with you. You can even design coloured symbols on the back. The symbols can then be used as a trigger for your memory.

POST-ITS

Stick post-its with key ideas in your bedroom, hallway or around the house. They can be reordered on a flat surface.

POSTERS

Dramatic and colourful posters which summarise ideas visually can be placed at eye level, or above.

REVIEW TO MUSIC

An enjoyable, easy way to remember. Music with 60-70 beats per minute is supposed to be the best to help your long term memory.

DRAMATIC MONOLOGUES

It can help you remember if you speak out loud, especially if the voices are outrageous.

GET A MANAGER

Make an arrangement with someone (other than a teacher) to listen to, test or interrogate you at fixed times.

HIGHLIGHTER PENS

Practice picking out the main points with a highlighter. Ask your teacher if you're right then have another go with something else.

AGAINST THE CLOCK

Make a game of answering as many questions as you can against the clock. Keep trying to beat your last score.

PRIZE BRIBES

Ask your parents to reward you with something good for reaching a target you set yourself.

VISUALISE IT

Conjure up pictures in your mind of what you're revising.

MAKE IT SILLY

Think up silly suggestions. Things that make us smile get remembered more easily.

TALK INTO A TAPE

This way you have to think about what goes in – and listen to what comes out.

POINTS OF VIEW

In partner revision, or by yourself, take one person's point of view — then swap over and argue the other side.

INTERVIEW

Set up an interview situation – but the questions are on what you're revising.

WALKABOUT

Help your memory by learning things in different places and unusual locations. Learn different chapters of a book, say, in different rooms. Or put index cards on the floor in different sequences and walk between them, memorising as you go.

COLOUR CARDS

Colour code your revision cards to help you.

DIAGRAMS AND FLOW CHARTS

Tree charts, flow charts, spidergrams, split lists, sets – all are useful for organising your thinking.

MNEMONICS

These make words out of the first initials, e.g. CHOPINS — Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorous, Iodine, Nitrogen, Sulphur.

READING OUT LOUD

Saying things out loud can help you by making you slow down and organise your thoughts.

TEST, COVER AND RE-TEST

Learn something, cover it and test yourself – then check. Repeat until a genius.

WORD GAMES

Use word games, e.g. a Stalagmite MIGHT reach the ceiling, and a Stalactite holds TIGHT to the ceiling.

BUDDY TESTING

Revise with a friend or group of friends. Some people do well when they bounce ideas off others.

PUZZLES

Make logic games, anagrams or puzzles out of what you're revising e.g. codes, symbols or crosswords.

POEMS

Make your subject matter into a rhythmical poem. Remember the rhythm — remember the facts!

KEEP A REVISION JOURNAL OR DIARY

For some, this allows a feeling of progress and a way to track your own progress.

COLLAGE

Make a collage of your main facts, pictures, symbols, cuttings, quotations, formulae etc.

JOURNEY ROUND THE KNOWN UNIVERSE

Put key ideas, cards or summaries at eye level around your room, in sequence. Visit them in order – them imagine you're visiting them. What do they say?

INSIST LISTS

Make lists of your MUST DO jobs – and carry them with you everywhere.

Command Words

So often time and marks are wasted by not reading a question correctly or by 'waffling', it is important that you recognize and understand the command words within the question before you attempt it to maximize your marks:

	T
Describe	To provide a detailed account of a topic and give reasons for it.
Explain/Give Reason For/Account For	To give a clear account of your knowledge and
Explain, elve heasen rely hease and rel	understanding, or give reasons for why something is
	so.
Compare	To show how two, or more, things are different or
Compare	similar.
Analyse	To identify important features of a subject and
Allalyse	separate it into parts and examine how they relate
	to one another.
Classific	
Clarify	To give reasons for.
Criticise	To examine all the positive and negative aspects of a
_	topic.
Demonstrate	To examine and give evidence to support an
	argument.
Discuss	To examine by giving positive and negatives.
Evaluate	To discuss the worth, importance or usefulness of
	something by giving evidence to support your view.
Explore	To follow the development of something
	systematically from its origin.
Illustrate	To provide the main points, showing the main
	structure rather than great detail.
Interpret	To make compatible that which appears to be in
	conflict.
Justify	To give evidence which supports an argument or
	idea. Show why decisions or arguments were made
	considering objections others may make.
Outline	To provide a detailed description with examples.
State	To express briefly and clearly.
Summarise	To give a concise account of the main points
	omitting detail.
Suggest	To expand your knowledge and understanding to a
30	topic you are not necessarily expected to know well
	and to transfer other knowledge to give a sensible
	account.

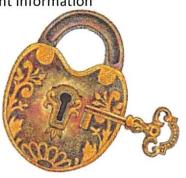
Memory Techniques

There are a number of memory techniques which may help you to develop a more effective memory. However, before you set out remembering everything in sight, it is important to CONDENCE what you need to learn. CONDENCING your work and identifying KEY WORDS are the first step to committing it to memory.

Depending on the subject you are studying, these might be:

NAMES PLACES DATES FACTS/FIGURES SEQUENCES

When you have identified the keywords, <u>underline</u> them or mark them with a <u>highlighter</u>. It is a good idea to use several pens of different colours. You could even develop a system that uses different colours for different information



RED GREEN BLUE YELLOW ORANGE PEOPLE
PLACES
FACTS & FIGURES
QUOTATIONS
DATES

Spend about 10 - 15 minutes learning your list of keywords until you are confident you can recite the list (also that you know what each word means!)

Then, in the weeks leading up to your exam, spend about 5 minutes on 2 or 3 occasions to check through the list again. Nearer to the exam, check how well you have remembered the keywords. You should find it easy to recall the list again with only a few minutes revision.

Image Chains ...

The key to your memory is imagination. When you watch television, you expect to see a programme that captures your imagination. Unfortunately, the things you need to remember for your exams don't tend to possess the contents of a Hollywood blockbuster!

Image chains are an imaginative way to remember a list of random words by linking them to a story. The trick is to be imaginative and creative – the more so the better.

Use positive, pleasant images. The brain often blocks out unpleasant ones. Exaggerate the size of the important parts of the image. Use humour. Funny or peculiar things are easier to remember. Rude things are also easier to recall.

Symbols can be used. Bright, colourful images are easier to remember than dull ones. Try to use all the senses in your story by using sounds, smells, tastes, touch movements and feelings as well as pictures.



Example:

Spice Potato Dance Window Plant Finger Bin Wet Purple Log

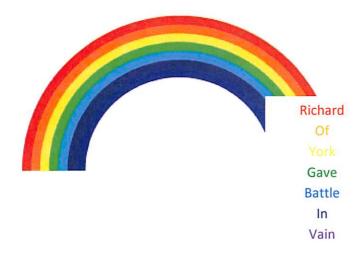
One day a spicy purple potato was dancing on a log but it was wet because it had been raining and so he fell off and knocked the plant off the window with his finger and it fell in the bin.

Your turn...

Tree House Dog Pencil Cheese

Triggers and Mnemonics ...

Take the first letter of each word you need to remember and use them to make an imaginative sentence. You should use this type of memory strategy to help you remember things IN THE RIGHT ORDER. You have used this one before:



Naughty

Never

Elephants

Eat

Squirt

Shredded

Water

Wheat



Try it yourself with the Continents of the World:

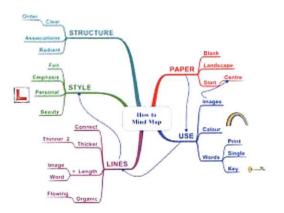
Europe	E
Asia	A
Africa	Α
Oceania	0
Antarctica	A
North America	N
South America	S

Mind Mapping

This is a very <u>effective</u> way of representing <u>large amounts of information</u> in an attractive, easily-remembered way. You may have used a 'spider diagram' – which are very similar.

- ♦ Use a large piece of paper turned landscape.
- ♦ In the centre write a name of the topic that you are going to revise and add a simple illustration if you wish.
- ♦ Now draw lines like branches (coming out from the centre) to represent the main areas of the topic. Each of these can be illustrated or could be in different colour or a different type face.
- ♦ In turn, each of these could sub-divide into several more sections. Continue adding more branches until all the main information is on the mind map.
- The finished mind map could contain diagrams, names (and pictures) of important people, dates, places, etc. If it gets crowded, you could create a separate mind map for a particular section.

Mind maps start with a theme, have main ideas and are held together with details.



To make mind maps more memorable:

♦ Use doodles, pictures and diagrams.

♦ Use different colours.

♦ Use different type fonts.

♦ Use humour (cartoons), etc.

♦ Design your own (don't just copy other peoples).

♦ CONDENCE.

Case Studies

Case studies may be the bain of your life, but you can guarantee you WILL have questions which will require both vague and detailed answers to show your understanding.

They help to bring a theory to life and make the real work more engaging. They illustrate key points, key messages and how things are done in practice, but there is a lot of detail to remember so to break this down, as well as mind maps, a case study card can be used.

For example:

Main Characters and Relationships:

Key Chapter Plot:

Key Quotes:

Case Study:

Topic:			
Section Of Syllabus:			
Location:	Town/City/Region:	Country:	Continent:
What?		What were the causes	?
When?			
_			
Why?			
Facts And Figures:			
What were the effects	.)	How can the changes	he managed or
what were the effects):	solved? By whom?	be manageu oi
		Solved: by Wildin:	
		What are the options	for the future?
Key Words:			
Book:			
Author:			
Date:		Genre:	

Separate subjects could be printed on different coloured paper, or each corresponding section in the same colour font.

Synopsis:

Author Techniques:

The Process of Learning

1) Don't know and I don't know that I don't know	 I don't know stuff and I realise that I don't know it
Unconscious Incompetence	Conscious Incompetence
4) I know it and I can do it even without having to think about it Unconscious	3) I am beginning to get it and when I concentrate really hard and I know I am beginning to get it
Competence	Conscious Competence

Your turn:

Work with a partner and each take a turn to do this exercise:

Think of a time when you were very motivated to do something and it was a challenge and you achieved it (it could be school work, learning a sport, or something artistic).

How did you keep yourself motivated (wanting to stick to it and keep trying) so that you moved from box two to box three and box four?

How did you overcome any setbacks you experienced?



Stress Busters

"There is no such thing as failure - only feedback"

Everyone gets nervous before an exam and has different ways of dealing with it. How you respond to stress may impact on your attainment. Below are some suggestions to help you relax and concentrate both before and during the exam:

Visualisation

♦ Visit the exam room so you are familiar with its set up.
♦ Keep visualising the journey from your house to the exam room.

Relaxation

♦ Start from the toes: Clench for ten seconds and R-E-L-A-X. ♦ Move up the body, clenching and relaxing.

Breathing

♦ Empty your lungs out and hold for as long as possible. ♦ Then breathe in slowly.

The Three Minute Breathing Space

Your breathing space provides a way to step out of automatic pilot and reconnect with the moment at hand.

Awareness

Bring yourself into the present moment by deliberately adopting an upright and dignified posture. If possible, close your eyes and ask: "What is my experience right now...in thoughts...in feelings...and in body?"

Acknowledge and register your experiences, even if it's unwanted.

Gathering

Then, gently redirect your full attention to your breathing, to each in and out breath as they flow, one after the other.

Your breathing can be used as an anchor to bring you to the present and help you to tune into a state of awareness and stillness.

Expanding

Expand the field of your awareness around your breathing, so that it includes a sense of body as a whole, your posture and facial expression.

Worry Busters

Write down your concerns

This immediately helps you to feel calmer and more objective.

Ask the key question: Are these worrying thoughts helpful?

If they are drawing your attention to something that needs dealing with, then start the pattern for dealing with things in the next three points below:

Face the worst

What's the worst that could happen? Write it down. Now write down a few ways you'd cope if it did happen. Create a plan A and an alternative plan B, then think of the ways to make the worse less likely.

Get the facts

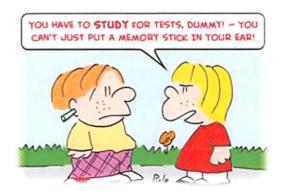
Worry can arise from confusion, or trying to make a decision without enough knowledge. Imagine you are collecting all the facts for someone else will help you stay calm and objective, or try to imagine you're a lawyer, whose job it is to stay impartial.

Analyses the facts once you have them

Decide what to do. DO IT!

Use your night thoughts

When you've a worry, your mind goes on thinking about it during the night. Lie still for a few minutes when you wake to give helpful ideas a chance to drift into your mind.



The Day of the Exam

Do not try to do any revision on the day of the exam. Get to school on time – you do not want to start the exam feeling flustered because you arrived late. Try not to get drawn into conversations with your friends about what revision they have done and what questions might be asked in the exam. This would cause unnecessary panic.

In the exam read the instructions on the front of the paper to make sure you understand what you have to do. For example, you may not need to answer all the questions. When answering a question, re-read the question carefully to make sure you understand exactly what it is asking. Pace yourself with time. Do not spend too much time on any one question. Do not waste time giving too detailed an answer to questions which only carry a few marks. Finally, read through your answers at the end to check your spellings and any careless mistakes.

Revision planners

Weekly Revision Planner

Week beginning:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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	Monday					

Preparing for examinations: What do I need to know?

The most important part about revising for examinations is to determine what you need to know and where you can find the information. Fill in the table below to help:

Examination subject

Date of examination:

Topic in Specification	Exactly what do I have to do/learn/know	Source of material/information (include page references)

Monthly /Daily Revision Timetable

			14	day
			13	day
			12	day
			11	дау
			10	day
			9	day
			∞	day
			7	day
			6	day
			5	day
			4	day
			3	дау
			2	дау
			ь	day
Details	Topic	Subject	Date	Day

<u>a</u>	<u>a</u>	a	d	<u>a</u>	d	d.	<u>d</u>	ď	ď	day	d	day	дау	day	di	di
day	day	day	day	day	day	day	day	day	дау		day					
31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15
			:													
		!												:		
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SUBJECT INFORMATION

MATHEMATICS

What will the	One non calculator paper (1 hour)
examination involve?	One calculator paper (1 hour)
	One speed test (30 minutes)
Main topics for revision	Speed test - basic arithmetic and operations.
	All topics covered this year as part of the CIMT books 9A and
	9B.
What can a student do to	Practise all methods thoroughly – don't just read a textbook.
prepare?	Use resources below and listen carefully to advice given by
	your teacher.
	Practice speed test on FROG (VLE).
Useful resources	The contents of the MEP textbooks are available online with
	other resources at www.cimt.plymouth.ac.uk
	Also use www.mathspace.co.uk and links available on the
	school website and on FROG (VLE).

ENGLISH

What will the	Two exams, each an hour long.
examination involve?	
	1 Pre-prepared Shakespeare question on whichever play is
	being studied. Closed book.
	2 Poetry based on Keats' Ode to Autumn and Heaney's Death of
	a Naturalist. One of the poems will be printed on the paper.
	These are new year 9 exams which have been devised to help
7-2	students adjust to the new GCSE.
Main topics for revision	Shakespeare text
	Named poems
	Your teacher will be giving you help in the preparatory lessons.
What can a student do to	Consolidate knowledge of the Shakespeare play by careful re-
prepare?	reading with notes
	Learning quotations relevant to essay question
	Revising various stylistic devices and their effects.
	Learning the poem that does not appear on the paper off by
	heart!
Useful resources	Actual texts and any notes your teacher has given you.

PHYSICS

1 x 1 hour paper with a mix of short and long answers.
Space, Forces and Motion, Pressure and Moments, Electric Circuits and Energy
Revise class work covered during the year.
Exercise books and BBC Bitesize.
Resources on FROG (VLE) GCSEPod

BIOLOGY

What will the	1 hour exam structured paper (GCSE questions).
examination involve?	
Main topics for revision	Keeping Healthy, Coordination and control, medicine and
I viaiti topics for revision	drugs, adaptation for survival.
What can a student do to	Use the revision guide, learning grids, kerboodle activities,
prepare?	GCSEPod, FROG (VLE) and past exam questions.
Useful resources	GCSEPod, GCSE Bitesize revision, kerboodle (has the online text
	book), AQA GCSE website for past exam questions and FROG
	(VLE).

CHEMISTRY

What will the	One paper
examination involve?	One hour long
	63 marks made up of SATs questions
Main topics for revision	All Key Stage 3 Chemistry topics
	Atoms
	Elements
	Acids & Alkalis
	Chemical Reactions
	Rocks & Weathering
	Reactions types
	Reactions of metals
	Chemical reactivity series
What can a student do to	Review lesson aims.
prepare?	Look back over previous CATs to see styles of questions.
	Learn basic facts using Key cards and mind maps.
Useful resources	Use FROG (VLE) resources
	Use BBC Bitesize material

HISTORY

What will the	A source usefulness question on the dropping of the atomic
examination involve?	bomb.
	They will have the whole lesson (1 hour).
Main topics for revision	The atomic bomb.
What can a student do to	Ensure they understand how to answer a source usefulness
prepare?	question.
Useful resources	Exercise books.
	BBC Bitesize KS3 History. Link from the History page on FROG
	(VLE).

GEOGRAPHY

What will the	1 hour
examination involve?	1 paper
	Short and long questions.
Main topics for revision	Development
	China
	Tourism
	Fair trade and globalisation
	Energy
What can a student do to	Use textbook geog.3
prepare?	Use exercise book
	Use revision sheet
	Make revision summary notes on topics
Useful resources	Geog.3 textbook.
	Year 9 Geography site on FROG (VLE).
	BBC Bitesize.

RE

What will the examination involve?	The exam will generate the CAT 5 assessment.
Main topics for revision	Term 5 topic:
	War and Peace
	This topic focuses on the key religious teachings on war and peace.
	Can there ever be a 'Just War'? Can there ever be a 'Holy War'? Why are some religious believers pacifists who have worked for peace?
	What can religious organisations do to help the victims of war?
What can a student do to	Research 'The Just War Theory.'
prepare?	
Useful resources	BBC GCSE Bitesize - War and peace
	www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zh3rkqt

GERMAN

What will the examination involve?	Listening, reading and writing. Exact dates will be issued to students' by their subject teachers after the Easter break.
Main topics for revision	All topics covered in year 9.
What can a student do to	Revise vocab lists and grammar points from the textbook and
prepare?	their exercise books.
007	Revision papers.
Useful resources	Logo 2 – textbook
	www.languagesonline.org.uk
	linguascope.com

FRENCH

What will the examination involve?	people; information about towns; identifying an activity and how long the person has been doing it for. Speaking: Talk about either Grantham OR family + describe a day out last year; say what you are going to do next weekend. Reading: Comprehension of sentences or texts on — leisure activities; a stay with a penfriend; obligations. Writing: Write a text about a town and its facilities; what a
	penfriend is like; activities done last weekend; activities you are going to do tomorrow. Speaking will take place in week starting April 27 th . Listening and reading will take place week starting May 5 th . Writing will take place in exam week starting May 11 th .
Main topics for revision	Work covered from Métro 3 unit 1 and Métro 3 units 2&3. It will be possible to incorporate material from other units of work in the writing.
What can a student do to prepare?	Pupils will be given a 'Revision Guidelines Sheet' with details of format of the exam and advanced material for the Speaking.
Useful resources	Unit résumés + booklets for Métro 3 unit 1 and Métro 3 units 2&3.

ART

Students complete a series of coursework tasks during the year. The end of year mark will be the highest mark achieved in one of these tasks.

MUSIC

What will the	1 written and listening examination lasting 1 hour.
examination involve?	Section A will involve answering questions about short extracts
	of music taken from the set pieces/styles covered this year and
	general listening.
	Section B will be music theory questions.
Main topics for revision	The Elements of Music.
	Devices used in music (ground bass, ostinato, 4 chord trick).
	Instrumental groups (woodwind, brass, strings, percussion).
	Rhythm and metre notation.
	Pitch notation and treble/bass clef notation.
What can a student do to	Listen to different styles of music and try to talk about what
prepare?	you hear using the elements of music thinking grid.
	Listen to the set pieces/styles covered this year through FROG
	(VLE).
	Revise pitch, rhythm, metre, theory and notation.
Useful resources (books,	CBBC 10 pieces website.
websites etc.)	The ABRSM Theory Book 1.
	Ted Kirk's Theory worksheets.
	Online theory.

COMPUTING

What will the examination involve?	Three papers sat in lessons. 30 - 45 minutes each.
Main topics for revision	IT software Use
	Visual Basic
	Hardware and software
	HTML and web design
	Note: As this is a practical subject, the exam will only account for a proportion of their final grade - the majority of their mark is based on the folder of work.
What can a student do to	Use their folder to examine what they have done during the
prepare?	year. Make sure they are familiar with the skills and key words
	they have used.
Useful resources (books,	Folder
websites etc.)	R drive teacher resources available through FROG.
	BBC Bitesize ICT

What will the examination involve?	There will be one examination paper covering the four areas of DT; Food Technology, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Systems. In the exam, students are to select their two strongest areas of the four available to answer questions on. The questions will be a range of multiple choice, extended questions and some drawing/diagram tasks.
Main topics for revision	Food – bacteria, food control, balanced diet and safe storage of food Resistant Materials – plastics, categories, names, properties, uses, polymerisation, plastic processes, tools and their uses. Graphics – street artists, offensive and non-offensive imagery, social and moral issues relating to imagery. Systems – CAD/CAM advantages and disadvantages, how the software and machines link using X,Y,Z axis data, products made using CAD/CAM, industrial links in efficiency, production, cost and adaptability.
What can a student do to prepare?	Revise all topics in their current exercise books. They must have the green Art book as well as the red Food/Resistant materials book. Revise using information from their current exercise books. Use available websites and text books Ask your DT teacher for clarification of topics. Create mind maps to test knowledge of specific topics as well as question and answer each other on specific topics.
Useful resources	www.Technologystudent.co.uk



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