

How do we revise for Religious Studies?

Three common revision techniques that are **LEAST** effective in helping you revise are:

- Highlighting texts
- Re-reading
- Summarising text



Whilst these methods may feel like you are revising, there are many better methods to help you revise.



Flashcards

Simply create with questions on side and answers on the other side. You can colour code for specific topics and quiz yourself or others.



Post its can be also useful for key words and timelines

How to use in Religious Studies

There are a variety of ways to use flashcards in revision for the skills you need

Key Terms

Create for key words and terms



SoWA

Create for Sources of Wisdom and Authority



Key Beliefs & Teachings

Create an overview including divergence



Examples

Create lists of examples to back up ideas, beliefs and teachings



Using Flashcards

Using the Leitner Method, using the video below <https://youtu.be/C20EvKtdJwQ>



You can also create excellent flashcards online or on your phone using Quizlet which also has an app.



Retrieval Practice

Testing what you know is a powerful tool in revision, the effort to remember something really strengthens your memory

Apps such as Memrise and Quizlet allow you to use or create your own quizzes based on topics.

Create them, test yourself or get someone to test you, it's works!

How to use in Religious Studies

Spaced

Test on old and new topics mixed up

Knowledge Organisers

Use to create 'must know' quizzes for a topic

Evaluation

To identify 2-3 reasons that people would agree or disagree with an idea / belief / teaching.

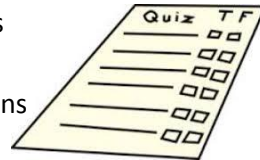
Examples

'Give two examples of.....'

Types

There are a number of types you can create:

- Multiple Choice Questions
- True or False
- Short Explanation Questions
- Odd One Out
- If this is the answer then what is the question



Transform It

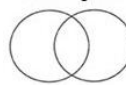
Graphic organisers are a great way of 'transforming' your notes/information into visual revision topics.

They can be used to create links, show a narrative, identify the causes/consequences and importance of something.

How to use in Religious Studies

1. **Development** – Create a visual flow diagram of the development of ideas / beliefs / teaching e.g. Creation, Trinity
2. **Divergence** – Create a Venn diagram to show what different groups agree and disagree about
3. **Concept Mapping** – At the end of a week, mind map all you can remember about a topic and link area together. Then add to your mind map using a different colour using notes

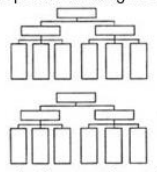
Venn Diagram



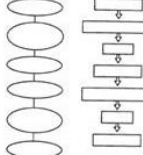
Sequential Thinking Model



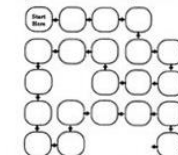
Sequential Thinking Model



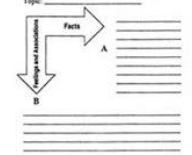
Chain



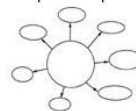
Sequential Thinking Model



Thinking at Right Angles



Spider Map



Web



Mind Map



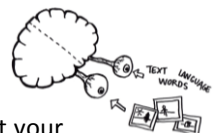
Dual Coding

'Dual coding' is the method of putting your knowledge into visual form alongside words. It increases the chances of you remembering it.



How to use:

1. Use simple drawings with matching simple descriptions
2. The drawing should represent your understanding of the topic
3. Try to draw links between images



For examples producing a storyboard for the story of the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

How do we revise for Religious Studies?

Deliberate Practice

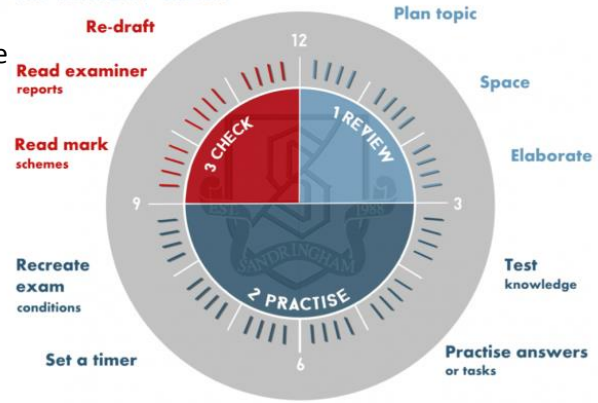
Set aside time to practice improving your knowledge or skills. Choose what you need to do, it must be tough enough to challenge you, and practice, practice, practice!

You should focus on something that you are *almost* able to do but *not just yet!*

How to use in Religious Studies

1. Use a model answer from the teacher, pull it apart and identify the key parts. Then answer a similar question and try to replicate
2. Study material, complete practice questions in timed conditions. Then use your notes to correct / improve your answer. A week later, redo a similar question. Repeat as necessary.

THE MEMORY CLOCK



The Cornell Method

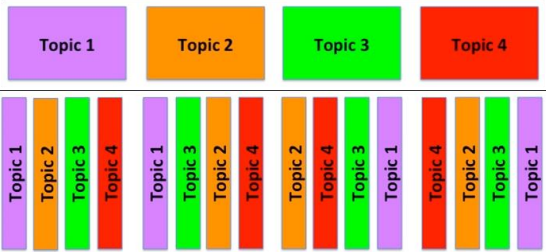
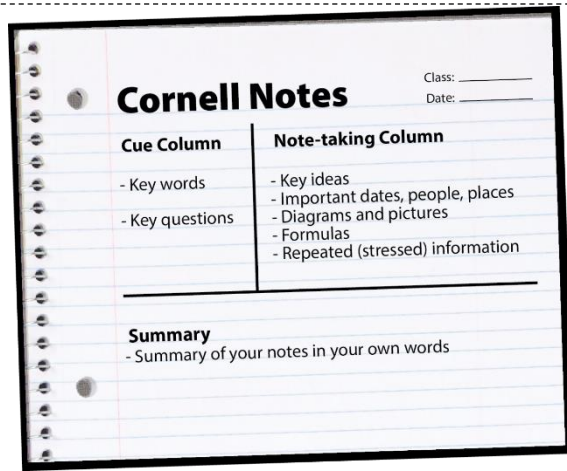
This method can be used in your revision books as a great method to get you to 'think' about your revision. Simply split your page into 3 sections as shown on the diagram on the left:

- Note Taking
- Cues
- Summary

How to use in Religious Studies

Use it to summarise a whole topic or theme, for example

- What is the Trinity?
- How is the Catholic faith expressed in art and architecture?
- How do Catholics argue for God's existence?



Interleaving and Spacing

Don't revise your all topics in one go (cramming), you should revise 'chunks' of a topic for small amounts of time (15 minutes) and then move onto another 'chunk' from a different topic.

This will improve your memory!

e.g. 15 minutes on Jewish practices, then Relationships and Families then Catholic beliefs and teachings

How to use in Religious Studies

1. Create a revision plan to cover topics you need to cover (least confident first!) and then go back over them again later. Spread out your learning in small sections, 5 hours to 5 x 1 hour
2. Use your flashcards to self test yourself on old and new topics, self testing across these



The Big Picture

The best way to aid your understanding of Religious Studies is to make sure you are confident with the big 'overview' story before you begin revising individual topics.

How to use in Religious Studies

1. Create a fact file to identify and overview the key ideas, beliefs and teachings for a topic. E.g. Jewish Beliefs, Arguments for the Existence of God
2. Mapping out what you can remember about a topic before you start, e.g. Creation, The Sacraments



The basics

Simply, make sure you eat, sleep and take time out!



Limit distractions



Find a nice space to revise in



The more you put in the more you get out!



Create and use a revision planner



Set an alarm and start early!



Revise, Repeat, Remember