

Whatever qualification you're studying for, this guide will give you tips on how to:

- study smarter
- plan revision for exams
- use scientifically proven methods to improve your memory

Getting started with studying can feel a bit daunting. A good place to begin is to find out your learning style, so you can work smarter, not harder.

Use this quiz to find out what type of learner you are, and what techniques might suit you best.



WHAT TYPE OF REVISER ARE YOU? TAKE THE QUIZ!

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You have to study 'Of Mice and Men' for your English exam. How do you prefer to revise?

- A** Watch the film or see it on stage
- B** Listen to an audio book or to the teacher
- C** Read the book alone

?

You have to do a report for media studies on a piece of popular news. How do you prepare?

- A** Gather loads of news stories and highlight the important bits
- B** Discuss the news stories with your classmates
- C** Make notes on current news stories

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In classes like chemistry, what type of lessons do you enjoy the most?

- A** Experiments or demonstrations
- B** Listening to the teacher explain theories and discussing them
- C** Reading from your textbook and taking notes on the key points

?

Your friend wasn't in class and you have to tell them what they missed. How would you go about it?

- A** Draw a flowchart to show each part of the theory
- B** Explain in your own words or simplified terms
- C** Show them your notes and summarise

Everyone's brain works differently and it can be good to use a variety of different techniques when revising. Are flash cards your thing? Or do you prefer diagrams or mind maps? Take this quiz to find out.



If you mostly answered As

You remember things better when you see something visual that explains the topics you're studying.

Try these revision tips:

- Draw your own diagrams, cartoons or illustrations to remember big or difficult topics.
- Watch a video or documentary.
- You can't draw everything – add smaller doodles to your notes.
- Find infographics, posters and other visual resources online to help you.



If you mostly answered Bs

You learn best by listening to someone talk about a subject and then discussing it through.

These tips are also worth a try:

- Teach someone. This involves discussion, understanding and interpretation, and is ideal for remembering your topic.
- Make a podcast from your lesson notes with NotebookLM (find out how to do that on page 7).
- Record yourself talking about the topic, then upload it into an AI tool and ask it to identify any gaps.



If you mostly answered Cs

Old fashioned written notes work best for you, but try these tricks to save time and avoid boredom.

Why not have a go with these ideas?

- Post-it notes. Everywhere! Flash cards. For the epic note taker, these smaller cards help you focus on what's important.
- Try blurting. Write your notes down over and over again until you remember everything. www.bcu.ac.uk/blurting