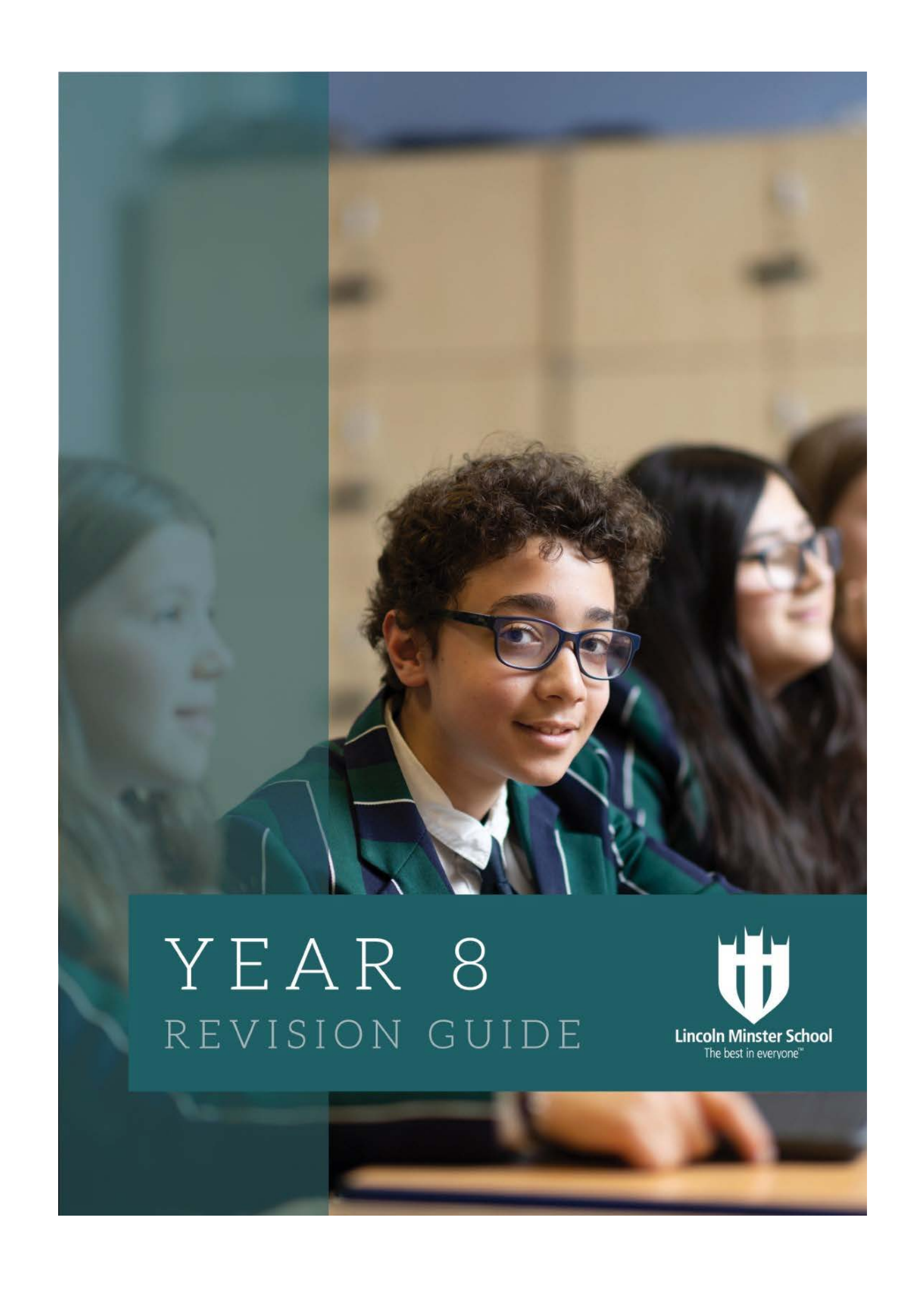


The background of the cover features a photograph of students in a classroom. A young man with curly brown hair and glasses, wearing a green and blue striped school jacket, is the central focus. He is looking slightly to the right with a gentle smile. Behind him, a girl with long dark hair and glasses is also visible, looking in the same direction. The classroom setting includes wooden lockers in the background. A semi-transparent teal banner is positioned across the lower half of the image, containing the title and school logo.

YEAR 8

REVISION GUIDE



Lincoln Minster School
The best in everyone™

Contents

Introduction	3
Exam Week	4
Revision Techniques	5
Revision Timetable	7
Art	8
Computing	9
Drama	9
English	10
French	13
Geography	15
History	18
Maths	20
Music	21
Religious Studies	23
Science	24
Spanish	25
Notes page	27

In this booklet you will find

- Advice for exam week
- Effective revision techniques
- A list of the topics you will need to revise for each of your exams

When and where are the exams?

Year 8 exams will start on Monday 19th May 2025 and finish on Friday 23rd May 2025. A copy of your exam timetable is included in this revision guide.

During exam week, you will register as normal with your tutors. You will then go to your assigned classrooms to take your exams. In lessons where there are no exams you will attend and have your normal lesson.

What equipment will I need to bring into school?

You should put your writing equipment [pens, pencils, a ruler and rubber, a protractor, a calculator and compasses] into a **clear pencil case**. This will be the case when you sit public exams in Years 10 or 11. You may also bring your bottle of water into school, with the label removed.

Equipment needs to be ready and packed in your bag the night before.

Mobile Phones

During exam week, mobile phones will **not** be permitted in school. If you do bring your mobile for safety when travelling to and from school, you **must** hand it into reception for safekeeping **before** registration. Your phone can be collected at the end of the day. We take these actions to avoid disruption to the exams – if you do not follow these rules, sanctions will be given.

iPads

During exam week, all iPads must be locked away in lockers in Form Rooms and should not be brought into the Exam Room. **Please ensure you have a lock for your locker (combination locks are ideal).**

Watches

No watches are allowed to be taken into the Exam Room (this is the case with all external exams). Watches can be given in alongside mobile phones if they are brought into school.

The night before

It is much better to keep your brain clear before an exam - do not rely on revising at the last minute. **Please do check you have all the equipment packed and ready.**

Exam Conditions

You must not talk once you have entered the exam room. You will be told where to leave your bag and books.

The teacher will put the time your exam starts and finishes on the board and will give you a warning five minutes before the end.

When you have written all you can, **check through your work.**

Make sure you leave no gaps in answers.

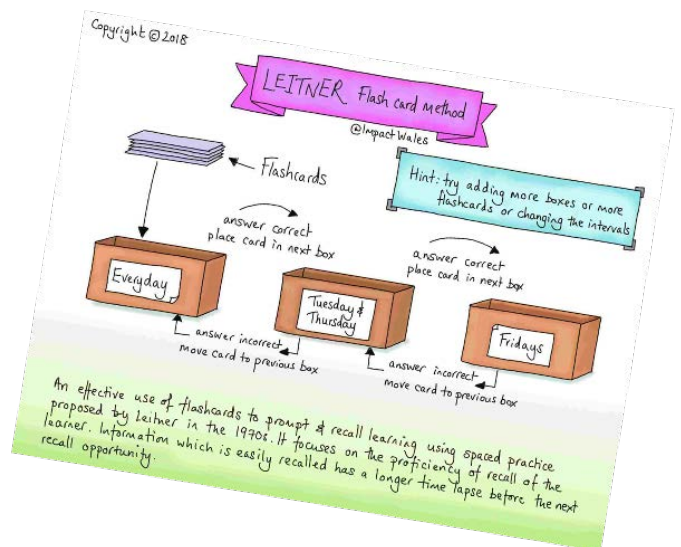
Revision Techniques

1. Retrieval Practice

Retrieval practice means bringing information to mind without looking at your notes. This strengthens your memory and helps you remember more in the future.

✓ Try This:

- Write down everything you can remember about a topic, then check your notes to see what you missed.
- Use flashcards to test yourself or get someone to quiz you - you can also use Carousel for this.
- Cover a knowledge organiser and try to recreate it from memory.

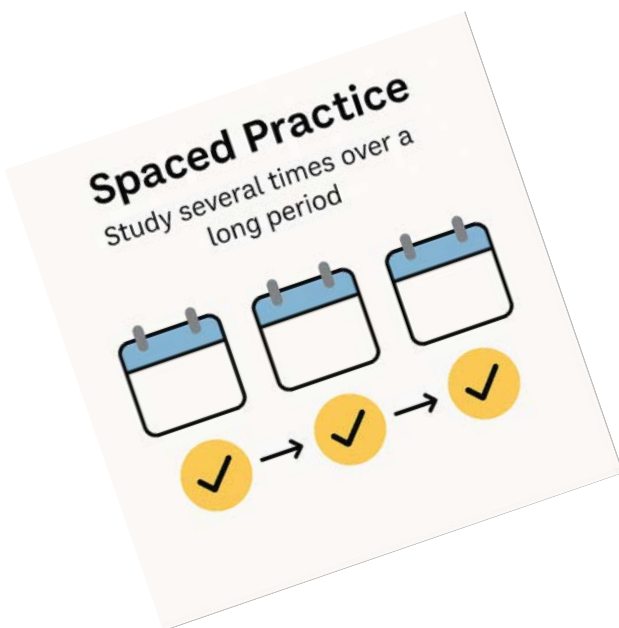


2. Spaced Practice

Spaced practice means spreading out your revision over time rather than cramming. It's much more effective to revise a topic several times with breaks in between.

✓ Try This:

- Revise for 20–30 minutes, then revisit the same topic 2–3 days later.
- Make a simple revision timetable showing when you will return to each topic.

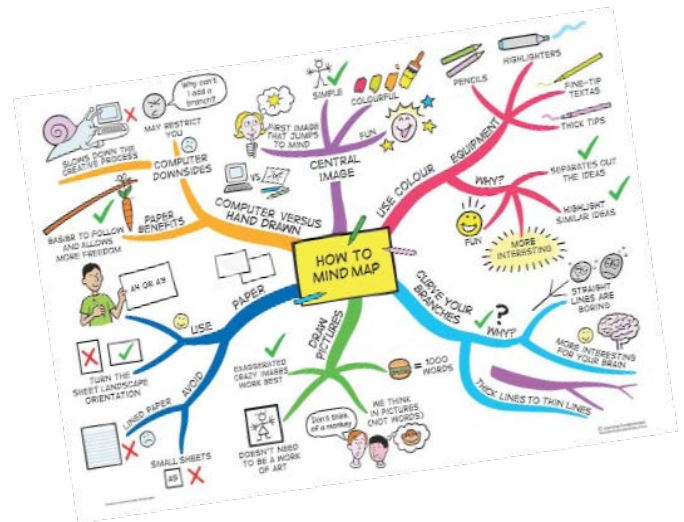


3. Dual Coding

Dual coding is when you use both words and visuals to help you learn. This could be diagrams, timelines, flowcharts, or mind maps.

✓ Try This:

- Draw a diagram to represent a topic (e.g. a cycle or timeline).
- Use colours, symbols, or icons to help link ideas.
- Look at visuals in your knowledge organiser and add notes around them.



4. Elaboration

Elaboration means explaining and describing ideas in as much detail as possible, using your own words. It also includes making connections to other knowledge.

✓ Try This:

- Ask yourself: 'Why is this important?' or 'How does this link to what I already know?'.
- Talk through topics with someone else.
- Write out explanations for key ideas and facts.



Revision Timetable

Review each subject on the night you would normally have homework for it.

If you'd like to create a timetable, keep in mind that this counts as preparation, not actual revision. You can use the template provided below to help you get started!

Monday	Weekly Revision Timetable Key areas of revision to focus on this week: 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.	Thursday
Tuesday		Friday
Wednesday		Saturday
	Sunday	

The Art exam will be an hour-long test of your drawing skills based on the theme of the landscape.

In your Art lessons leading up to the exam your teacher will teach you the key skills necessary to complete the exam. You will also be given homework exam prep tasks; these must be included as part of your final exam submission. Make sure they are properly labelled as “your name_surname_exam prep” when submitted with your Art exam on the day.

In the exam you will produce an A4 sized landscape drawing. Resources will be provided for you to work from.

The **key skills** you are being tested on are:

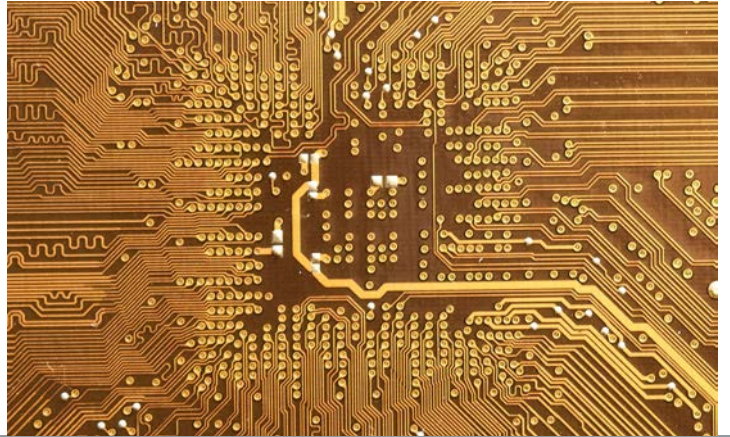
- **Observation:** Your ability to draw accurately what you see.
- **Shading:** Your ability to use line, tone and form.
- **Distance:** Your understanding of objects in the foreground, middle ground and background.
- **Composition:** Your understanding of how the objects are arranged on the paper and their size.
- **Detail:** Your ability to show the finer areas of detail in your work.
- **Texture:** Your ability to consider the surface texture of the objects.
- **Shadows:** Your ability to consider light and shade in your drawing.
- **Creative Awareness:** Your ability to develop a successful creative outcome. Use of preparatory material: traditional & digital.



Computing

In Computing we carry out a formal assessment at the end of each topic. For this reason, there is no exam at the end of the year in this subject.

The exam percentage that we include in the end of year report is calculated from the sum of the scores achieved in these topic tests.



Drama

The exam will be a Practical assessment. Students will be assessed on their final performance and contribution to the group. They will keep a logbook of their work and use notes to write an evaluation of the process under exam conditions.

No specific revision is necessary, but students might find it useful to ensure they understand the following terms: monologue; split scene; thought- tracking; hot-seating; writing in role; still-image.



Animal Farm

Key Information

- Author: George Orwell
- Genre: Allegorical novella / Political satire
- Form: Prose narrative with third-person omniscient narrator
- Context: Written in 1945, reflecting events leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the rise of Stalinism.

Key Characters:

- Napoleon – Tyrannical pig, represents Joseph Stalin
- Snowball – Intelligent and idealistic pig, represents Leon Trotsky
- Boxer – Hard-working horse, symbol of the exploited working class
- Squealer – Propagandist pig, represents media manipulation
- Old Major – Visionary pig, represents Karl Marx/Vladimir Lenin
- Mr Jones – Neglectful farmer, represents Tsar Nicholas II

Key Themes:

- Power and corruption
- Manipulation and propaganda
- Betrayal of revolutionary ideals
- Class struggle and inequality
- Education and ignorance

Language Tips:

Look for:

- Allegory: Each character and event represents real historical figures/events.
- Irony: The animals believe they are free, but are more oppressed than ever.
- Repetition: “Four legs good, two legs bad” shows how language is simplified to control.
- Structure: Cyclical – ends where it begins, showing a lack of progress.



Harlem Renaissance Poetry

Key Information

- Key Poets Studied: Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, and Georgia Douglas Johnson
- Context: Cultural and intellectual movement of African American writers, artists, and thinkers in the 1920s-30s based in Harlem, New York.

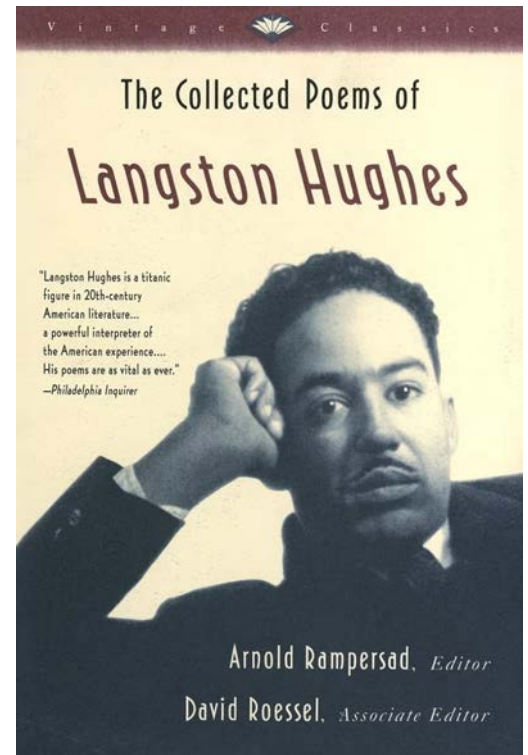
Key Themes:

- Racial pride and identity
- Struggles against racism and injustice
- Hope and resilience
- The beauty of African American culture

Poetic Devices to Revise:

- Metaphor and simile
- Imagery and symbolism
- Rhyme, rhythm, and structure
- Tone and voice

Example: In Langston Hughes' 'I, Too', the speaker's hopeful tone contrasts with the reality of racial segregation.



Exam Tips

Reading & Analysis

- Always refer to the writer's purpose and historical context.
- Use the PEEZ structure (Point, Evidence, Explain, Zoom-in on word/language).

Example:

"All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others."

This paradox shows the manipulation of language and hypocrisy in leadership.



Creative Response

- **You might be asked to:** Write a diary entry or monologue from a character's perspective
- Create your own poem inspired by Harlem Renaissance themes
- Describe a dystopian or politically charged setting



Advanced Writing Tips

- Experiment with structure and syntax to create voice
- Use a rich and varied vocabulary
- Apply figurative language techniques deliberately
- Reflect complexity in tone and purpose



Final Reminders

- Memorise key quotes with analysis
- Practice timed analytical and creative writing tasks
- Consider the impact of historical context in both texts
- Read your work aloud to refine it for clarity and fluency



French

The exams for French will consist of a reading, writing and listening paper. The listening section will take place the week before or after the exam week in a normal lesson.

Although some pupils may not yet have covered all of the topics below, you will have done so by the time you get to the Year 8 exams.

All key vocabulary and grammar is in the revision folder on Showbie.

“Vive les vacances”

School holidays
Avoir & Etre
Past tense- What you did on holiday
Where you went



“J’adore les fêtes”

Dates & Festivals
Buying food
Say what you are going to eat and do on future trips



“A loisirs”

TV programmes
Technology
Going to the cinema
Leisure activities



“Le monde est petit”

Where you live
Jobs around the house
Daily routine



“Le sport en direct”

Sports
Opinions
Directions
Injuries and illness
Champions



Bonne Chance!

The geography exam will consist of one paper covering the following topics:

- Ecosystems
- Tectonics

Students have their books, Showbie and Seneca to help revise. In addition, revision techniques will be covered in lessons.

At home students can use some of the following methods to help them revise:

- There are useful videos covering each of the topics on BBC Bitesize and 'Time for Geography'.
- Creating flashcards on Quizlet
- Teaching a friend or family member about different parts of each topic.
- Practice drawing and labelling diagrams (e.g. river profiles, features of a volcano)
- Label key locations on a blank world map (e.g. plate boundaries, countries mentioned in case studies).
- Trying Geography quizzes/games related to each topic online.

Case studies to know:

Ecosystems:

- The Amazon rainforest
- The Sahara Desert

Tectonics:

- White Island 2019 eruption
- Japan 2011 earthquake and tsunami
- Haiti 2010 earthquake

Ecosystems

What to cover:

- Where are global biomes located?
- What are some examples of biomes?
- Where are tropical rainforests located?
- What is the climate like in tropical rainforests?
- What are the different layers of the rainforest and what are they like?
- What is the nutrient cycle?
- How have different plants and animals adapted to living in tropical rainforests?
- What are the causes and effects of deforestation in the Amazon?
- How can we manage/use rainforests sustainably?
- What is the climate like in hot deserts?
- How have plants and animals adapted to living in hot deserts?
- What opportunities and challenges are present in the Sahara Desert?

Key words

- Biome
- Ecosystem
- Climate
- Decomposer
- Biomass
- Litter
- Nutrient cycle
- Adaptation
- Deforestation
- Sustainability
- Rubber tapping
- Sustainable logging
- Stakeholder
- Ecotourism



Tectonics

What to cover:

- How is the earth structured?
- What are convection currents? How do they work?
- What are the 4 different types of plate boundaries?
- How do the plates move at each plate boundary?
- How are volcanos formed, and which plate boundaries do we find volcanoes at?
- What are the different types of volcanoes?
- What are the different hazards from volcanoes?
- How can we monitor volcanoes?
- How can we predict volcanic eruptions?
- How can we prepare for volcanic eruptions?
- What causes earthquakes?
- How can we predict earthquakes?
- How can we plan for earthquakes?
- How can we protect against earthquakes?

Key words

- Mantle
- Crust
- Inner core
- Outer core
- Oceanic crust
- Continental crust
- Convection currents
- Tectonic plate
- Constructive plate boundary
- Destructive plate boundary
- Conservative plate boundary
- Collision plate boundary
- Shield volcano.
- Composite cone volcano
- Magma chamber
- Lava
- Magma
- Pyroclastic flow
- Tsunami
- Lahar
- Richter scale
- Mercalli scale
- Epicentre
- Focus
- Seismic wave
- Seismograph



History

Use these key questions and answers to revise the main content for your end-of-year history exam. You will also need to make and elaborate on the key topics as shown at the end

Question	Answer
Why did Henry VIII break from Rome?	He wanted a divorce, a male heir, and to gain power and money.
What was the Act of Supremacy?	It made Henry head of the Church of England.
Why was Elizabeth's Religious Settlement important?	It helped avoid civil war by pleasing Catholics and Protestants.
What caused the Spanish Armada to fail?	Bad weather, a strong English navy, and poor Spanish planning.
What was the East India Company?	A British trading company that took control of parts of India.
How did the Industrial Revolution affect cities?	Cities grew rapidly and became overcrowded and unhealthy.
What was child labour like during the Industrial Revolution?	Children worked long hours in dangerous factories.
What is an interpretation in History?	A historian's opinion or view based on sources.
What makes a source useful?	Its content, origin, and purpose help us understand the past.
Who was Mary, Queen of Scots?	Elizabeth I's cousin, a Catholic threat to the throne.
What was the Dissolution of the Monasteries?	Henry closed Catholic monasteries and took their wealth.
Why was religion such a big issue during the Tudor period?	England switched between Catholic and Protestant rulers.
What was the purpose of the Spanish Armada?	To invade England and restore Catholicism.
What is an empire?	A group of territories ruled by one country.

For more revision questions and quizzes, log in to Carousel with your school login and search 'Y8 History End of Year'.

You will also need to be able to explain the key topics shown below:



**HENRY VIII &
THE BREAK WITH ROME**



**ELIZABETHAN
ENGLAND**



**ENGLISH
CIVIL WAR**



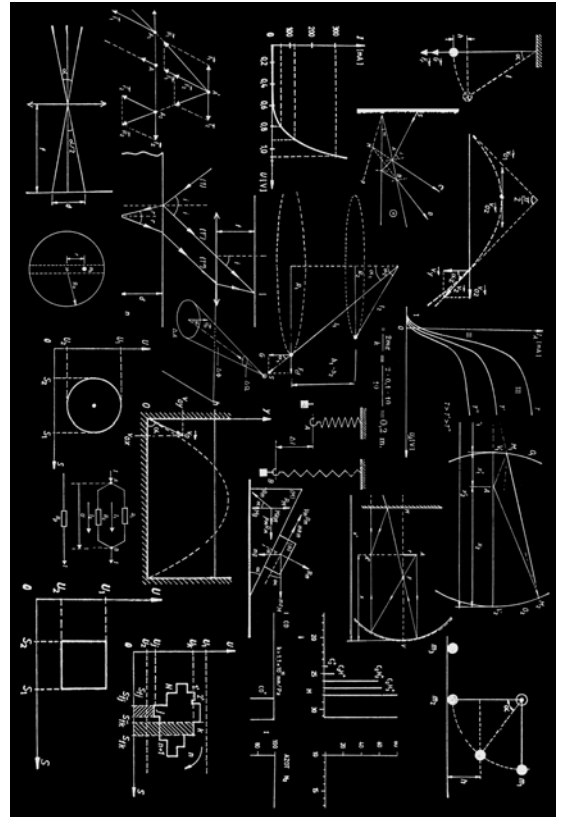
EMPIRE & INDUSTRY



Class teachers will also provide a more detailed list of what to revise on Showbie.

Showbie

- Averages from frequency tables
- Circumference & Area of Circle
- Algebra – simplifying expressions
- Expanding brackets
- Factorising
- Solving Equations
- Graphs
- Simultaneous Equations
- Volume
- Pythagoras' Theorem
- Standard form
- Indices
- Probability
- Add / Subtract / Multiply / Divide
- Fractions, Decimals and Percentages
- Ratio
- Interior and Exterior angles in polygons
- Area of 2d shapes
- Transformations



Music

The end of year exam will be a listening exam followed by a written exercise based upon the topics covered this year. For the listening part of the exam you will be played short extracts of music and will then be required to answer questions about the music you have listened to. The music will be based around the topics studied in music this year; Programme Music, Musicals, Jazz and Blues and Computer Game Music.

Use the Music Showbie class as your main source of revision. If you do not understand anything or need extra help, please ask your music teacher for help.

Please ensure that you are fully equipped for the exam.

Remember all music notations should be done in pencil.

Programme Music

Programme music is a piece of music based around an initial theme. For example; a picture, poem, season etc. This style of music was particularly popular in the Romantic Era, with composers such as Debussy and Saint – Saëns. You created a piece of music reflecting a 'Haunted House'. In this project you used your knowledge of the elements of music; dynamics, tempo, texture, timbre, pitch and duration. You also learnt about Motifs in music.



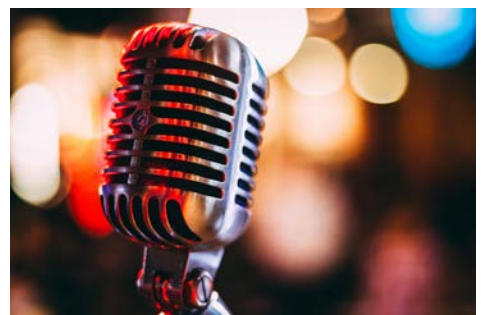
Musicals

You learnt about Musicals and their origins. We recapped the different voice types; Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. You learnt the importance of music in a show to drive the action and bring the storyline forward.



Jazz and Blues

You have learnt about jazz and blues music and the key characteristics of them. Jazz music contains; syncopation, improvisation, riffs, walking bass. Blues music is based around the 12-bar blues, using blues notes, AAB structure in lyrics, usually lyrics are 'blue'. What instruments traditionally play jazz? What is chord? Do you know how to create a chord? What is the importance of chord I, IV and V? What are the 12 bar- blues?



Computer Game Music

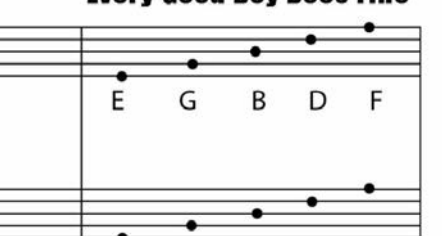
You learnt about Computer Music and how it adds to the gaming experience. You learnt about how the music can be changed to match the action on the screen. You consolidated your knowledge of garage band. In particular, the importance of leitmotifs.



General Information to Help

The Treble Clef

Bass Clef

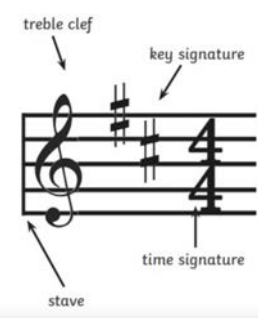
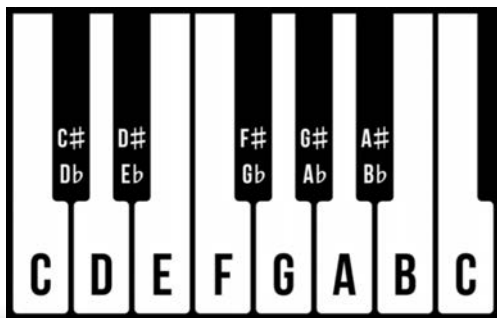
F A C E				Every Good Boy Does Fine			
							
A C E G				G B D F A			
All Cows Eat Grass				Good Burritos Dont Fall Apart			

Notes

				
UK Semibreve	Minim	Crotchet	Quaver	Semiquaver
US Whole Note	Half Note	Quarter Note	8th Note	16th Note

Notation

Keyboard Notes

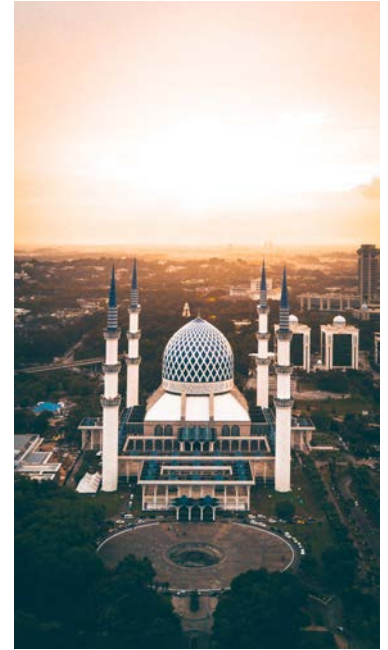
	
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Work to revise from can also be found on Showbie in the RS class folders. Also, revise your notes from your exercise book.

What you will need to know:

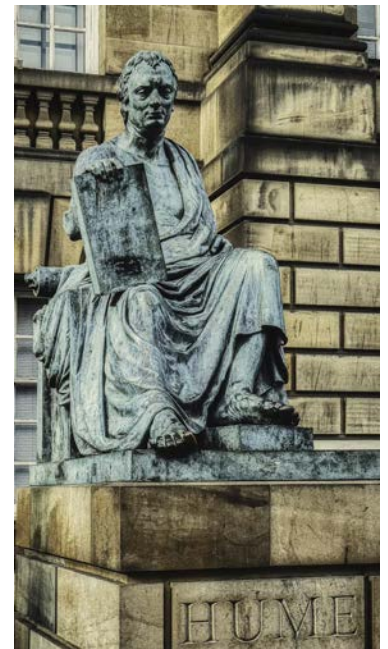
Topic 1: Islam

- Pre-Islamic Arabia - Tribal, divided society; Polytheism; Mecca was a major trade centre
- Prophet Muhammad: The Qur'an - Received Qur'an from God; Qur'an is unchanged word of God
- The Hijrah and Conquest of Mecca - Fled to Medina (Hijrah), formed first Ummah; Peacefully conquered Mecca
- The Final Sermon - Taught equality, women's rights; human rights; Hadith accuracy sometimes debated
- Sunni/Shia Split - Dispute over leadership after Muhammad; Abu Bakr vs Ali
- Islamic Caliphates - Islam expanded into a large empire; Rashidun, Umayyad, Abbasid
- The Five Pillars - Shahada, Salah, Zakah, Sawm, Hajj; Still central to Muslim life today (e.g. Ramadan, charity work)



Topic 2: Philosophy of Religion

- Who is God?
- God of classical theism: all-loving, all-powerful, all-knowing
- Traits shown in religious scripture
- Focus on arguments about God's existence, not just belief
- Theist: believes in God
- Atheist: believes there is no God
- Agnostic: unsure if God exists
- Empiricism (evidence) vs faith as ways of knowing
- William Paley's watch analogy: world like a watch needs a designer
- Adam and Eve: first humans created by God in Genesis
- Eve Tempted by the serpent (Satan), they disobeyed God and ate the fruit
- Introduced concept of original sin – separation from God

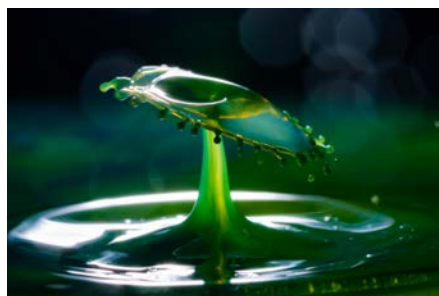
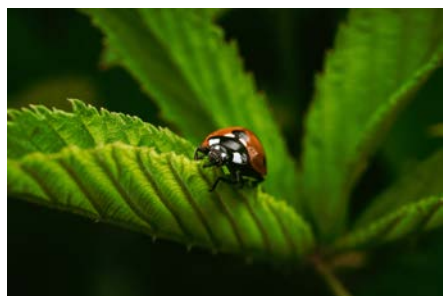


Science

For your science exams, you will sit three papers in total, one for each science, lasting 45 minutes each. They will test your knowledge of topics covered this year, as well as working scientifically (i.e. planning experimental work, presenting and analysing data, and evaluating methods).

The substantive topics for each exam are as follows:

Biology	Physics	Chemistry
7BC - Cells, tissues, and organs	7PE – Energy	7CP – Particles
7BR – Reproduction and variation	7PF – Forces and motion	7CC – Chemical reactions
8BD – Digestion and nutrition	8PL – Light and sound	8CP – The Periodic Table
9BB – Biological systems and processes		



- To revise, you should use the methods described at the front of this booklet. To help, the following resources are available to you:
- Revision booklet – read through the information on a page, then answer the questions on the next page. Check and correct once you have filled everything in. Repeat this several times in the run up to the exam. These booklets will be uploaded onto Showbie by your teacher.
- Carousel Learning – use the flashcards and self-quizzing to test yourself regularly on the key information and knowledge. Your teacher will provide you with a link to the relevant study packs.

Spanish

The exams for Spanish will consist of a reading, writing and listening paper. The listening section will take place the week before or after the exam week in a normal lesson.

Although some pupils may not yet have covered all the topics below, you will have done so by the time you get to the Year 8 exams.

All key vocabulary and grammar is in the revision folder on Showbie.

“Mis vacaciones”

Talking about a past holiday
Saying what you did on holidays
Describing the last day on holiday
Saying what your holiday was like



“Todo sobre mi vida”

Saying what you use your phone for
Saying what type of music you like
Talking about TV
Saying what you did yesterday

“¡A comer!”

Saying what food you like
Describing mealtimes
Ordering a meal
Discussing what to buy for a party
Giving an account of a party



-
- Preterite of ver “ir”
 - Preterite of regular – ar verbs
 - Preterite of regular – er and – ir verbs
 - Using the preterite of “ser”
 - Revising the present tense
 - Giving a range of opinions
 - Using the comparative
 - Using the present and the preterite
 - Using a wider range of opinions
 - Using negatives
 - Using the near future

- Using 3 tenses together

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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