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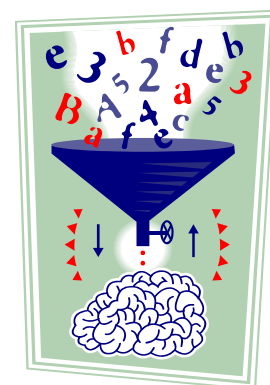
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A'Level Classroom Resource How do you Revise Mathematics?

These are some tips to get you through your A' Level Mathematics

There are some areas you need to work on

1. Mathematical Knowledge
2. Mathematical Skills
3. Getting Mathematically Fit
4. Examination Practice - Getting better at doing Examinations
5. General Tips for Revision
- 6 Finally some tips for the Examination day



1. Mathematical Knowledge

You need to know the essentials of each topic. We don't just mean formula. (Yes, knowing the formula helps as it gives you greater confidence.) but knowing some methods are important too!

Key Notes are essentials.

Try looking at your exercise books, class books and text books. **Try to write a paragraph for each topic.** For this you should **Summarise the topic.** What are the key things? How does this help? You'll make connections between what you've done in class and what you need to remember and learn. That helps form the right type of electrical circuits in your mind. Just looking through your work again will help you revise - revise means to **Re- Look –at-your work.**

2. Mathematical Skills

You need to practice what you've learnt. That way you'll develop your skills. Do some revision questions for each topic. You can also try to tackle at least one examination past paper each week.

Mark it when you've finished it. Hopefully you will see yourself becoming more sure and more confident.



3. Getting Mathematically Fit

Mathematics requires a different way of thinking from many other subjects. Getting tuned into this part of your mind is really important. Try differentiating or integrating simple functions in your head. Setting yourself some mental challenges as you're on a bus or running/ walking is a way of training your head to sort-of juggle with ideas.

Examples :

- Keeping calculations in your head is a good skill to develop. Eg If x is a certain value and is input to a function (make up a function, eg $3x^2 - 5$) work out the output.
- Can you do the Product rule for differentiation without writing down U and V but just doing the derivative directly?
- Next time you're shopping, add up the basket and decide what change you'll get.

Working with a partner will really help as you can set mental challenges for each other.

Spatial awareness and logic are other components to develop. How? **Try Reading a Mathematics book.** You will be surprised that you can actually read maths books – just like novels. But it's a skill and you can learn it. This is another aspect of becoming mathematically fit.

4. Examination Practice - Getting better at doing Examinations

It's a fact : the more exams you take, the better you get at taking them. That doesn't mean you'll get higher and higher marks, it just means you become more proficient at the techniques.

For example :

- You aren't so nervous.
- You learn to take exams in your stride – they will be part of your life from the ages of 14/15 to 21/22 and sometimes beyond.
- You get better at revising, and you start earlier. You become a better "student" and become organised.

As you get nearer to the date of your Maths exams do a timed-past paper. This is to try putting yourself under exam conditions, but also working to strict time.

5 General Tips for Revision : Be organised about your revision. Draw up a timetable, put all your activities down, and allow time for fun as well as for revision.

Allow time for exercise. Swimming is really good to do during examinations. That's really important as you may become stressed about exams and some exercise will help you to relax.

6. Finally some tips for the Examination day

Be on time for your exams, know where you're supposed to go. Don't leave this to the last minute or you'll get in a panic.

Deep breathing : this will help you to stay calm during the start of the exam.

Try to relax when you're taking the exam – your mind and memory will work better the more relaxed you are.

Start on a question you can do – build your confidence. Praise yourself during the exam....keep boosting your morale.

Most of all : GOOD LUCK!!!!

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