

Revision suggestions

There are some links embedded here to brainbox.co.uk which may have useful suggestions – don't be put off that they are designed for schoolchildren, older brains can still use help...

- **Use the revision workbook provided for each unit.**

This goes through the syllabus, highlighting the information you need to learn for each assessment point, with hints and guidance on where to get this.

As you go through your course notes you can condense each topic down and complete the revision workbook: the process of picking out (and writing) key points and examples helps to fix them in your mind.

If you learn best in this way – condensing a section to a few paragraphs, then again to a few key bullet points - you may find that a set of file cards for each topic are your best revision notes.

- Use **coloured highlighter pens** to mark your revision notes. You should identify **key words** (these may be names, dates, places, etc.) You could even use different colours for different types of information.
- In the margins of your subject note-book, draw **sketches or cartoons** that relate to that particular topic or paragraph. These will not only help you to locate that particular section but will also make it more memorable.
- Learn to **MindMap** if you think visually rather than in words.
- Pay attention to the **layout** of your revision notes. You might find it useful to use **flow-charts** or **diagrams**.
- Try the **"Roman Room" memory system**. It's not quite Sherlock's 'Mind Palace' but there are a number of memory systems like this which attach objects and information to a layout, and so may be more useful to kinaesthetic learners.
- For example, if you have difficulty learning plant names but regularly walk a particular route, try to find examples of plants you need to learn in other people's gardens as you walk. Re-living the walk in your mind may help you bring back the plant name.
- Or build your 'mind palace' from sticky notes: fill the kitchen with trees, the bathroom with aquatics and the bedroom with shrubs. Walk around your familiar home setting and as you walk, try to fix the sticky notes in their positions in your mind so that visualising the layout and walking round will bring you to the plant you need.