Exam Preparation Workshop





'Be Who God Meant You To Be **AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE'**

St. Catherine of Siena








Core Subject Exam Information

Religious Studies – Year 10

- **<u>Year 10</u>**
- 1 exam – 1hr 15mins – 30% of the overall grade
- Part 1 – Catholic and Non-religious views
- Part 2 – Judaism

- Key beliefs - Catholic, Non-religious and Jewish
- Issues of Life and Death
- Belonging and special places

- **<u>NEA – Relationships</u>**
- 20% of the overall grade
- 5 tasks
- Attendance

50%

Religious Studies – Year 11

- **Year 11**
- 1 exam – 1hr 15mins – 30% of the overall grade
- Stewardship of the earth
- Human nature and the right to life (medical ethics)
- Religious expression and the use of wealth

- **NEA – Human Rights**
- 20% of the overall grade
- 5 tasks
- Attendance

50%

Support Materials

- Google classroom – links to BBC bitesize and WJEC online resources
- Revision packs, including unit summary sheets, knowledge organisers and practice paper questions
- Revision sessions after school
- Please do NOT purchase any revision materials from the exam board

Maths and Numeracy Double award – Year 10 & 11

Unit 2: Non-calculator
Written examination
Higher Tier: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)
Foundation Tier: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks)
30% of qualification

The written paper for each tier will comprise a number of short and longer, both structured and unstructured questions. These questions may be set on any part of the subject content assigned to this unit. The paper will include context-free questions and questions set in mathematical and other contexts.

A calculator will **not** be allowed in this paper.

Year 10

Exam will be sat in May 2027.

Year 11

Exam was sat in June 2026 and students received their exam results in August 2026.

Maths and Numeracy Double award – Year 10 & 11

Unit 1: Financial Mathematics and Other Applications of Numeracy
Written examination
Higher Tier: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)
Foundation Tier: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks)
30% of qualification



The written paper for each tier will comprise a number of short and longer, both structured and unstructured questions. These questions may be set on any part of the subject content assigned to this unit. Questions will be set in personal and other real-world contexts.

A calculator will be allowed in this paper.

Year 10

Exam will be sat in November 2027.

Year 11

Exam was sat on 3rd November 2026 and students will receive their exam results in January 2027. We will then have 60% of their Maths GCSE Grade completed.

Maths and Numeracy Double award – Year 10 & 11

Unit 3: Calculator-allowed
Written examination
Higher Tier: 2 hours (90 marks)
Foundation Tier: 1 hour 45 minutes (75 marks)
40% of qualification

The written paper for each tier will comprise a number of short and longer, both structured and unstructured questions which may be set on any part of the subject content assigned to this unit. The paper will include a mix of questions set in real-world and other contexts, and context-free questions.

A calculator will be allowed in this paper.

Year 10

Exam will be sat in June 2028.

Year 11

Exam will be sat in June 2027.



Mathematics & Numeracy Revision

- Google classroom - revision and links to important information
- Online websites: www.mymaths.co.uk, www.mathswatch.co.uk
- Revision sessions after school
- Link to the specification https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/ojhfscmj/wjec-gcse-mathematics-and-numeracy-specification.pdf

English Language and Literature – YEAR 11

- Joint qualification
- Year 11 qualification *slightly* different to Year 10 qualification
- 3 x formal examinations (60%)
- 6 x NEA tasks (40%)

Unit 1 – 15% Written exam Section A – poetry anthology Section B – creative and non fiction writing	**Unit 4 – 20%** Written exam Section A – "An Inspector Calls" Section B – creative writing
Unit 2 – 10% 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a novel ("A Christmas Carol") Task B: individual presentation	**Unit 5 – 20%** 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a play by Shakespeare ("Macbeth") Task B: paired discussion on poetry
Unit 3 – 10% 2 x NEAs Task A: group discussion Task B: non fiction	**Unit 6 – 25%** Written exam Section A – assessment of reading Section B – non fiction writing

English Language and Literature – YEAR 11

- Formal assessment completed so far

Unit 1 – 15% Written exam Section A – poetry anthology Section B – creative and non fiction writing	**Unit 4 – 20%** Written exam Section A – "An Inspector Calls" Section B – creative writing
Unit 2 – 10% 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a novel ("A Christmas Carol") Task B: individual presentation	**Unit 5 – 20%** 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a play by Shakespeare ("Macbeth") Task B: paired discussion on poetry
Unit 3 – 10% 2 x NEAs Task A: group discussion Task B: non fiction	**Unit 6 – 25%** Written exam Section A – assessment of reading Section B – non fiction writing

English Language and Literature – YEAR 10

- Joint qualification
- 3 x formal examinations (60%)
- **4** x NEA tasks (40%)

Unit 1 – 15% Written exam Section A – poetry anthology Section B – creative and non fiction writing	**Unit 4 – 20%** Written exam Section A – "An Inspector Calls" Section B – creative writing
Unit 2 – 10% NEA A written response to a novel ("The Woman in Black")	**Unit 5 – 20%** 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a play by Shakespeare ("Macbeth") Task B: individual presentation
Unit 3 – 10% NEA Group discussion	**Unit 6 – 25%** Written exam Section A – assessment of reading Section B – non fiction writing

English Language and Literature – YEAR 10

- To be completed by the end of Year 10

Unit 1 – 15% Written exam Section A – poetry anthology Section B – creative and non fiction writing	**Unit 4 – 20%** Written exam Section A – "An Inspector Calls" Section B – creative writing
Unit 2 – 10% NEA A written response to a novel ("The Woman in Black")	**Unit 5 – 20%** 2 x NEAs Task A: written response to a play by Shakespeare ("Macbeth") Task B: individual presentation
Unit 3 – 10% NEA Group discussion	**Unit 6 – 25%** Written exam Section A – assessment of reading Section B – non fiction writing

English Revision

- Blended learning resources on WJEC
- Revision guides produced in school, including past paper questions and model responses
- NEA after-school catch up sessions currently taking place
- After school revision sessions (commencing February)
- General guides on literature texts are available (e.g. York Notes, Cliffs Notes)

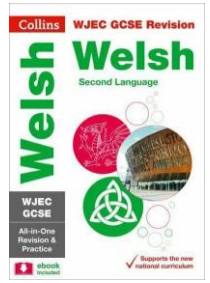


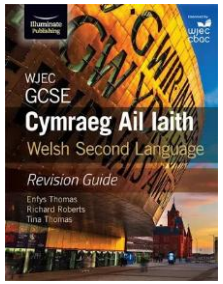
GCSE Core Cymraeg

A qualification for the future • Welsh opens doors

3 broad themes of cynefin, identity and culture – within these themes they will learn:

- about the value of the Welsh language socially and in the world of work
- about its use in wales and around the world
- how to understand and use Cymraeg with others in a spontaneous and confident way
- how to develop skills for work and life
- how to respond creatively to literature





HOW WILL THEY BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1 • 25%
Speaking & listening – visual stimulus

UNIT 2 • 25%
Speaking & listening – responding to sources

UNIT 3 • 25%
Written exam – preparing for the future

UNIT 4 • 25%
Written exam – literature & creative writing



Online websites:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
https://hidlydd.adnoddau.cbac.co.uk › Core Cymraeg
Revision sessions after school
Revision packs with past paper questions

Speaking • Listening • Reading • Writing



Science – Year 10

Dual Award

- 3 x 1 hour 15 minutes assessments in May/June 2027
- 3 x 1 hour 15 minutes assessments in May/June 2028
- 2 x practical exams in January/February 2028

Year 10 summer examinations are worth 45% of their 2 science GCSE grades.

Separate science

- 3 x 1 hour 45 minutes in May/June 2027
- 3 x 1 hour 45 minutes in June May 2028
- 3 x practical exams in January/February 2028

Each year 10 summer examination is worth 45% of each separate GCSE grade.

Science – Year 11

Dual Award

- 3 x 1 hour 15 minutes assessments in May/June 2027
- 2 x practical exams on 19th January and 22nd January 2027.

Pupils have already completed their year 10 summer examinations which are worth 45% of their 2 science GCSE grades.

Separate science

- 3 x 1 hour 45 minutes in May/June 2027
- 3 x practical exams on 19th January, 22nd January and 26th January 2027

Pupils have already completed their year 10 summer examinations, each assessment was worth 45% of each separate GCSE grade.

Science Revision

- Seneca learning has lots of useful online revision material with instant feedback.
- Revision packs, including unit summary sheets and past paper questions
- Revision sessions after school
- Follow the QR codes for some past paper questions.



Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Best attendance = best grades



Maximizing Potential





Race, Set, Achieve! Race to a Grade

Richard Gwyn Catholic High

RACE TO A GRADE

Small steps. Big results.

Work hard. Get involved. Earn your points. Reach 100!

Activity	Points (Per Activity)	Date Completed	Teacher Signature
Attend a revision class Turn up, get involved, make progress.	10		
Respond to feedback to improve a piece of work Show you've listened, made changes and improved.	10		
Complete MathsWatch Build your skills, boost your confidence.	10		
Complete an English or Maths past paper Practice. Improve. Progress.	10		
Be fully equipped Bring the right kit, every lesson, every day.	10		
Complete all homework for a week and record in planner Be organised. Stay on track.	10		
Full attendance for the week Be here, make it count.	10		
Extra effort / Additional achievement (e.g. reading, enrichment, subject specific, supporting others)	10		

TOTAL POINTS: 100

Be a capable and ambitious learner!

Your effort today... your success tomorrow!

Name: _____ Date: _____



Timeline of Key Dates

Saint Richard Gwyn

Sept – Nov
Maths and English afterschool revision. Launch Race for a Grade.

November
Maths exam and English resit.

12th November
Year KS4 Raising Attainment Workshop.

23rd – 27th November
Year 11 mocks.

Study Zone
Study Zone launched during lunchtime.

W/b 14th December
Mock results morning.

W/b 14th December
AP1 progress reports emailed home.

W/b 11th January
Maypole meetings take place to identify intervention cohort and next steps.

14th January
Year 11 Parents Evening.

Thursday 21st January
Maximise Your Potential student workshops.

After school revision will be officially launched.

W/b 1st February
Year 10 mocks.

W/b 15th March
Progress reports will be sent home.

8th April
Year 10 Parents Evening.

As exams start a bespoke timetable will be put in place as booster sessions before exams.

Free Support

The WJEC website has a wealth of digital resources, tools and materials to support with revision.

Power Up is a Welsh Government initiative which was set up to ensure that all post 14 and 16 learners are aware of the revision and support materials available to them.

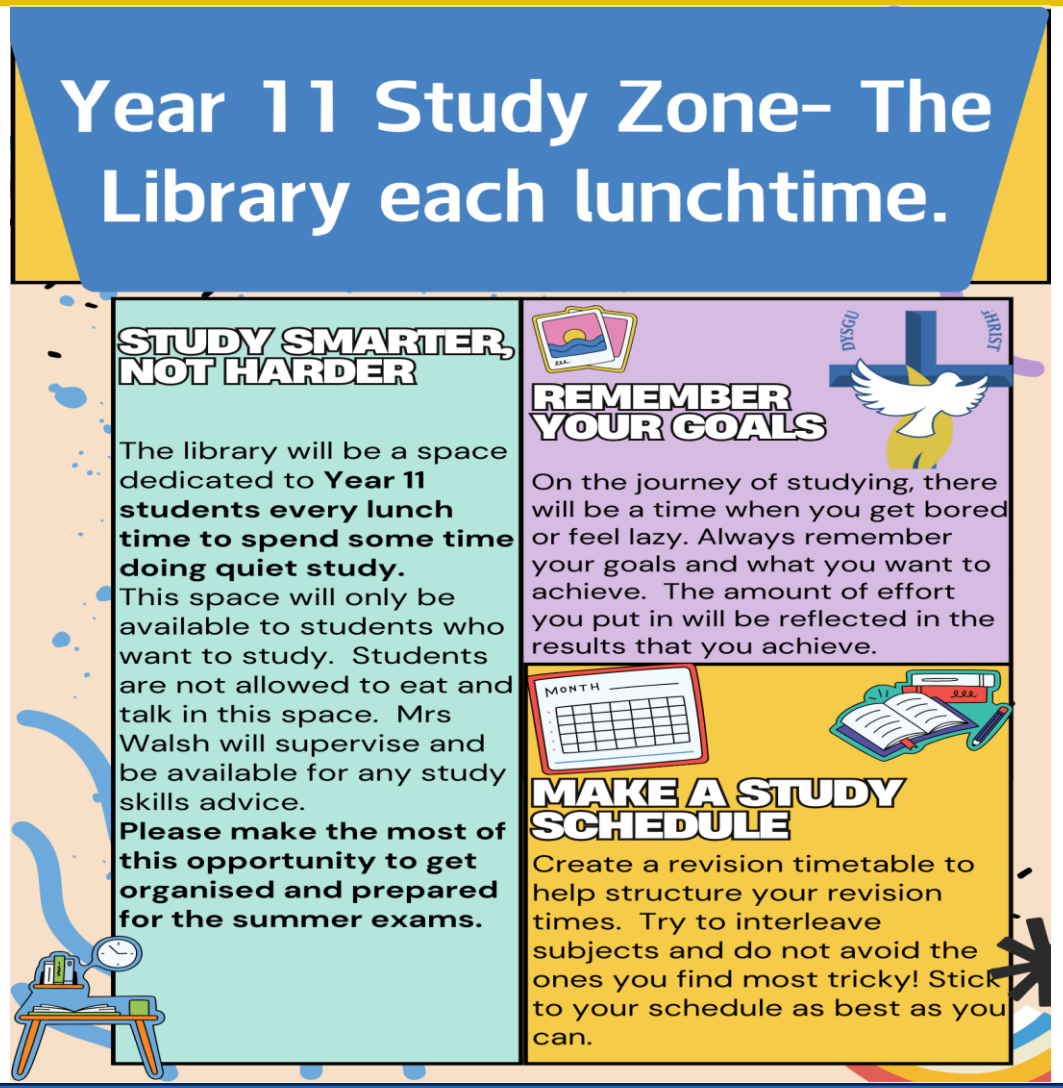
Carlam Cymru is a bank of excellent revision videos for a wide range of subjects.

BBC Bitesize provides revision resources, quizzes and videos specific to the WJEC exam board.

Revision Support Packs



Exam Study Zone



Get Planning

WEEKLY REVISION PLANNER

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	TIME	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:30AM –4PM	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	9AM– 10AM	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER
4PM– 5PM	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	10AM– 11AM	REVISION – ENGLISH	REVISION – SCIENCE
5PM– 6PM	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	11AM– 1PM	SEEING FRIENDS/ LUNCH	SPORT/ LUNCH
6PM– 7PM	REVISION – GEOGRAPHY	HOMEWORK	REVISION – HISTORY	REVISION – FRENCH	REVISION – SCIENCE	1PM– 3PM	REVISION – MATHS	REVISION – FLASH CARDS
7PM– 8PM	REVISION – MATHS	REVISION – ENGLISH	FREE TIME	HOMEWORK	FREE TIME	3PM– 5PM	OUT WITH FAMILY	SPORT/ TV/ GAMING
8PM– 9PM	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	6PM– 8PM	DINNER/ FREE TIME	DINNER/ FREE TIME

Start with hobbies and down time.
Do not avoid subjects you find hard, prioritise them.
Be flexible – do not worry if you can not stuck to every item but instead re plan it into your week.
Do not put things off till the next week.
Interleave revision so that you are doing a mixed range of subjects
Plan revision in 25 minute chunks but in that time put 100% energy into revision with no distractions.
Ask for a copy of the revision timetable and discuss it together.

Stress Management

1. Be organised and make a to do list every night for the next day.
2. Set realistic daily targets and make sure time for relaxation is given.
3. Exercise or even just go for a walk in the fresh air.
4. Encourage students to talk to parents, carers, brothers, sisters, friends.
5. Ask students to write a list of all the things that are worrying them and talk through what steps can be taken to help them.
6. Learn to say “no”
7. Look after your health. Try and get 8 hours sleep a night, eat a sensible diet and stay hydrated.

Useful Apps

- **Headspace**-It offers meditation series that address various topics, like anxiety, stress, sleep, and physical exercise. It has a wide array of features including “sleepcasts,” which are unique, soothing audio experiences to help you drift off.
- **Smiling Mind** - This app offers guided meditations for adults but is mostly geared toward children to improve their mental health and academic performance.
- **Stop, Breathe, Think** - Developed for adults, teens, and children, it is perfect when for when you’re overwhelmed by intense emotions like anxiety, stress, sadness, or anger.
- **Aura** - This app pairs your current mental state with the best meditation or relaxation strategies to help you reduce stress and anxiety, improve sleep, as well as increase happiness.

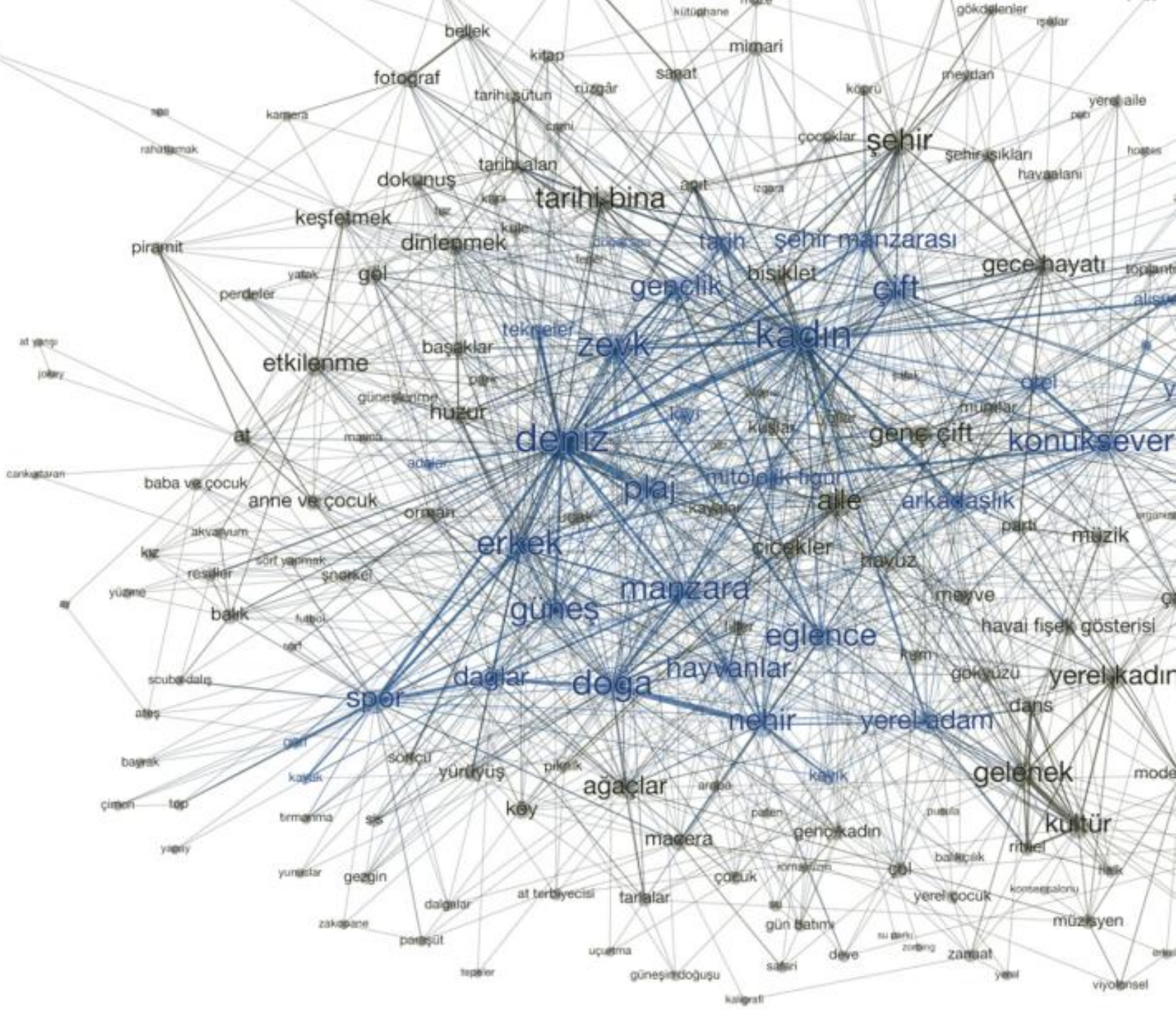




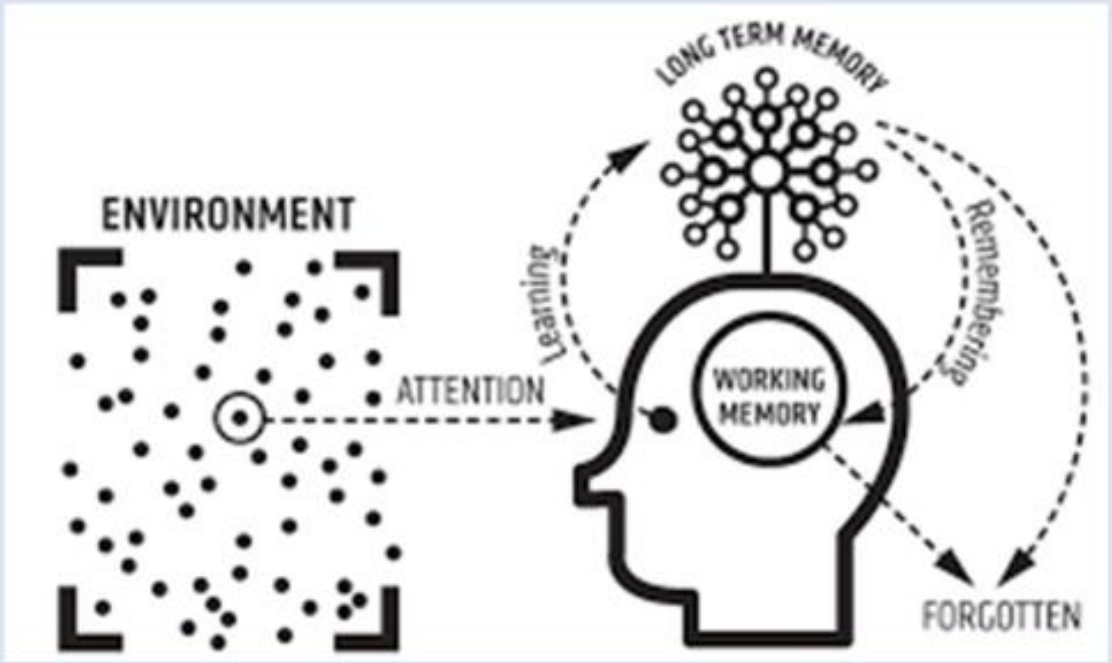




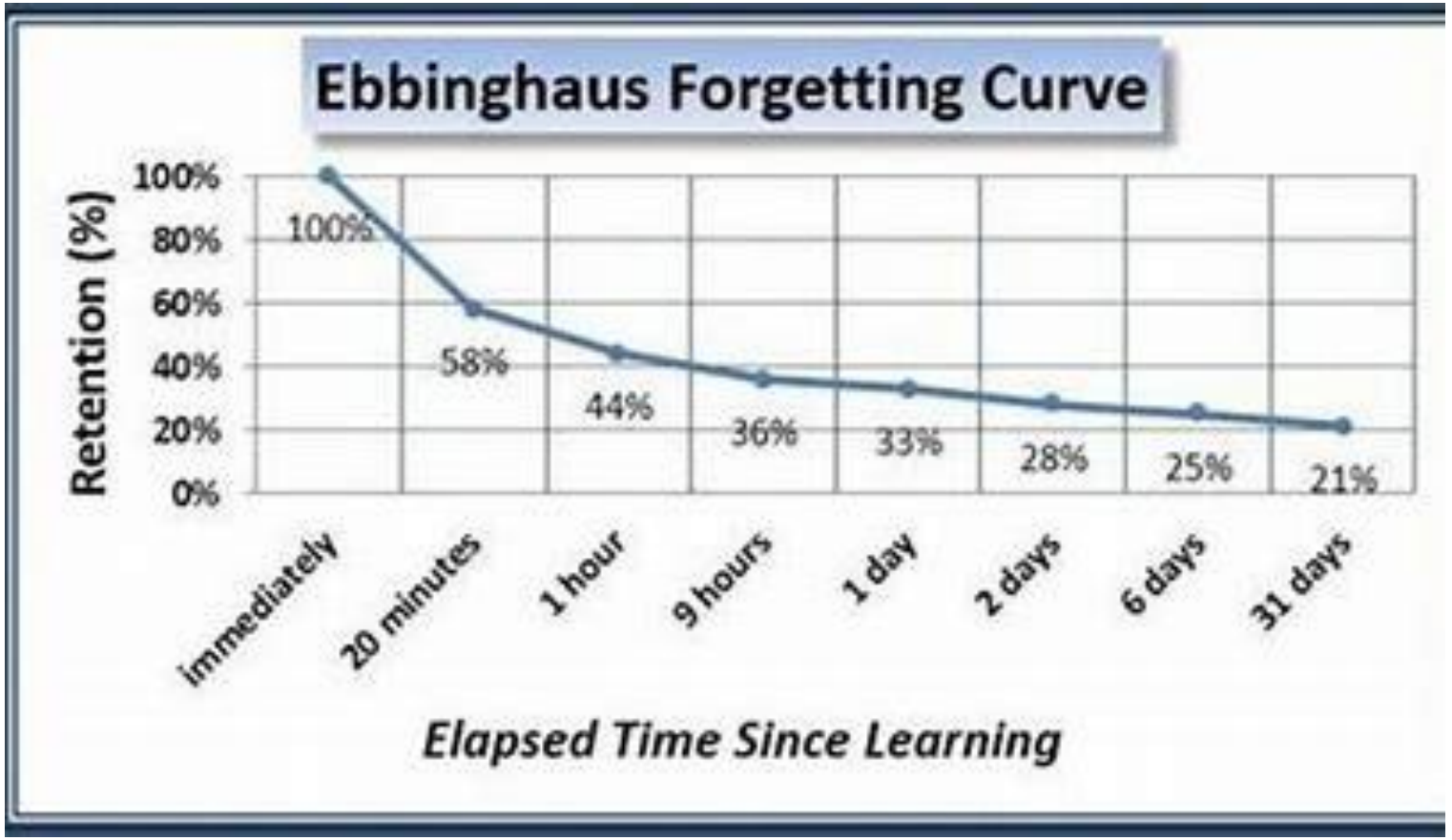
How Learning Happens



How we learn


LONG TERM MEMORY
ENVIRONMENT
Learning
Remembering
ATTENTION
WORKING MEMORY
FORGOTTEN

How can you prevent forgetting?





This is why teachers will do something called **retrieval practice** or **recall** with you each lesson.

These might be questions from last lesson or things you learnt a while back.

The more often you are made to retrieve what you have been taught, the less likely you are to forget it. Teachers may:

-Ask questions

-As you to answer questions on mini whiteboards

-Ask you to complete a brain dump

-Set you a quiz or questions

-put images on the board to jog your memory

Revision Strategies…



1. **Flashcards**.



-Make your own

-Subject by Subject

-Topic by topic

-Don’t limit it to knowledge (exam technique and exam reminders)

-Over-practice

-Rank your cards

Example: Revise *An Inspector Calls*

-Characters and themes.

-Characters

-Name

-Vocabulary

-Main events

-Quotes

-Themes they are relevant to

-Relationships with characters



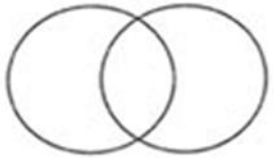
2. Quizzing.

-Use notes or revision guides to write questions you can ask yourself at a later date about specific topics.

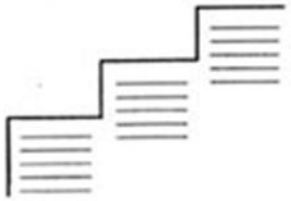
-Vary the type of questions.

3. Graphic organisers. Graphic organisers are a handy vehicle to get you to reconstruct your revision topics, making meaningful links and connections

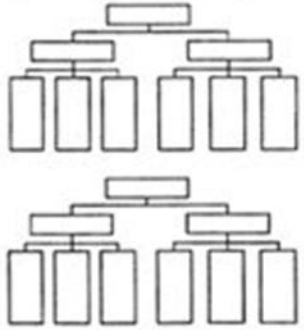
Venn Diagram



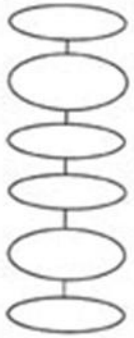
Sequential Thinking Model



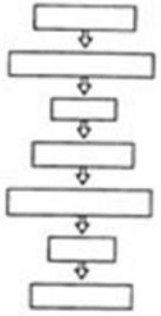
Sequential Thinking Model



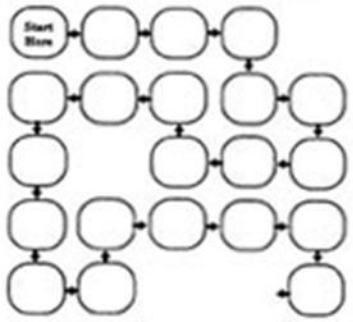
Chain



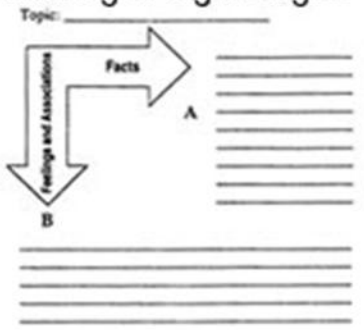
Chain



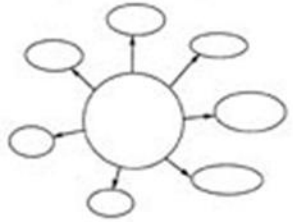
Sequential Thinking Model



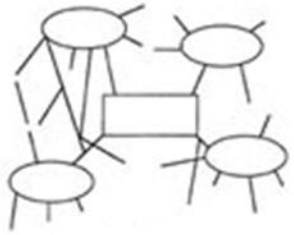
Thinking at Right Angles



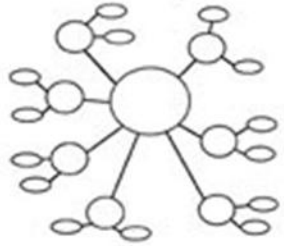
Spider Map



Web



Mind Map

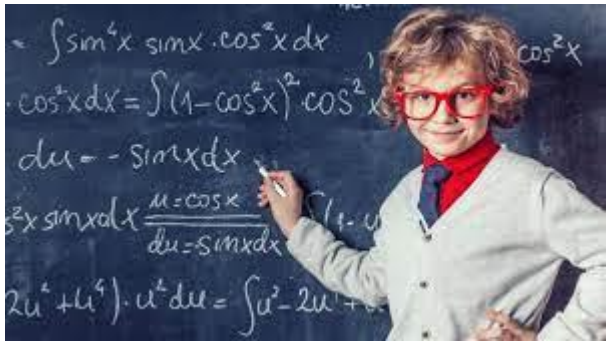


- **4. ‘Just a minute’**. ‘Just a Minute’ takes the classic radio game and adapts it to almost any topic, text, or examination revision term.
- Put simply, you have to talk for a minute on the given term/topic – no pauses, no hesitations. Slips or repetitions or micro pauses lose a ‘life’ – three strikes and you’re out.
- In short, if you can elaborate on a topic and explain it well, you have retrieved it from memory – a good revision act – as well as likely consolidating it too.



5. ‘Prepare to teach’.

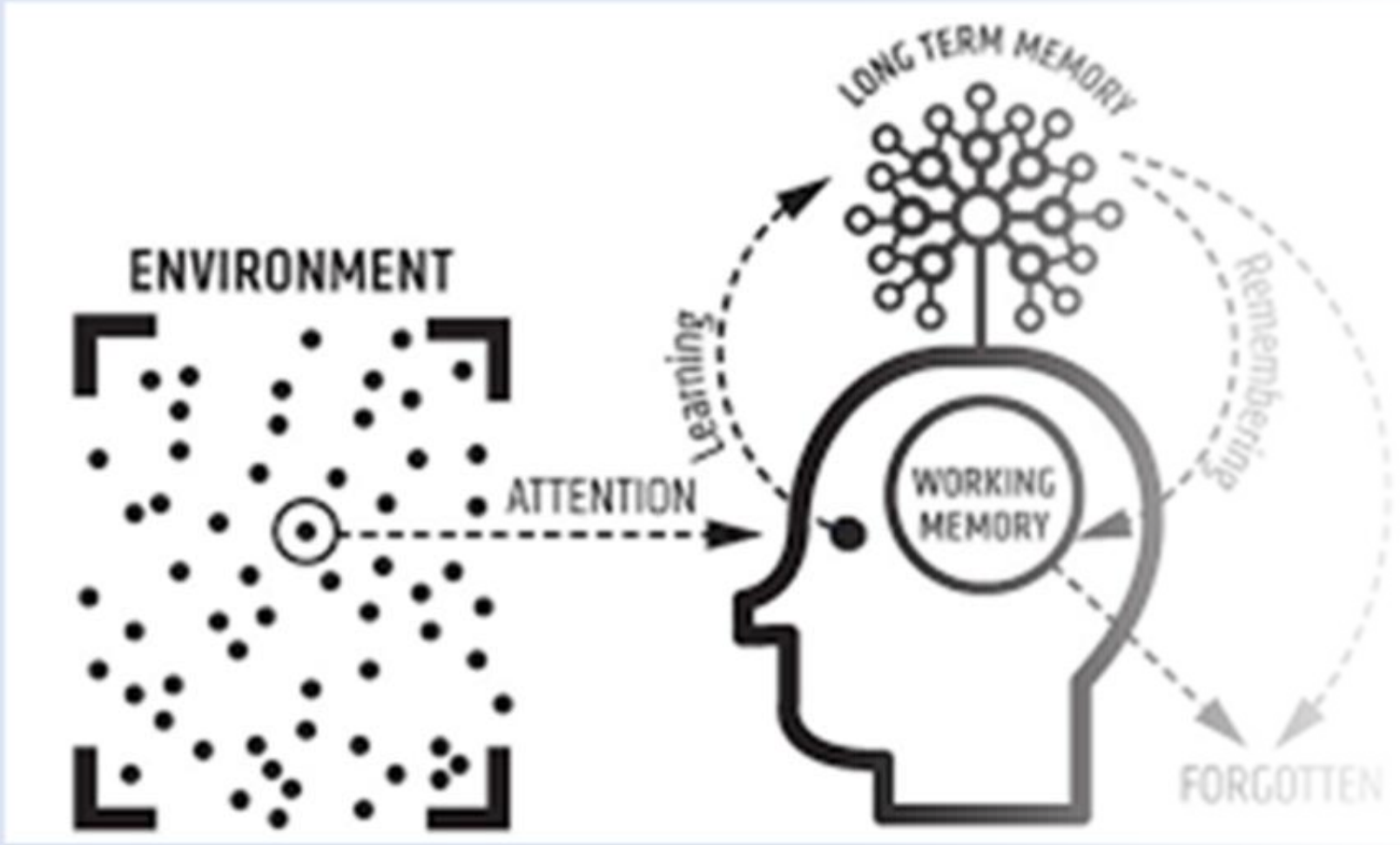
- This strategy involves the common idea of getting you to teach a peer or a parent a topic from their revision. Once more, it gets students to **elaborate** on their knowledge.

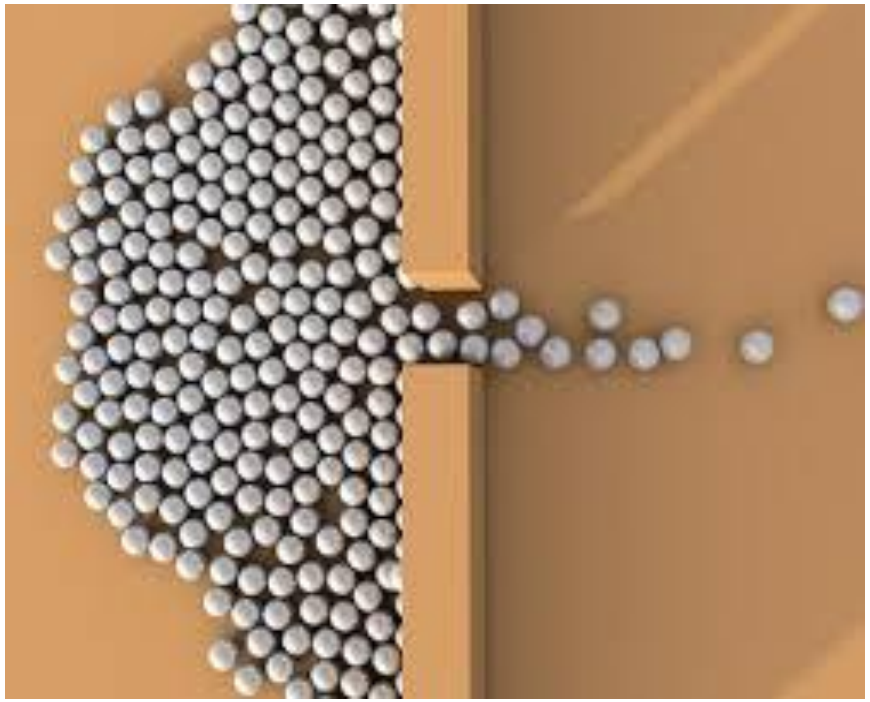


6. Past questions. Ok, so no rewards here for originality: students need to practice examination questions, over and over, well spaced over time. The effect of exploring **worked examples** or exam answers, as well as writing their own, helps students process, practice and refine their revision to meet the parameters of exam success.

Your learning might be broken into small steps.




LONG TERM MEMORY
ENVIRONMENT
Learning
Remembering
ATTENTION
WORKING MEMORY
FORGOTTEN



Break your revision into small steps





Saint Richard Gwyn

What Advice Our Students Can Offer?

Final Reflection

