

## Revision Techniques

- Keep your notes well spaced and colourful, as this makes them more interesting and easier to read.

Write them like this:

### Marble

It was once limestone that came under great heat or pressure.

It is a hard rock and is white, red or green in colour.

Example: Connemara, Co. Galway.

### Quartzite

It was once sandstone that came under great heat or pressure.

It is a white- or grey-coloured rock.

Example: Sugar Loaf, Co. Wicklow.

Instead of like this:

Marble: It was once limestone that came under great heat or pressure. It is a hard rock and is white, red or green in colour. Example: Connemara, Co. Galway.

Quartzite: It was once sandstone that came under great heat or pressure. It is a white- or grey-coloured rock. Example: Sugar Loaf, Co. Wicklow.

During your revision, these notes should be shortened to main points of information that you can scan before the exam. These words can be written on flash cards so that they are easy to look over quickly before the exam.

Example:

### Rocks

- Marble: Limestone, great heat/pressure, hard, white/red/green, Connemara.
- Quartzite: Sandstone, great heat/pressure, white/grey, Sugar Loaf.

- Start your revision with material that you find the hardest, as you are fresher and better able to give it your full attention.
- At the end of a revision session, answer a few questions to see if you have retained the information studied.

## Exam Time Allocation

Total time: 2 hours = 120 minutes	
10 mins	Read the exam questions and jot information into your rough work section.
25 mins	Section 1: all 20 short questions.
25 mins	Section 2: first long question (your best).
25 mins	Section 2: second long question.
25 mins	Section 2: third long question.
10 mins	Read back over your answers and correct any mistakes.



## Main Exam Question Terms Explained

1 A **one-sentence** answer is expected from questions with these words:

- Name
- Examine
- State
- What is/are?
- Identify
- Indicate
- List

2 A **paragraph** answer is expected from questions with these words:

- Explain
- Describe
- Outline
- Give reasons why
- Suggest
- Give arguments
- Account for

## Exam Equipment Needed

- Two pens
- Pencil, eraser, etc
- Ruler
- At least three colouring pencils: blue, green and yellow

## Answer Layout

- All questions should follow the **SEE** format: Statement, Example, Explain.
  - Make a **Statement** about the topic.
  - Give an **Example**.
  - Then **Explain** (or **Develop**) your point.

*Example:*

- Irrigation is the artificial watering of land. (*Statement*)
- There are large irrigation schemes in the Murray-Darling Basin, Australia. (*Example*)
- Seventeen per cent of the world's farmland is irrigated, making it highly productive. (*Explanation/Development*)

- All questions should be **backed up with examples** if possible.
- In your answer booklet, **label the first two pages 'Rough Work'**.
  - Use this section to **jot down any information** that comes to your mind before, during and after reading the exam paper.
  - **Refer back to it** as you write your answers.
  - You can also use it to **help you structure your answers** and to **make sure you have not left out any valuable information**.
- Underline the important information** in the question to make sure that you answer it correctly:

*Example:*

'Describe two possible reasons for the depletion in fish stocks in the seas around Ireland.'



- Answers need to be **well laid out**, in **paragraph form** and with **separate headings for the different sections**.
- Use the **marking scheme** to give you an idea of how much to write: if it is 10 marks, write approximately ten lines of information. **Do not waffle!**
- Use the following guidelines for **drawing diagrams**:
  - All diagrams should be drawn in **pencil only**.
  - They should have a **frame around them drawn with a ruler**.
  - They should always be **labelled**.
  - They do not need to be coloured in, but if you have time, **light shading does improve the overall effect**.
- If you are answering a graph or table question, always **use information from the graph or table** to back up your answer.

## Exam Hints and Tips

- The **mapwork and photograph question** comes up every year, so make sure to study these sections.
- Look over **charts, diagrams and cartoons from your textbook and old exam papers** to give you an idea of what can come up and what type of questions are asked.
- **Hand up all material with your exam answer booklet**, including the sheet used for measuring distance, as this can all go towards your overall mark.
- Make sure to **read back over your answers at the end of the exam**: you would be surprised at the amount of mistakes you make when you are writing quickly! Often you will have left out words and valuable pieces of information. New information can come to you as you read the answers again.
- If you get stuck on a question, **leave a space and come back to it later**. Do not delay.
- If you run out of time towards the end of the exam, start writing the main points of your answers in **bullet points**, to get as much information down as quickly as possible.
- In your answers, **include as much information as possible from relevant sections in the book**, if you have enough time. This is the only time you get to show that you studied this information!
- Time allowing, **answer each part of an either/or section** of short questions.
- Do an **extra long question** if you have the time, as you will be marked out of your best three questions.
- **Use past exam papers to practise questions**. The previous year's exam paper is the one that will be most similar to yours.
- Keep an eye on **major geographical events during your 3rd year**, as questions on these can appear in the exam, e.g. in 2007 **global warming** was a major issue.