

## **Don't hang around with the nervous paranoid**

people on the morning of the exam. — they'll just stress you out, which doesn't help at all.

## **Find the right environment to revise**

NOT in front of the TV. NOT listening to the radio. Music can sometimes be OK, but you need to find the right kind. It's got to be something that's just there in the background that you're not thinking about at all. Music without singing is better as you won't be tempted to dance around your bedroom like a big fool.

## **Sit at a proper desk**

Don't try to revise in bed

## **Read the exam timetable properly**

— double-check so you don't miss an exam and have plenty of time to prepare for it.

## **Don't turn yourself into a revision zombie**

— if you stop doing anything else but revision you'll turn into a zombie. It's really important that you keep time to do things you enjoy... like cinema, shopping, sports, frisbee, rock-climbing, making model planes, nose-picking, whatever tickles your ferret... When you're doing these try to relax and totally forget about revision.

## **Don't just read your notes**

— you have to WRITE STUFF DOWN.

## **Don't put it off**

"Procrastination" is the long word for it. And it means rearranging stuff on your desk, getting a sudden urge after 16 years to tidy your room, playing the guitar, thinking about the weekend, writing love poems about that girl/boy you fancy, painting your toenails, etc, etc, etc,... Sit down at your desk and GET ON WITH IT.

## **Start revising early**

— i.e. months, not days before the exam. Make a timetable ([see samples](#)) to plan your revision and stick to it.

## **Don't spend ages making your notes look pretty**

— this is just wasting time. For diagrams, include all the details you need to learn, but don't try to produce a work of art. Limit yourself to 2 or 3 colours so you don't get carried away colouring things in.

## **Take short breaks**

— every hour, not every 10 minutes.

## **In study leave, start revising early**

i.e. 9am — that way you'll get your day's work done much quicker and will have time to relax in the evening.

## **Stick revision notes all around your house**

so in the exam you think — "aha, quadratic equations, they were on the fridge..."

## **Get yourself drinks and snacks**

so you don't make excuses to stop every 10 minutes...

## **Try reading difficult bits in funny accents**

— Australian is particularly good.