



# *Get to know the exams*



# Get to know the exams

If you look at **how you will be tested** - you will be able to get more marks

Page 21 CPG guide

Look at the **specifications** for each subject - they are all online and freely available.

**Know the AOs - assessment objectives** - Knowledge? Application? Evaluation and Analysis ?

**What will you get marks for?** Working out? Labelled diagrams? Labelled axis and titles? SPaG? Planning?

**Practice** papers and PPQs

Do as many practice questions as possible

Past papers, questions in textbook and revision guides

1. Practice in timed conditions
2. Use the mark scheme
3. Read examiners reports
4. Do it all again and get higher marks



**Making mistakes now is ok, as you can learn from them before it is too late.**



# Get to know the exams

## Command words

*List, name, identify, outline, describe, suggest, show, calculate, explain, discuss, how far do you agree, how useful is, analyse, evaluate...*

Read all questions a few times to check the meaning - **focus on the command word**

Use the number of **marks to guide how much you need to write**

**Underline, circle** the command words

If it says '**refer to source**' you must make reference to it by quoting or paraphrasing.



# Get to know the exams

## Essay Skills

**Planning** is key - work out how you will structure your answer and what information will you include.

Planning needs to be **quick** - just a few moments - bullet points / keywords.

Then once planned - get straight into writing your answer

Practise planning answers as part of your revision regime

## Your essays

Write in standard English - formal, not informal

Use correct key phrases and terminology.

Explain points clearly, use examples - structure the points you are making PEE

Link your points with connectives - however, furthermore, similarly..

## Check SPaG

Spellings - avoid common errors; there they're their

Punctuate properly and use CAPITAL letters where appropriate.

Paragraphs for new points

If you have time at the end proofread your work.





# Read the Questions carefully

**Some exam questions may appear to be a bit weird!**

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Be prepared for questions that you initially misread or ones that flummox you!

- Some questions are overly wordy.
- Some questions ask you to judge how useful something is.
- Some questions will give you novel unseen materials that you have to understand quickly.
- Some questions will use case studies or well known events.

Being prepared for these will increase your chances of success.



*Night before and  
day of your  
exams*



# On the day

## Night before the exam

CPG page 43

Eat properly and drink plenty of water!

Get your **bag packed** - double check stationery and necessary equipment

**Double check** when and where you need to be.

Do something **relaxing** and get to bed on time. Remember to an alarm!

## Morning of your exam

Have a **healthy breakfast**, take some snacks for after your exam.

**Skim read** through a few flashcards or revision mats.

Don't revise anything new.

Leave with plenty of time to travel.

**Stay calm** - if hearing other people talk about the exam is stressful, move away from them.

**Get in the zone! :)**





# *In the exam*



To **aspire**, **endeavour** and **thrive** together.





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CGP page 43

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# Info from JCQ



**NO IPODS, MOBILE PHONES  
MP3/4 PLAYERS  
SMARTWATCHES**

**NO POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL/WEB  
ENABLED SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

Possession of unauthorised items, such as a mobile phone, is a serious offence and could result in

**DISQUALIFICATION**  
from your examination and your overall qualification.

This poster must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room.

03317 - Effective from 1 September 2017



Joint Council for  
Qualifications CIC



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# *In the exam*

Organise your desk space - make sure you are comfortable

Check you have all necessary equipment

Breathe, calm, focus

Read the front of your exam paper, check it is the correct paper and tier

Listen to instructions

Complete the front when told to

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## **When told to start**

Flick through the paper

Read questions carefully, then read them again!

Circle / underline command words and key information.

Read instructions carefully, especially if you have a choice of questions or sections.

Watch the time; stay on track. If you need to move on to the next part, make sure you do.

Ignore people around you.

If you need more paper to finish a question, just ask the invigilator.





# *In the exam*

## **Dealing with FEP - (frequent exam panics)**

**Can't answer a question** - move on to the next question and come back to it.

**Running out of time** - Do short answer questions first to get as many marks as possible. Then jot key points or information that you would have put into an essay

**Realise you have answered it wrong** - part way through. Double check, then cross out and start again, ask for more paper if needed.





# After the exam

## After the exam

It's too late now, so don't worry

If it stresses you listening to friends talk through answers - that's fine, leave them to it.

If you followed the 10 week plan, did all possible revision - you have done the best you can.

Take time to relax and then get yourself ready for the next exam.

Remember to eat, drink plenty of water and sleep properly.

Stay focused on your exams until they are all done.

When all of your exams are finished - you feel a little lost!

*What to do now? All this free time!*

Tidy away revision notes and resources - don't bin them.

Take time to destress, set some plans in place for the long summer ahead.

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To **aspire**, **endeavour** and **thrive** together.