



**Junior Cycle
Study Skills Booklet 2020**



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE

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Create a Study Plan

The best time to start your study preparation is now! A well thought-out study plan will give you structure and help you stay organised.

Concentrating your efforts on both short term objectives (weekly plans) and longer term goals (monthly plans) will help you feel in control of your studies and stay on top of your work throughout the year.

Weekly Study Plan:

- Fill out your weekly study plan each Sunday in preparation for the week ahead.
- Be specific about what you plan to study in each subject (For example, in English on Wednesday you might revise the poetry).
- Remember to leave time for breaks and be realistic in your goal setting.
- Stick the timetable on a wall in your study area and refer to it during your homework and study hours

Monthly Study Plan:

- Fill out your monthly study plan at the beginning of each term.
- Make a study plan for each subject. This will help with your long-term learning and goal setting.
- Mark in important assignments such as your CBAs and ongoing revision tests for each subject so that you remember to prepare in advance.
- Tick off each task as it is completed. This will help you keep track of your progress throughout the year.

Weekly Study Plan

weekly planner

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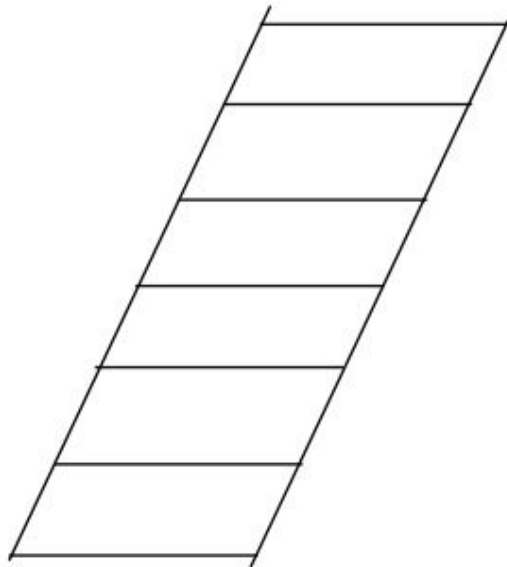
Monthly Study Plan

Month:						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

My Calendar Land - www.mycalendarland.com

Using Graphic Organisers

Step Ladder



When a topic involves prioritising or establishing stages, with a definite beginning and end.

Suggestions from teachers

History

- Becoming a Knight
- Cortés and the Aztecs
- Life of George Washington
- Rise and Fall of Third Reich
- Work of an archaeologist

Business

- Writing a letter
- A business transaction
- Making a complaint
- Recruitment
- New product development
- Calculate net pay
- Household Budget
- Bank Reconciliations

Home Economics

- Digestion of proteins
- Production of cheese
- Milling flour
- 10 steps of HACCP
- Making a Christmas wreath
- Design Brief
- Yoghurt making

Music

- Answering an examination question on harmony
- Writing a melody
- Scales
- Musical Eras
- Composers

Mathematics

- Order of operations
- Solving a triangle
- Proving a theorem
- Difference Equations
- Differentiation from first principles

Geography

- Cloud formation
- Formation of an ox-bow lake
- Volcanic eruption
- Formation of a waterfall
- Water cycle

English

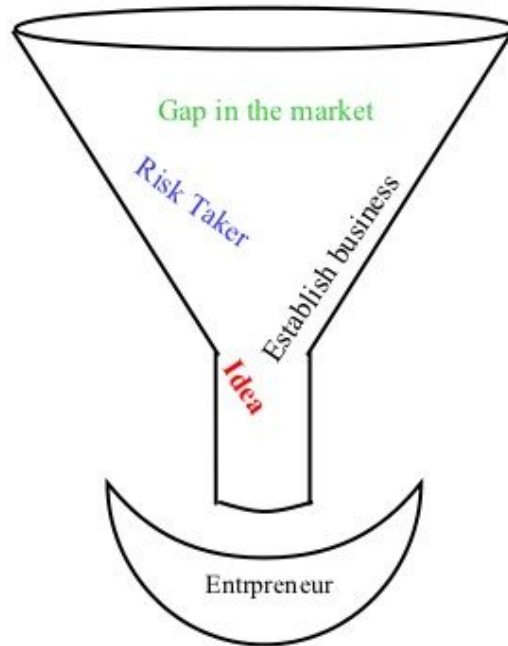
- Descent of a tragic hero into calamity, e.g. Macbeth's descent into evil
- Trace the theme of a poem — thread of thought, main idea
- Stages of a Novel

Religion

- Stages from slavery to Passover
- The development of Islam
- From the Passion to Pentecost

Funnel Graphic Organiser

Define Entrepreneur



Suggestions from teachers

Science

- Rates of reaction
- Prep oxygen gas
- 7 characteristics of living things
- Photosynthesis
- Magnetic force
- Urine

History

- Causes of 1916 Rising
- Source of US economic Boom 1945-69
- Causes of any major event e.g. French Revolution, American Civil War of Independence

Geography

- Traffic Management
- The Burren
- Improving the environment
- Volcanos
- Earthquakes

Home Economics/ Technical Subjects

- Planning a craft project
- Healthy lifestyle
- Design brief
- Conics

Business/Maths

- Wage Negotiation
- Sale of Goods and Supply of Services Act 1980
- Sets

Gaeilge

- Foclóir a bhailiú faoi topaic ar bith.
- Tuairimí a bhailiú d'aiste.

Music/Art

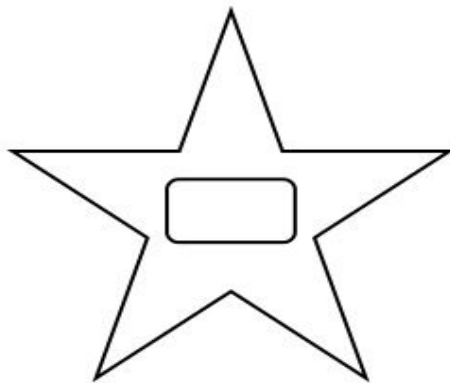
- Jazz
- Dance
- Instruments of the orchestra
- Melody
- Impressionist and Post Impressionist painters

English/RE

- Essay preparation
- Persuasive writing
- My favourite place
- Components of Islam

Starburst Graphic Organiser

Starburst *(all points covered)*



When establishing and remembering points relating to a topic

Suggestions for use in some subjects

Gaeilge/Modern Language <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Céimeanna i scríobh litreach/nóta.• Achoimre ar dhán e.g. téama, mothúcháin, íomhanna etc• Learning vocabulary associated with a topic	Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Order of operations• Coordinate geometry of Line• Solving equations (JC, OL)	Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principles of insurance• Forming a company• TQM• Marketing Mix• Elements of Business Letter• Sale of Goods and Supply of Services Act 1980• Budgeting• Sole trader	Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Particle physics• Bacteria• Periodic table• Light• Ag. Science—coniferous trees
Music <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of Irish Music• Sean Nós Singing• Leaving Certificate set works	Home Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food types• Cheese• Energy requirements	History <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parnell and the Land League• Any key person in history	Art/English <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impressionism• Modern periods• Aspects of a character• Aspects of poems

Using Mind maps to Study

Mind Maps

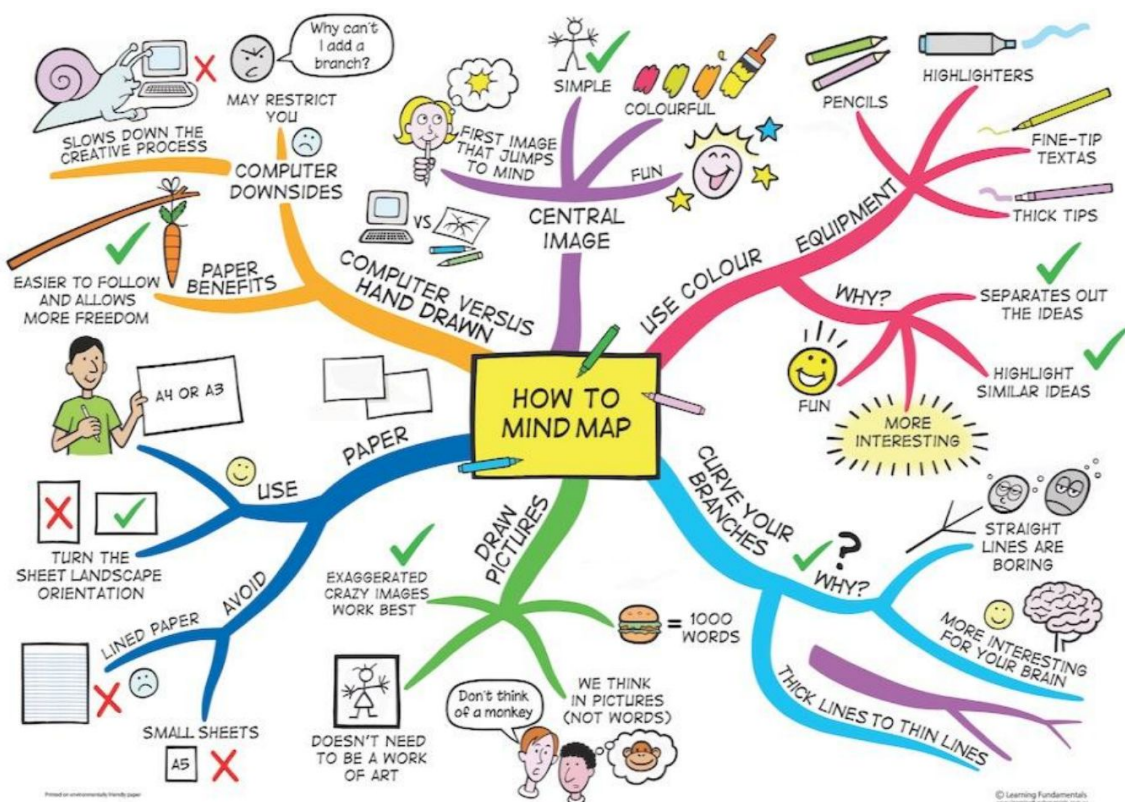
Why do a mind map? Notes often end up being the book repeated word for word (unless, of course, you have taken good notes using the techniques above).

This is an alternative way to make notes because your brain likes colour and pictures which help your memory. A study in the US gave participants 10,000 images to look through. They then added 10 other images. 95% of participants could identify the foreign images. Conclusion? Pictures stay in your brain.

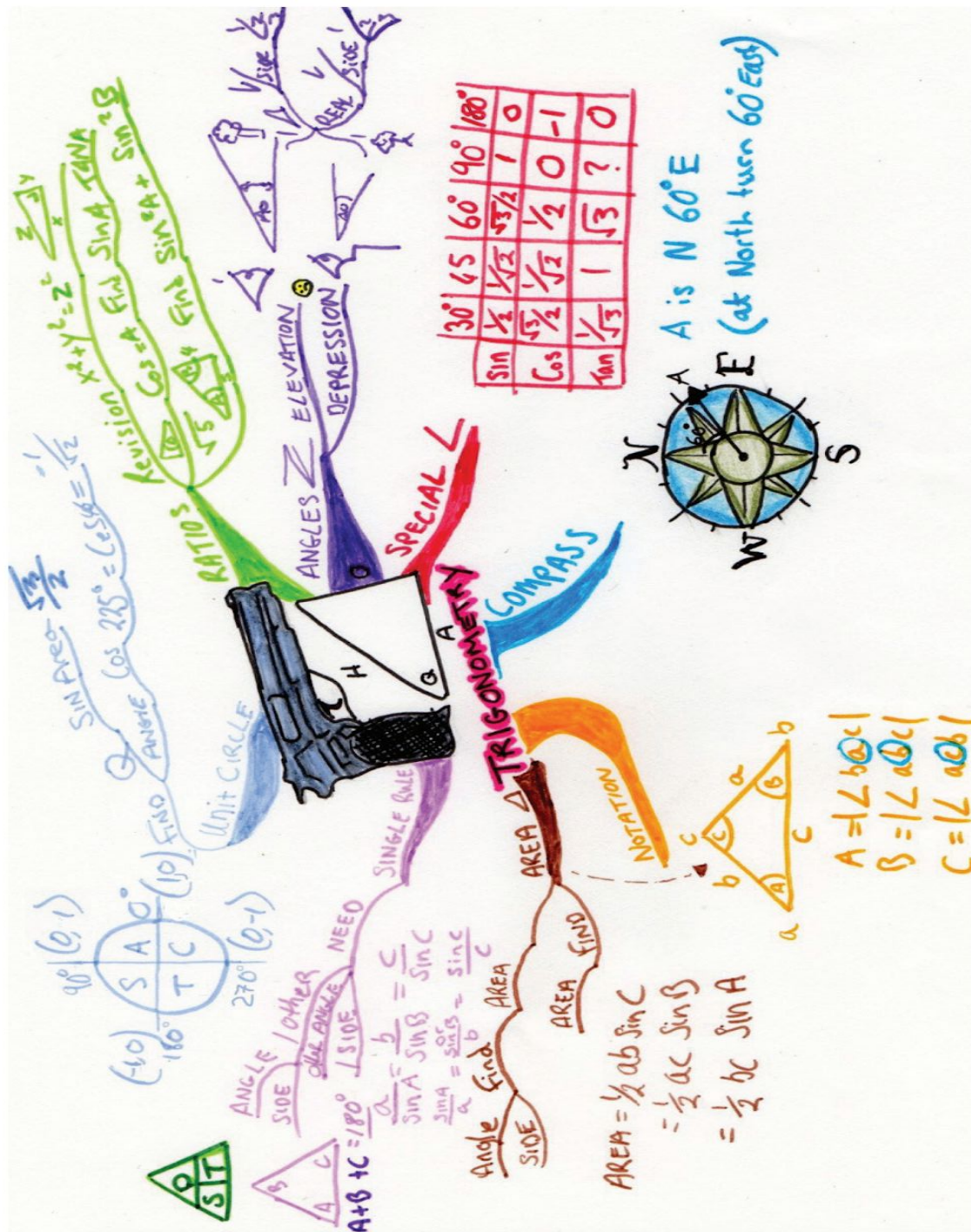
How to Mind Map

Advantages of Mind Map

- You only need to write down what's important
- You can easily show how things link up
- All the information you need is on one page
- When you have made a pattern, your brain will remember the whole shape of the topic.



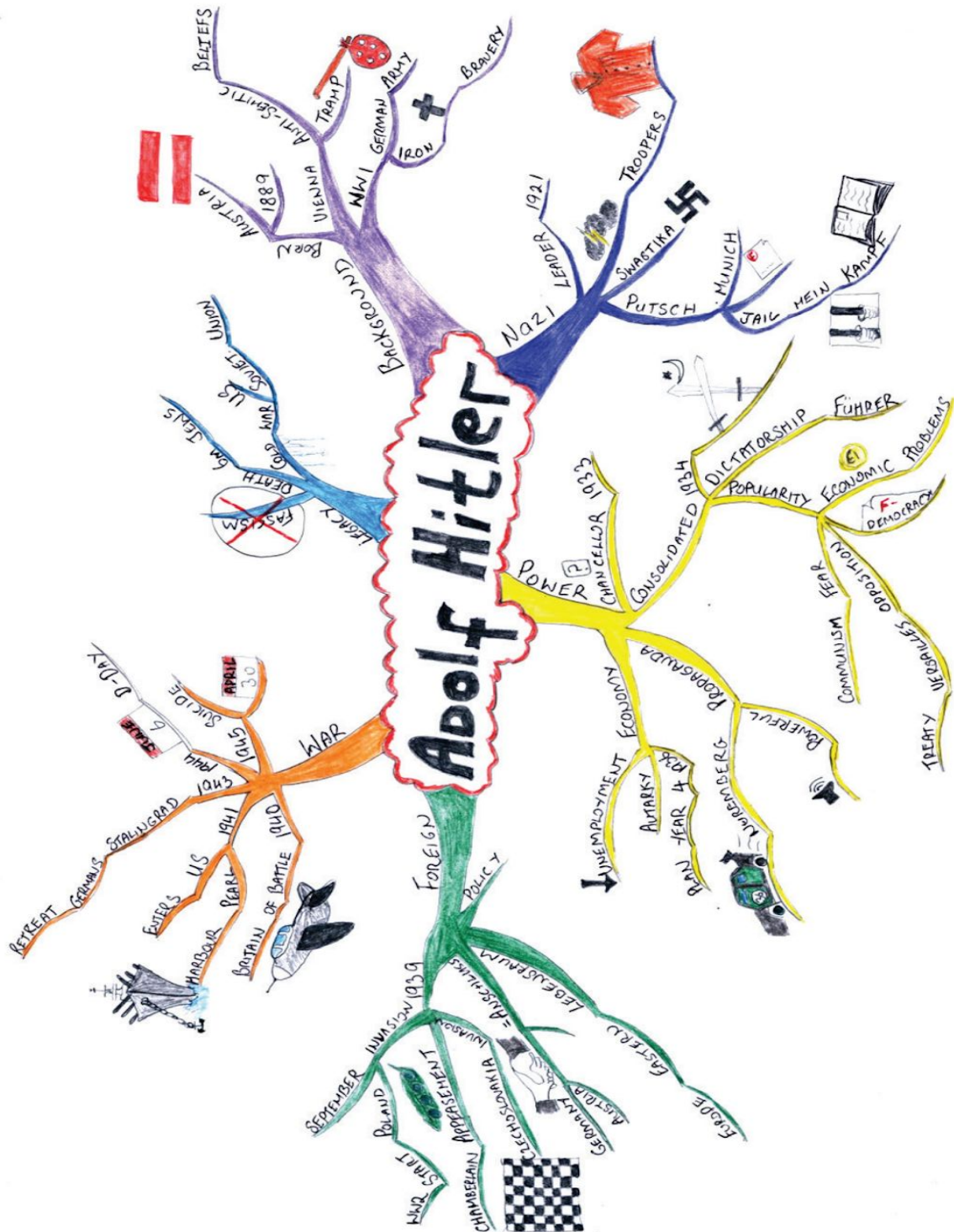
Maths Mind Map



Business Mind Map



History Mind Map



Irish Study Skills

It is important to be prepared for all of your exams, and this takes organisation. You need to go through your books, copies and folders and identify what are your priorities for your exam.

You cannot say "I wasn't in that day". It is your responsibility to be up to date on all of your work.

As part of the Junior Cycle Irish final exam, there are four elements to prepare for:

- An Cluastuiscint (Listening) - 4 cheist - 30 marc
- Léamh (Réading)
- Ceapadóireacht (Composition) 7 gceist - 240m
- Litríocht (Literature)

While everyone is not sitting their Third Year exam this year, these sections apply to First, Second and Third years, so here are some tips to help you prepare for your Scrúdú!

An Cluastuiscint

-Learn your Question words (Cá, Cé, Cathain etc). When you get your listening paper, you will have time to read the questions. You can write in the definition of the question word above it to help you. The key to getting the answer is knowing what the question is looking for.

eg Cé a bhuaigh an cluiche? - Cé = *Whó* --> The answer involves a person or a group of people

- Practise: In your textbooks, there are plenty of Listening exercises. You can access the audio clips online or with the CD. **Déanann an cleachtadh máistreacht** (Practise makes perfect!) It will tune your ear to Irish phrases and help you on the day

Léamh(thuiscint)

-Once again, the question words are so important for this section. After reading the text, you should read the questions. Identify what type of information the questions are looking for and then read the text again.

-Practise using your textbook will once again help you.

Ceapadóireacht

- Written composition is hugely important. The key to doing well is having clear, correct sentences. If you struggle with Irish, keep your sentences short - it is easier then to keep them correct. If you are confident, try to embellish your sentences with phrases you've learned from class.
- Try to avoid repetition. While the verbs Bhí mé and Chuaigh mé are easy to remember, and Is maith liom works well, we should try not to use the same phrases over and over again when possible. Instead of Chuaigh mé (I went), maybe say Shiúil mé (I walked) or Fuair mé síob (I got a lift). This brings up the standard up your work and will help you achieve higher marks.
- Keep your tenses correct and consistent: First of all, you need to know the rules for your Aimsir Chaite, Láithreach and Fháistineach (and if you are confident, the Modh Coinníollach). If it is Aimsir Chaite (past tense, things that have already happened) be sure you know when to add a séimhiú (h), when a D' is necessary etc. Aimsir Láithreach (present, things that happen now) and Fháistineach (things that will happen), be sure you add the correct ending. If you start a piece in a tense, **stick to it**. In most cases, if you are writing a story, we should not see Bhí (A.C) and Tá (A.L) in the same story!

Litríocht

While this section may seem very difficult, it is also very possible to achieve good marks. You just need to know your **dánta/ amhráin, gearrscéalta, gearrscannáin agus an úrscéil (Ardleibhéal)**. What do we need to know about these pieces of literature?

- Téamaí - What is the central message of the text? How does that message relate to the story? Can you give examples of where that theme can be seen in the story?
- Carachtair - Who are the main characters? Can you name them? Can you describe them/ give their main traits? Can you talk about what they do in this text?
- Mothúcháin - What is the main emotion? Are there more than one? Can you describe where it is seen in the text? Can you relate to it?
- Do Thuairim - An maith leat an téacs? An dtaitníonn sé leat? Did you like the piece? Why or why not? Can you give a reason for this from the text?
- An Údar agus Ainm an Téacs - **You must know the author and the name of the text you are writing about**. You will receive marks for writing those two pieces of information on your exam in the spaces provided.

Comhairle Ginearálta

- Study hard and put the effort in. You will be very proud of any result you give your best effort for.
- Don't get too stressed ; Try not to get too worked up. Eating well and sleeping properly will help with this.
- Help each other; Support your classmates. You are all in the same position. If you help each other it will make a big difference.

GO N-EIRÍ AN T-ÁDH LIBH!!



5 Top Tips

5 TOP TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE EXAM REVISION AS RECOMMENDED BY PREVIOUS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS!*

1. START EARLY

Don't leave it to last minute! Start revising a couple of weeks before your exams to give your brain time to absorb.

2. PLAN YOUR TIME

Failing to prepare is preparing to fail, so plan wisely. Make a schedule to document what you will revise and when!

3. AVOID YOUR PHONE

Revision is tough, but looking at social media every ten minutes won't help you learn! Put your phone away so you can focus.

4. PRACTISE!

Athletes don't win gold without rigorous training, and neither will you! Actively practising (e.g. doing mock exams) can help re-inforce knowledge.

5. TAKE BREAKS

Your body needs rest in order to get stronger, and so does your brain! Be sure to take regular breaks during revision - your mind will thank you.

Good luck!

SIMPLY
EDUCATION

*A focus group of 5 University graduates was used to collect information for this infographic

Useful Websites

You will find some helpful subject resources and study skills tips using the following links:

General Resources:

- <https://www.scoilnet.ie/>
- <https://www.examinations.ie/exammaterialarchive/>
- <https://studyclix.ie/>
- <https://studynotes.ie/>
- <https://quizlet.ie>

MFL:

- <https://www.duolingo.com/>
- <https://www.linguascope.com/>

Maths & Science :

- <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/minutephysics/videos>

Music:

- <http://www.musictechteacher.com/>

Art:

- <https://www.piskelapp.com/>
- <https://sketch.io/>
- <https://www.nationalgallery.ie/>

History:

- <http://archive.irishnewsarchive.com/Olive/APA/INA.Edu/Default.aspx#panel=home>

English:

- <http://www.sccenglish.ie/>

Post Exam Reflection

Q1. Were you nervous before or during the exams?

Q2. What did you do to combat these nerves?

Q3 Did you have enough time to answer all the required questions for each exam?

Q4. If not, why do you think you did not have enough time?

Q5. Did you have everything that you needed for the exams with you?

Q6. What could you have done to be more practically prepared?

Q7. What study techniques did you employ that worked well for you?

Q8. What improvements could you make now in order to improve in the exams in May/June?
