

EXAM TAKING STRATEGIES



In the Exam



Make sure all **your details** are **written correctly** on the exam paper

Read directions/instructions carefully and underline what you must do



Read the whole paper, check both sides before you start to answer

If you experience a **mind dump**, **jot ideas down** on separate sheet of paper



Proportion your time per question based on marks

Boost your confidence and build momentum by answering questions you know best first



Do not panic if you see a question you did not anticipate

If you go blank, go to the next question or another part of the exam



Before

Check the **date, time and venue** of where you are writing



Make sure you have all the **materials you need**



Arrive at exam venue at least **30 minutes before** the exam starts to get comfortable



Don't get nervous because your peers are nervous



In a Question



Before you answer, **read the question twice** to work out what the question means.

Read questions **phrase for phrase** and **highlight key words** in questions.



Check action verbs (i.e., discuss, compare) and do only what you are asked to do.

Beware of time limits.



Plan your answer – clear argument, **use examples** from course materials, **avoid irrelevant detail**, get to the point quickly, include introduction and conclusion.



GETTING READY FOR THE EXAM!

TIPS:



DID YOU KNOW?

Self-awareness of how you approach learning can help you make conscious choices about how:

- to study
- and manage your time while studying

Analyse your **S-H-A-P-E** to learning and **personalise your learning** through creating study environments and **selecting strategies that suit you best** to engage with the study content effectively.

S

Learning style

How you learn best

H

Learning habits

How you have become used to studying

A

Attitude

The mind-set you bring to your study

P

Learning Preference

How you like to study
Approaches you enjoy even if it's not always the most effective

E

Experience

The educational and life history that impacts how you study

TIP:

Vary your study choices and strategies to gain the widest set of perspectives and skills

For learning to occur:

Your brain assimilates new information into what you already know and adapts previous knowledge to accommodate new knowledge.

New Information



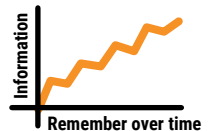
Current Knowledge



New Knowledge



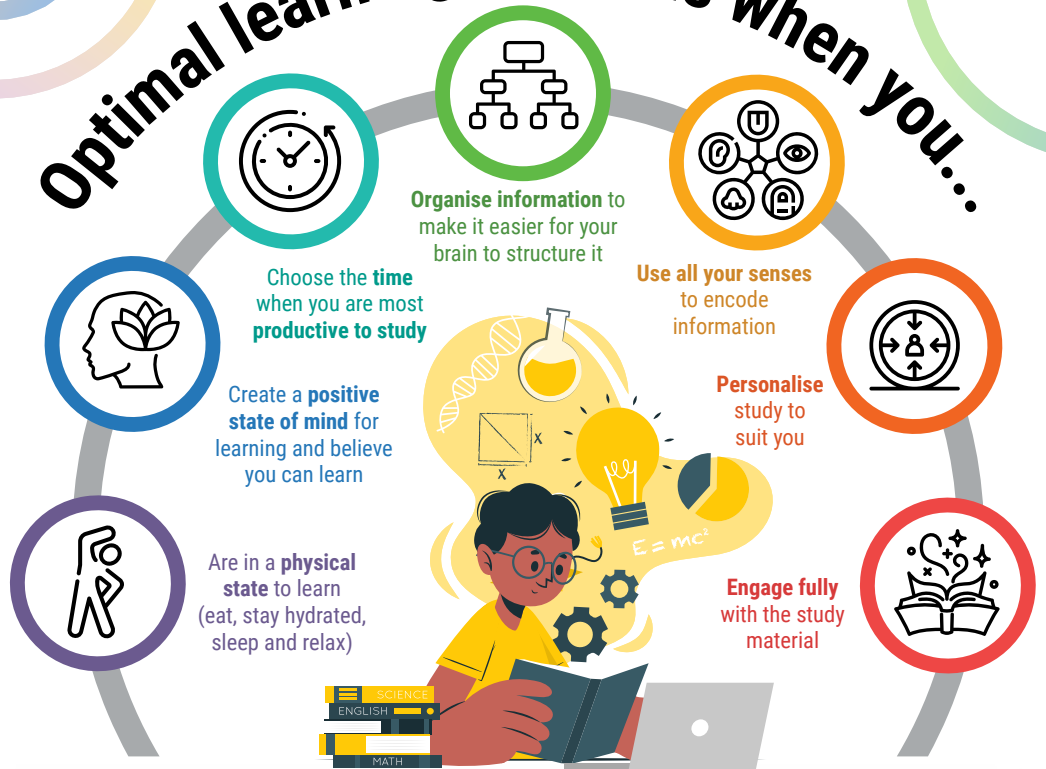
Long term



Spaced repetition:

Research shows that we learn and remember better when we spread the items we study over a longer time span instead of repeatedly studying in a short time span.

Optimal learning happens when you...



EXAM PREPARATION ACTION PLAN

- Start organising your notes
- View your notes critically and add where necessary
- Work out what you must revise for each module
- Manage your time effectively
- Set aside time for practising past papers
- Construct a revision timetable and stick to scheduled revision and study times
- Divide your time equally between modules
- Build up your writing speed

