



Independent learning at A-Level



I N D E P E N D E N T L E A R N I N G

Each week, you should be doing 5 to 6 hours of independent work for each A-Level subject. This is as well as homework you have been set.

Here are some ideas – make sure you are *actively* doing something to help you learn and reinforce the material covered in the course. Colouring in or re-writing your notes is not an effective way to reinforce learning.

- 1) Make a short film using your phone to illustrate some of the ideas and facts you have been learning about.
- 2) Organise your notes into revision flash cards to help you revise. The best way to do this is to draw a table in Word – definition in one column and keyword in the other.
- 3) Go through your revision cards, ten at a time. Put in 3 piles – 'know well', 'partly know', 'don't know'. Then go through again the ones you don't know or partly know
- 4) Teach a topic to someone else who knows nothing about your subject.
- 5) Set one of your topics to music/ write a rap to help learning.
- 6) Present a topic visually using lots of colours, pictures and shapes to help you to remember it.
- 7) Make up a funny, weird or unusual essay title based on a topic and then answer it.
- 8) Choose a topic and find an article, Podcast or a YouTube video/ TED talk related to it. Apply the reliability test when you choose: ask yourself – is it RELEVANT, is it RESPECTABLE?
- 9) Redraft an essay you have done – try to improve it based on feedback.
- 10) Choose a topic you don't enjoy. Write a quiz for your teacher/ study buddy. Add a score for each one: 1 point for an easy question, 2 for medium, 3 for hard.