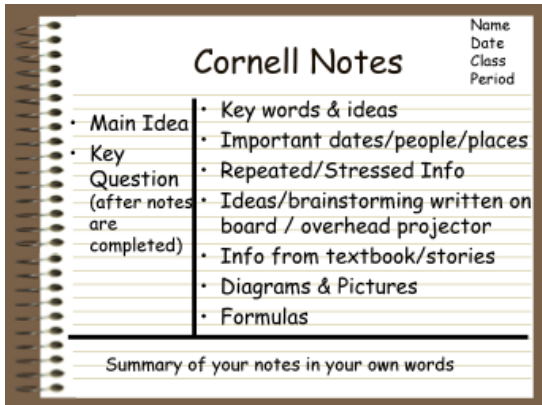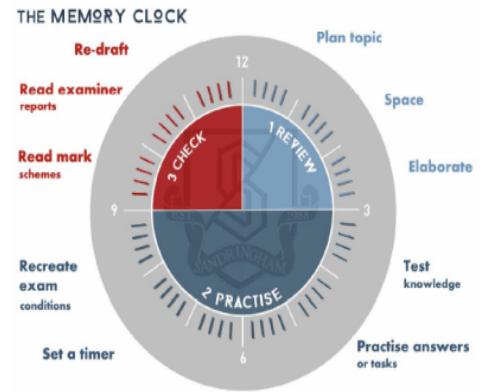# How do we revise for drama?

Deliberate Practice

Set aside time to practice improving your knowledge and drama theory skills. Choose what you need to do, it must be tough enough to challenge you, and practice, practice, practice! You should focus on something that you are almost able to do but not just yet.
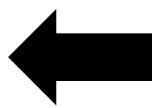
How to use in drama

1. Use a model answer from your teacher, pull it apart and identify the key parts. Then answer a similar question and try to replicate.
2. Study material, complete practice questions in timed conditions. Then use your notes to correct/improve your answer. A week later, redo a similar question. Repeat as necessary.

The Cornell Method

This method can be used in your revision notes as a great method to get you to 'think' about your revision. Simply split your page into 3 sections as shown on the diagram on the left.
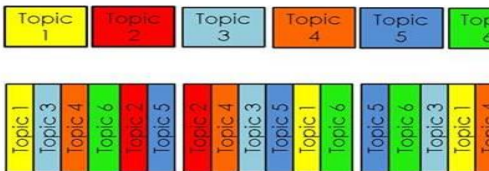
- Note taking
- Cues
- summary

How to use in drama

Use it to summarise your knowledge of performance and technical knowledge, for example:

- the positive and negatives of different stage layouts
- knowledge of key characters
- lighting/ set/ sound in Things I know to be true
- historical/social/ cultural knowledge in Blood Brothers

Interleaving

Rather than revising all of your topics in one go (cramming), you should revise 'chunks' of a topic for small amounts of time (15 minutes) and then move onto another 'chunk' from a different topic. This will improve your memory!

e.g. 15 minutes on stage shapes, then on key characters

How to use in drama

1. Create a revision plan to cover topics you need to cover (least confident first!) and then go back over them again later
2. Practice sample exam questions for both Blood Brothers and Things I know to be true

The Big Picture

The best way to aid your understanding of drama is to make sure you are confident with the big 'overview' of the story before you begin revising separate topics.

How to use in drama

1. Create a timeline to identify the key events in a topic and colour code the themes e.g. the narrative of Blood Brothers
2. Mapping out what you can remember about a topic before you start e.g. the use of set in Things I know to be true

Practicing using PETER

- **Point** – stating the point of the paragraph
- **Evidence-** Linking your point to a specific moment in the play
- **Terminology-** Using specific Drama key words
- **Explain-** Analyse the impact on you whether positive or negative
- **Refer-** your ideas back to the original question

Plan the structure of the essay you would write for this question. Don't forget to use CUE

- **C-** Circle the command word
- **U-** Underline the key words
- **E-** Extend words that have more than one element

How do we revise in drama?

Three common revision techniques that are **least** effective in helping you revise are:
- Highlighting texts
- Re-reading
- Summarising text

Whilst these methods may feel like you are revising, there are many better methods to help you revise:

Flashcards

Simply create with questions on one side and answers on the other side. You can colour code for specific topics and quiz yourself or others. Post its can also be useful

How to use in drama

Key words Create for key words and terms

Characters Create for what we know about the key characters?

How to impact an audience Create for techniques to impact your audience

Narrative Create to show the order of the narrative

Using flashcards

Using the Leitner Method, using t

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C20EvKtdJwQ&feature=youtu.be

You can also create excellent flashback cards online or on your phone using Quizlet which also has an app

There are a variety of ways to use flashcards in revision for the skills you need

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Retrieval Practice

Testing what you know is a powerful tool in revision, the effort to remember something really strengthens your memory.
Apps such as Memrise and Quizlet allow you to use or create your own quizzes based on topics.
Create them, test yourself or get someone to test you, it works!

How to use in drama

Spaced
Test on old and new topics mixed up

Knowledge organisers
Use these to create 'must' know quizzes

Examples
'Give two examples of…'

Factors/Causes/Consequences
To identify 2-3 factors, causes of an event/person e.g. the class divide

Types
There are a number of types you can create:
- Multiple choice questions
- True or false
- Short explanation questions
- Odd one out
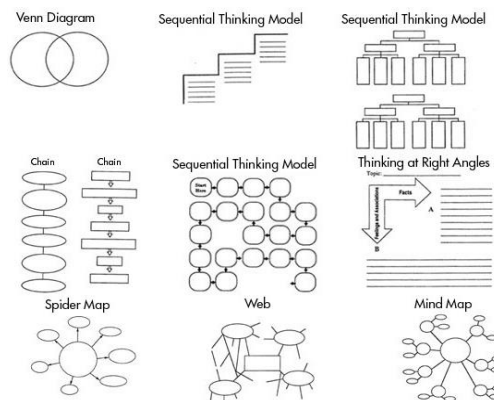- If this is the answer then what is the question

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Transform It
Graphic organisers are a great way of 'transforming' your notes/information into visual revision topics.

They can be used to create links, show a narrative, identify the causes/consequences and importance of something. They can also be used to help you to identify different techniques and styles.
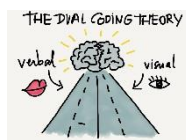
How to use in drama
1. **Causation** – create a visual flow diagram of the chronological events in a time period e.g. the Thatcher era
2. **Change and continuity** – Create a Venn diagram to show the similarities and differences in Eddie and Mickey
3. **Concept mapping –** at the end of a week mind map all you can remember about a topic and link the areas together. Then add to your mind map what else you need to remember using your notes.

Dual Coding
Dual coding is the method of putting your Knowledge into visual form alongside words. It increases the chances of you remembering it

How to:
1. Look at your notes and visuals, compare these to the words
2. Look at visuals and explain in your own words what they mean.
3. Take information that you are trying to learn and draw visuals to go with it