

Making Effective Revision Notes (The Cornell Method)

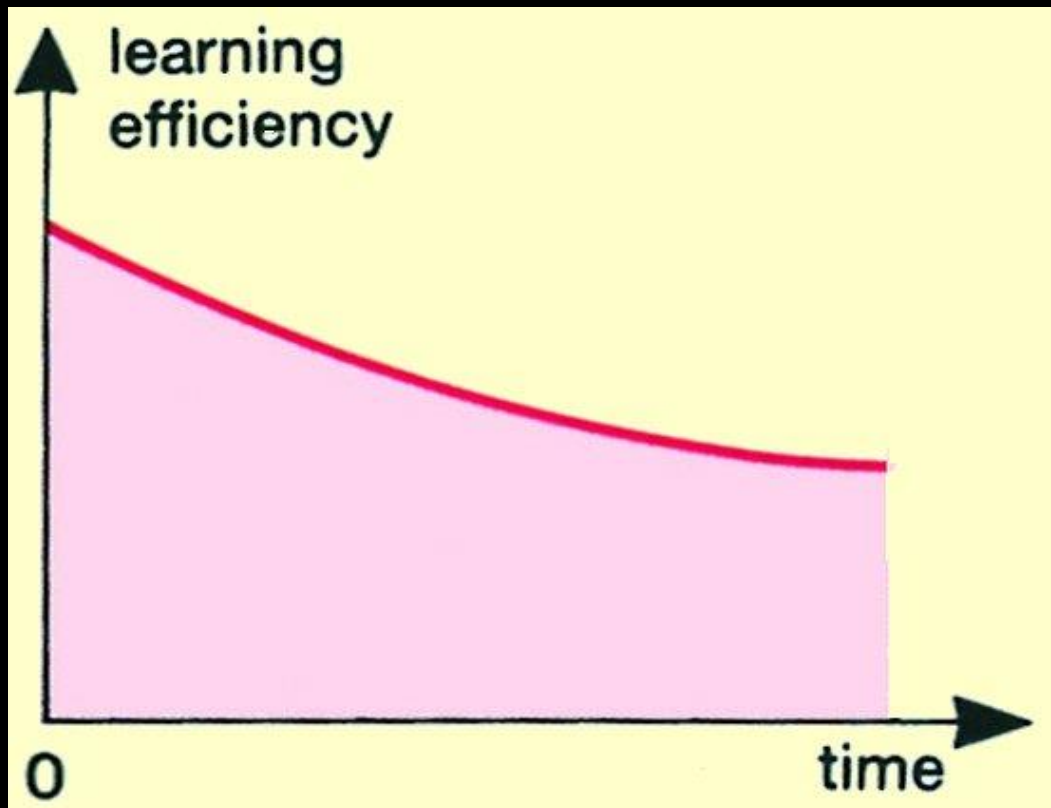
Mr Peter Jones
Head of Biology

Why should you revise?

- your brain forgets details of the work you did months ago,
but...
- you need these details to answer the questions in the exam,
so...
- you need to 'top-up' by using the correct revision technique

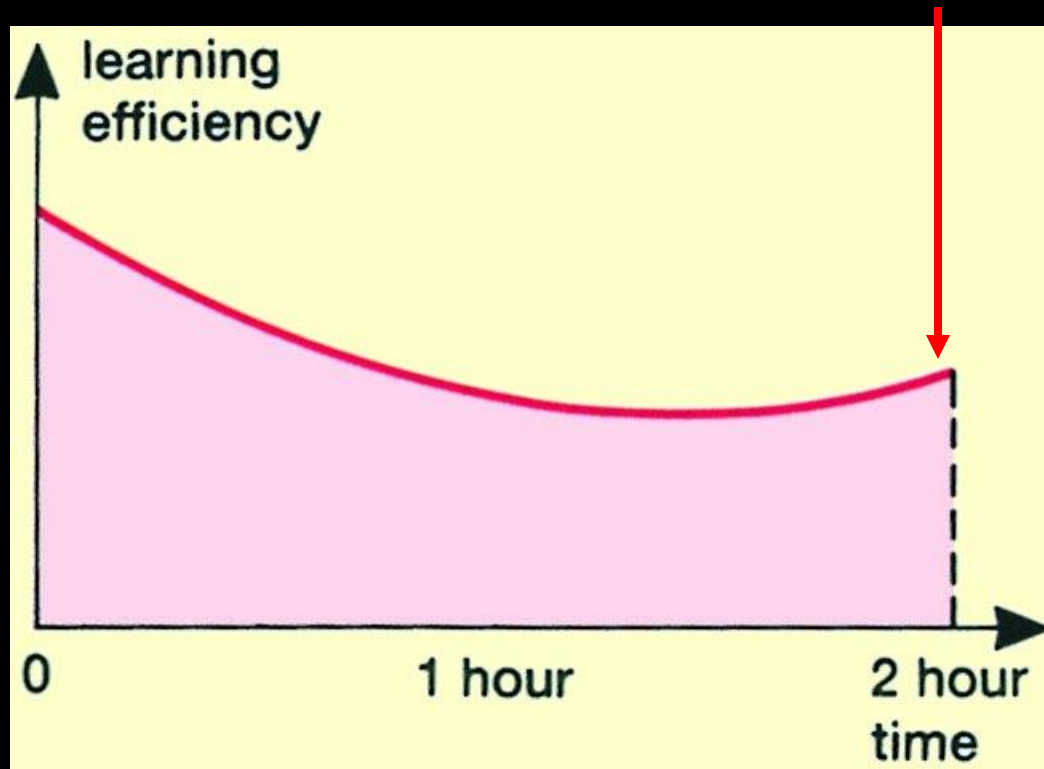
How should you revise?

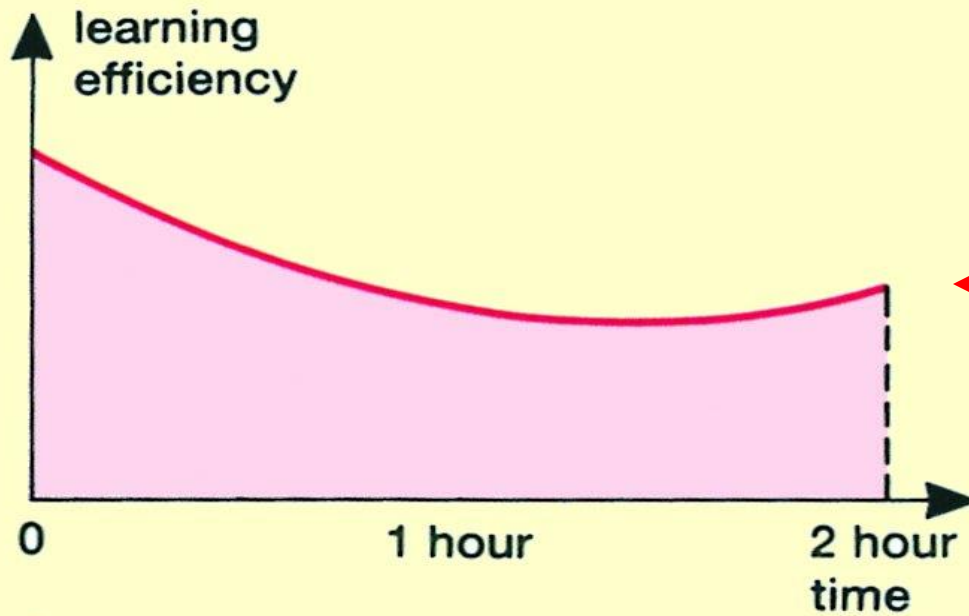
- If you just sit down to revise, without a definite finishing time, then your learning efficiency falls lower and lower, like this:



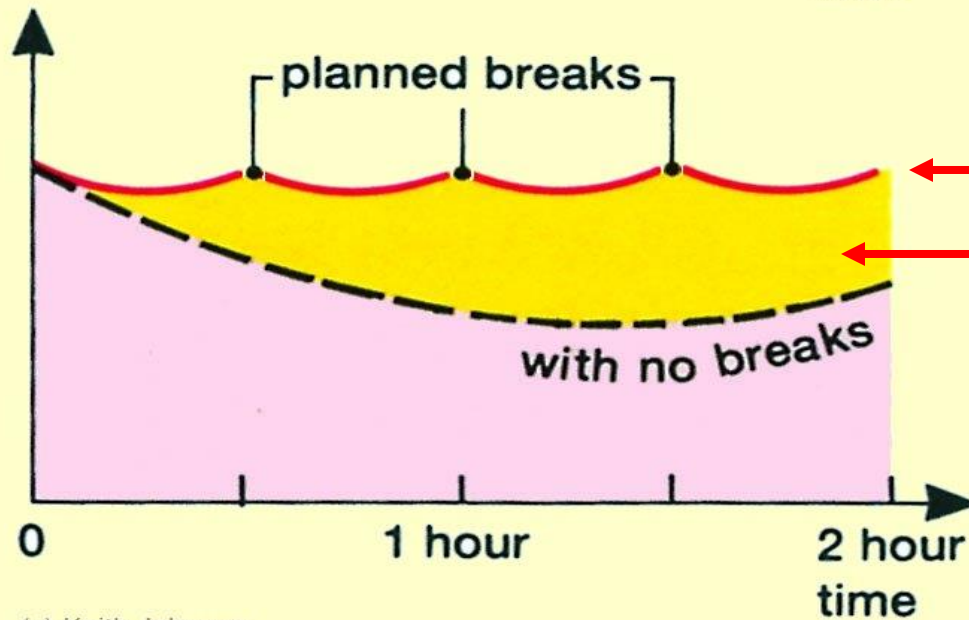
How can you improve this?

if you decide at the beginning how long you will work for, with a clock, then as your brain knows the end is coming, the graph rises towards the end





one solid session

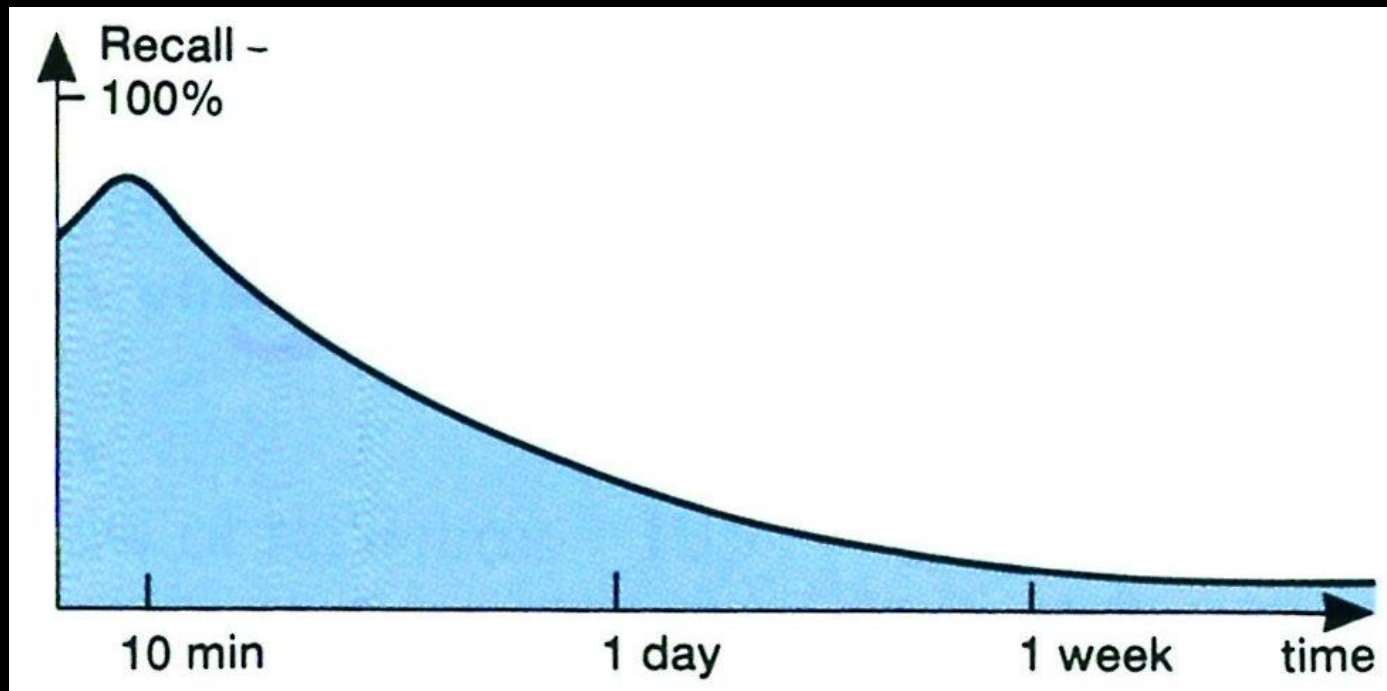


4 shorter sessions
the yellow area shows the improvement



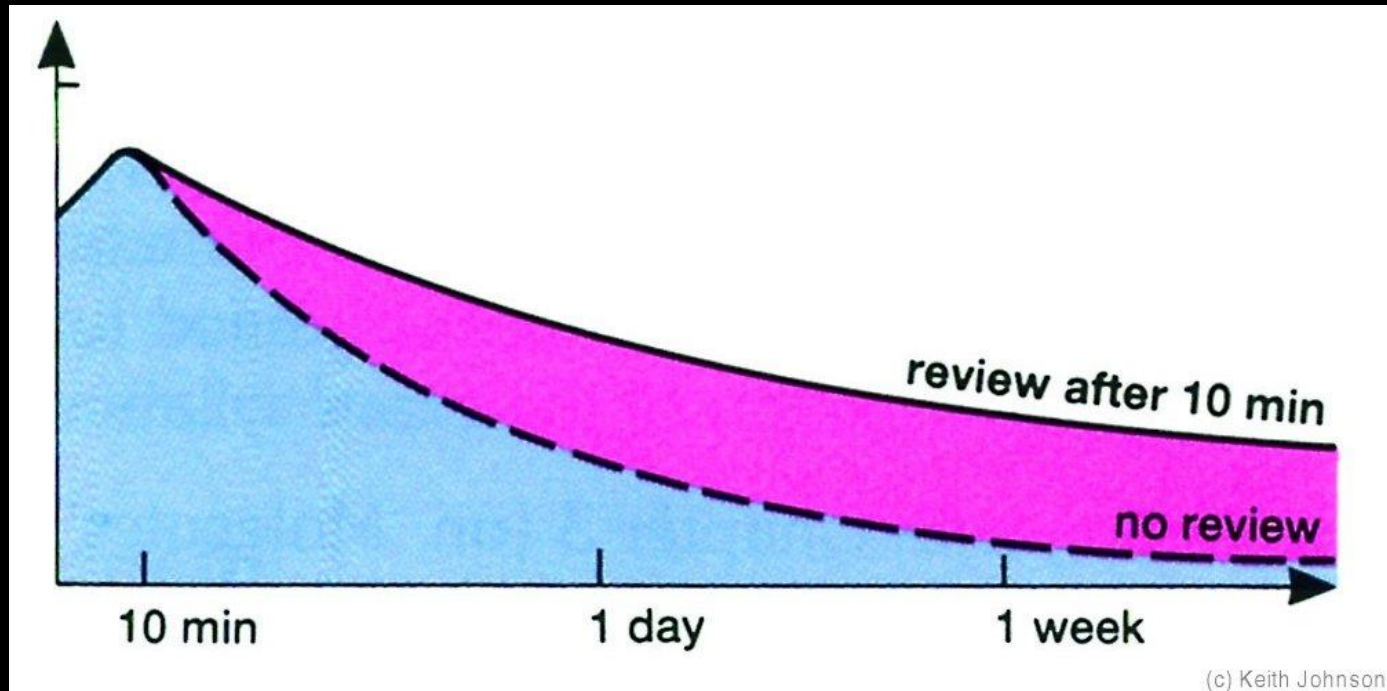
How often should you revise?

- This shows how much your brain can recall later
- It rises for about 10 minutes ...and then falls



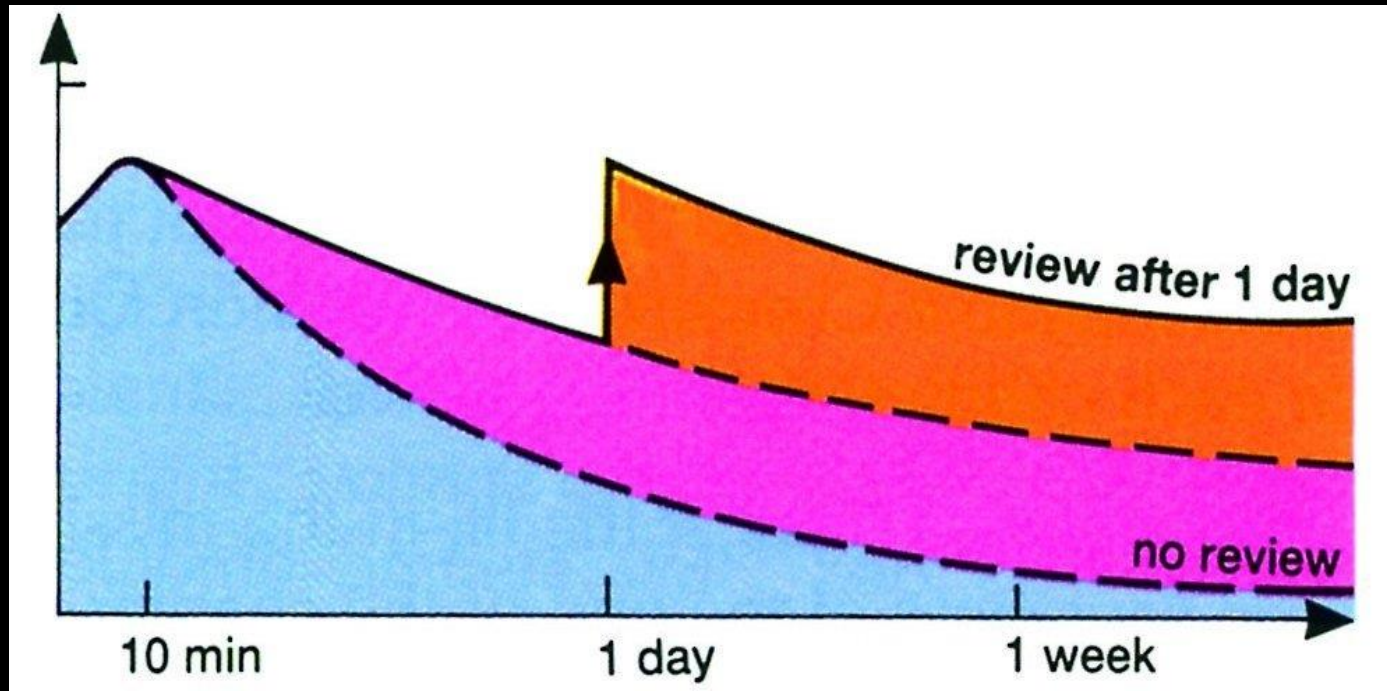
However

- If you quickly re-revise after 10 minutes, then it falls more slowly! this is good!



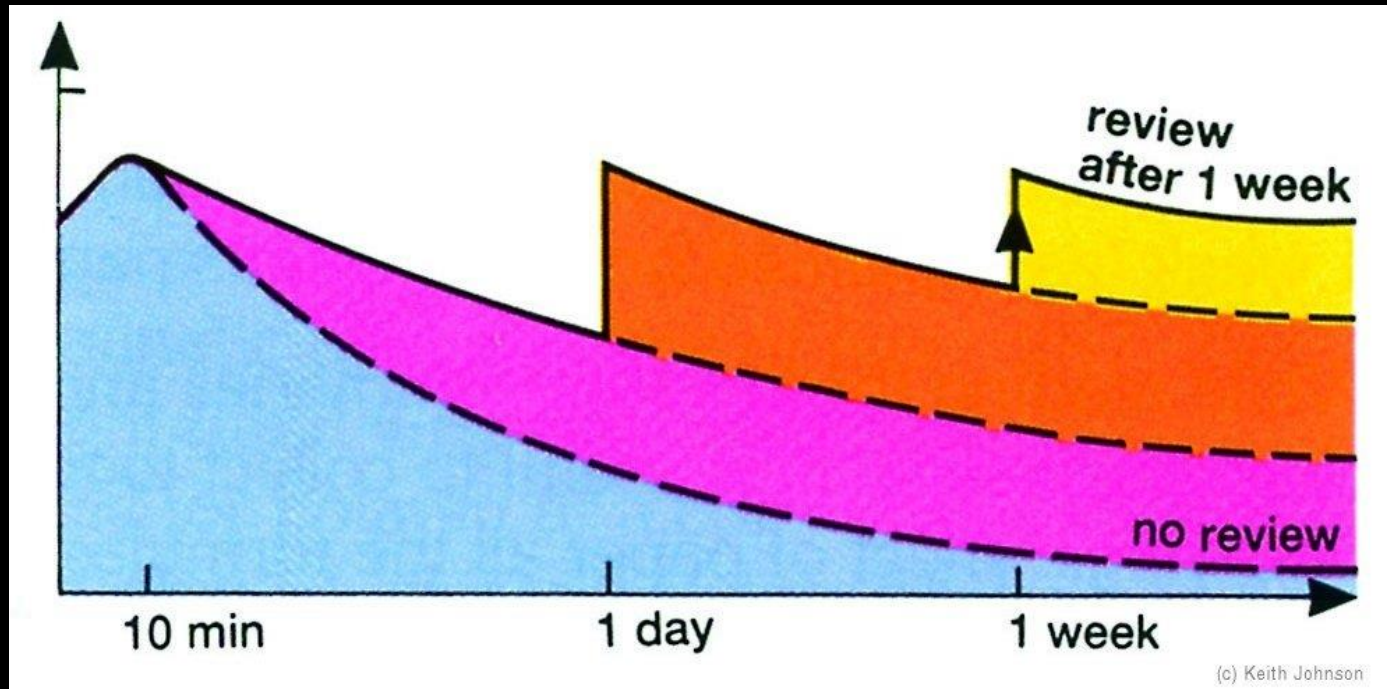
Even better

- if you quickly re-revise again, after 1 day, then it falls even more slowly! great!



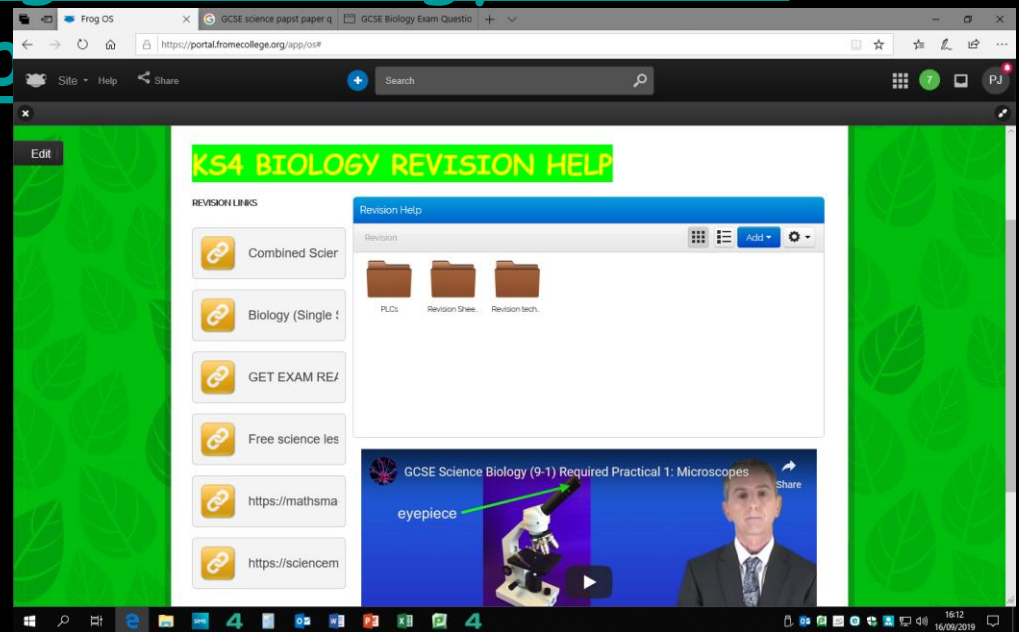
And even better still

- If you quickly re-revise again, after 1 week, then it falls even more slowly! excellent!



How to revise 'actively'- Effective use of exam questions

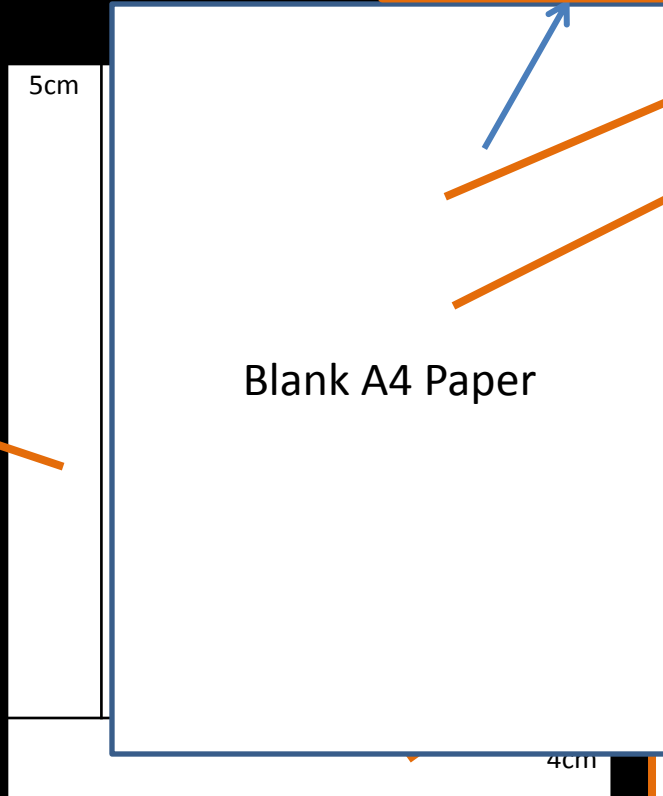
- <https://sciencemathsmaster.weebly.com/gcse--science.html>
- <https://mathsmadeeasy.co.uk/gcse-biology-revision/gcse-biology-exam-questions-by-top>



How to revise '...ly'- Adapting the C... system



Key points
Read through the notes you have made. Write down the key words and key phrases in this section



Transfer questions to make flash cards

Notes
Write the revision notes

Look at your key points and transfer questions linked to them. Write them on this sheet.

Transfer your summary onto a cue card

Summary
Write down a mini summary of the notes which appear in the box above. This must be in your own words. Include all the key words and phrases.

How to revise 'actively'- Effective use of YouTube

Examination board

Different examination boards cover different material

GCSE or KS4

This will ensure the work is at the right level

The screenshot shows a YouTube search results page for the query 'OCR GCSE heart B3'. The search bar at the top contains the text 'OCR GCSE heart B3'. Below the search bar, there are several video results. The first result is 'Cells | B3 | GCSE OCR Gateway Additional Science' by N Harmonia, with a duration of 2:42. The second result is 'B3 OCR Biology GCSE' by NottsAST, which includes two videos: 'B3 The Nitrogen cycle' (7:29) and 'B3 The Carbon cycle' (7:02). The third result is 'OCR Additional B3 revision' by StreetlyScience, which includes three videos: 'B3h GM crops and arguments revision video' (4:24), 'B3g Cloning, Genetic engineering, Selective breeding revision video' (9:28), and 'B3 - Cloning Plants - Additional Science, OCR Gateway GCSE Revision' (3:01). The fourth result is 'B3 - Functions of Blood - GCSE Additional Science, OCR Gateway'.

Other suggested videos

Be careful you do not end up on the You Tube video link trail that always leads to...

Kittens



How to revise 'actively'- Mind Maps

Mind map

Generate a mind map using short sharp sentences, key words and diagrams.

Learn; Cover; Draw; Compare

Learn it

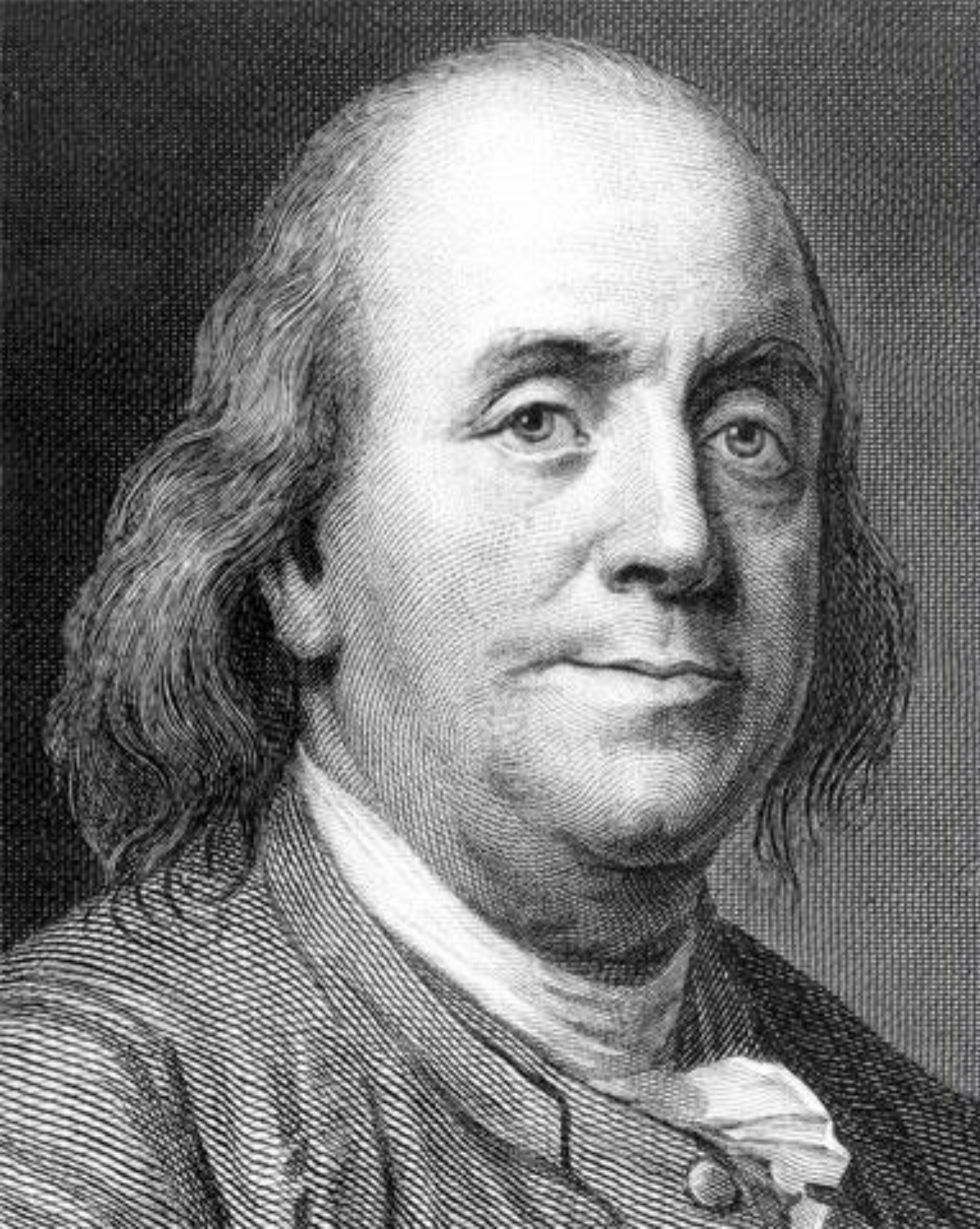
Place the mind map in a prominent place – you need to actually learn it!

Cover it

Cover the mind map with a blank sheet of paper try to redraw it

Compare it

Compare the new mind map with the original – the difference between the two is what you now need to learn



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

(1706-1790)

An investment
in knowledge
pays the best
interest.

