

Why are we using Knowledge Organisers?

Research around memory suggests that “knowledge is sticky”: the more factual knowledge you know, the easier it is to learn more in future! But there is a catch: If knowledge is studied once, and not revisited or revised, it is not stored in long-term memory. To strengthen your memory, and ensure information is stored permanently in your long-term memory, it must be revisited frequently. This means that after one lesson, or a single test, the knowledge is not fully embedded or learned unless it is studied again. This is why your knowledge organiser is an important part of revising the essential information you learn in class!

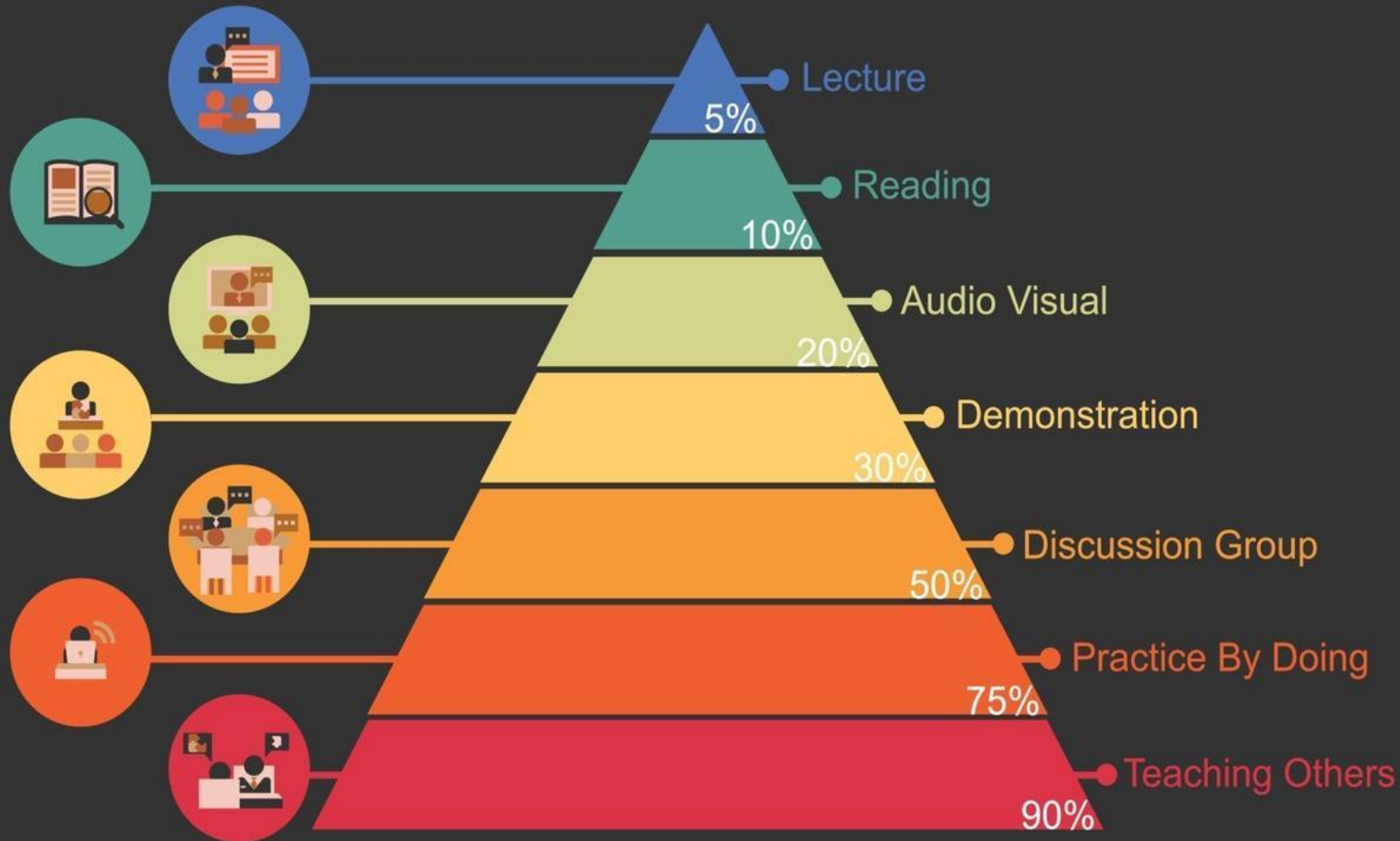
Use of Knowledge Organisers for revision and in class

As part of independent home learning, you should be revising what they have learned recently, but also content you were taught previously. Therefore, as part of our strategy to ensure that knowledge is embedded over time, we have developed knowledge organisers, which contain the essential knowledge necessary in each subject area. A mastery of this knowledge will ensure that you can progress comfortably to new units of learning, and can be successful in your subjects.

This information will provide the basis of our assessments and exams, and so getting into good revision habits with these resources will ensure you feel as prepared as possible. Your teachers may set specific areas of each knowledge organiser as part of home learning tasks on ‘EduLink’ – however, you should be using your knowledge organiser for independent revision regularly.

For mastery of your subjects, remember: “Don’t practise until you get it right. Practise until you can’t get it wrong!”

The Learning Pyramid

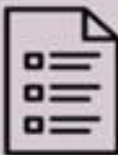


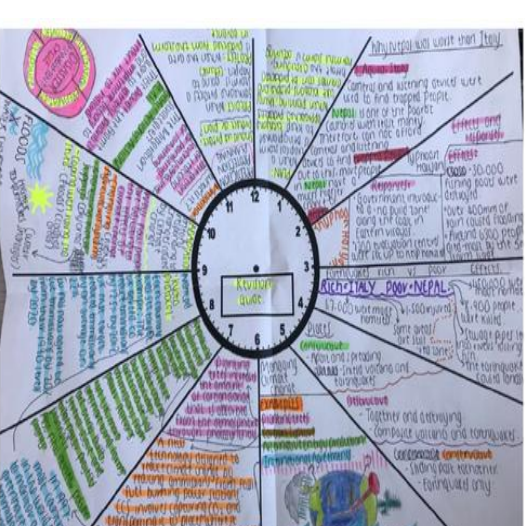
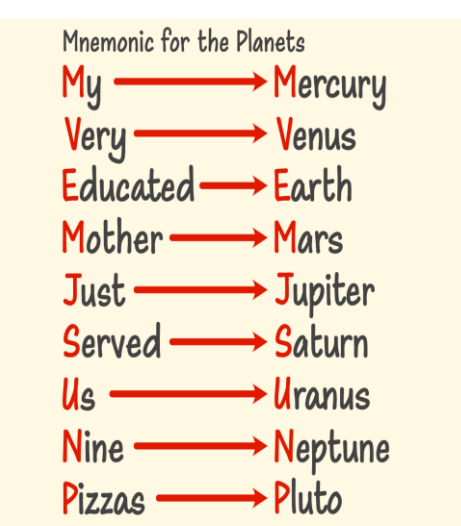
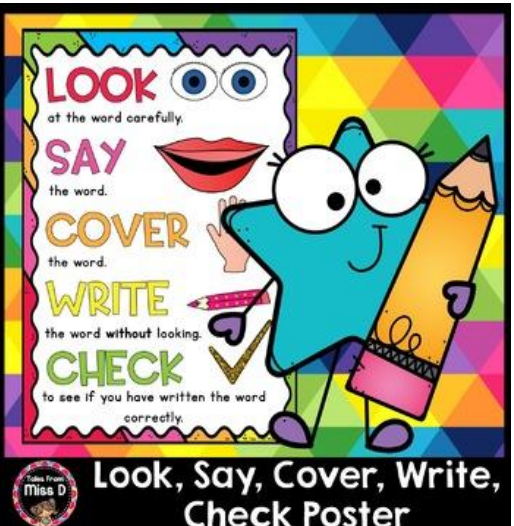
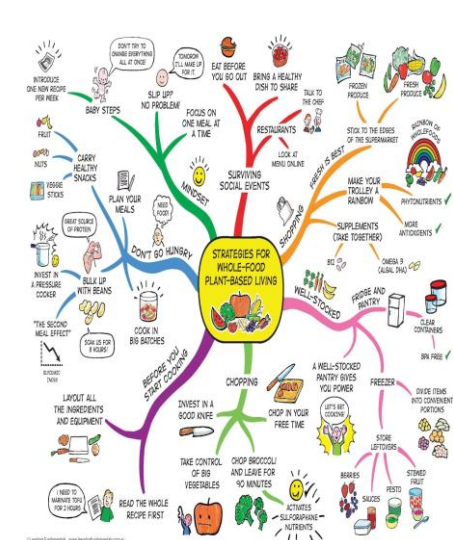
The Learning Pyramid here highlights the most effective ways to learn.

Just listening to your teacher in class (in a lecture style lesson) is the least effective way to make learning 'sticky'. **YOU** have to do something outside of lesson in order to make the essential knowledge stick in your long term memory.

When using your knowledge organiser, be active! Read, watch video clips, discuss your learning with others, practice the knowledge needed to succeed – or try teaching it to someone else. If you can teach it to another person, you know it well.

How to use a knowledge organiser – step by step guide

	Look, Cover, Write, Check	Definitions of Key Words	Flash Cards	Self Quizzing	Mind Maps	Paired Retrieval
Step 1	Look at and study a specific area of your KO. 	Write down the key words and definitions. 	Use your KO to condense and write down key facts or information onto flash cards. 	Use your KO to create a mini quiz. Write down your questions using your KO. 	Create a mind map with all the information you can remember from your KO. 	Ask a friend or family member to have the KO or flash cards in their hands. 
Step 2	Cover or flip the KO over and write down everything you can remember. 	Try not to use your KO to help you. 	Add pictures to help support. Then self-quiz using the flash cards. You could write questions on one side, and answers on the other! 	Answer the questions and remember to use full sentences. 	Check your KO to see if there are any mistakes on your mind map. 	They can test you by asking you questions on different sections of your KO. 
Step 3	Check what you have written down. Correct any mistakes in green pen and add anything you have missed. Repeat. 	Use your green pen to check your work. 	Ask a friend or family member to quiz you on the knowledge. 	Ask a friend or family member to quiz you using the questions. 	Try to make connections, linking the information together. 	Write down your answers, 



Mind mapping is a great way of representing key information from a topic in a visual way. Use colour and images to represent the knowledge you need to learn. Keep writing to a minimum; use only keywords/phrases.

Click on the link below for further guidance.

[Bing Videos](#)

Make flash cards using your KO. Write a question on one side and the answer on the other or record key- words and definitions. Test yourself frequently.

Click on the link below for further guidance.

[Bing Videos](#)

This technique is one that has been well used from primary school upwards. It is useful for rehearsing keywords, definitions and spellings. Look at the information, read it aloud, cover it up, write it down and then check it is correct.

Click on the link below for further guidance.

[Bing Videos](#)

A mnemonic is a sentence you make up where each word begins with the same letter as the word you want to remember. It is a useful technique for remembering a group of facts/words in a certain order.

Click on the link below for further guidance.

[Bing Videos](#)

Draw a basic clock and break your KO down into 12 chunks. Make notes on each chunk in the 12 clock sections, use colour and images to make it memorable. Revise each section for 5 minutes, turn over and test how much you can recall.

Click on the link below for further guidance.

[Bing Videos](#)

Recommended strategies (don't just read or highlight – get active!):

- Create mind maps
- Create flash cards
- Write out key points on post-it notes and place somewhere visible so you see and review them regularly
- Write your own quiz questions based on your knowledge organiser – leave until the next morning, next day, or next week to see how well you have retained the information
- Get someone else to test you
- Use key vocabulary from your KO in sentences
- Use the formulae, vocabulary lists, facts, processes etc on your KO to help you complete home learning tasks
- Draw diagrams and flow charts of key information
- Summarise each section into your own words – what are the MOST important facts or details in each box?
 - “Just a minute” – time yourself for 60 seconds. Can you talk about this topic or explain it to someone else without stopping for a whole minute?
- Draw images/symbols to represent the different concepts and vocabulary
- Teach someone else about this topic. Research suggests we retain even more information when we teach a topic than when we learn it or revise it.

REVISION TIPS!



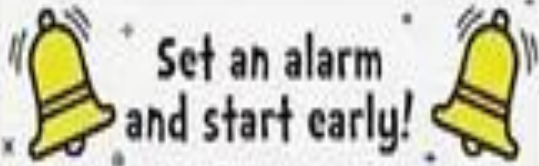
Be ready and prepared to revise



Prioritise your time



Create and use a revision planner



Set an alarm and start early!



Lock your phone and limit distractions



Set a target!

Question the question



Use a post-it note

Visualise your goal!



GOOD REVISERS

by @Inner_Drive
www.innerdrive.co.uk

POOR REVISERS

Eat breakfast



Skip breakfast

Sleep 8-10 hours a night



Get little sleep

Have regular bed times



Have inconsistent bed times

Get fresh air each day



Stay indoors all day

Exercise regularly



Do no exercise

Do past papers



Mostly revise highlighting "key" passages

Spread out their revision



Cram their revision

Keep a diary to capture negative thoughts



Dwell on worst case scenarios

Revise in a quiet environment



Revise while listening to music or TV

Drink water regularly



Forget to stay hydrated

Put their phone away during revision



Revise with their mobile phone next to them