

Coping with exams

A-level Biology

The essay question in Paper 3 tests synoptic skills. Include at least four different topic areas from the specification in your answer to get a mark above 15.

GCSE Science

Be ready to apply what you know about the use of scientific apparatus and techniques to practical situations you may not have met before.

GCSE Business

Where a question asks you to use an item or a figure, make sure you do this and answer the question about the context you've been given in the case study.

GCSE Business

If a question asks you to use a formula to perform a calculation, make sure you state the formula and show all your workings.

A-level History

For the extract question on paper 1, you should identify the argument(s) and evaluate their strengths and limitations using relevant knowledge and understanding.

A-level Biology

Address the theme of your chosen essay title. Mention how the biological importance of what you've written is related to the title of your essay.

GCSE Science

Use appropriate scientific vocabulary to show the examiner that you understand scientific ideas and techniques.

A-level History

For the source question on paper 2, remember that the value of a source changes depending on the question being asked. So, focus on the value (and limitations) of the sources for the issue in the question.

A-level Chemistry

Be prepared to apply your knowledge of practical work to new contexts.

GCSE History

We've added an extra 15 minutes for paper 1 and paper 2 to give you more reading and thinking time.

A-level Chemistry

The practical questions will often ask you to apply the skills you've learnt during practical activities to situations you won't necessarily have come across before.

GCSE History

Take time to read through the sources and interpretations on each paper before you answer questions on them. You may also want to briefly plan your answers to the longer essay questions before you start writing.

A-level Physics

Practise the maths skills listed at the end of the specification – make sure you understand them all.

We've put together some top tips to guide you through the important things to remember in the exam hall.

A-level Physics

Show all your working and make sure your intermediate numerical values are clearly set out.

GCSE RS

The essay question in Paper 3 tests synoptic skills. Include at least four different topic areas from the specification in your answer to get a mark above 15.

A-level MFL

Don't start writing the essay straightaway. You should spend 20-25 minutes planning, 30 minutes writing the essay and 5-10 minutes reading it through and checking it.

GCSE Languages

Using a variety of structures and vocabulary will help you get marks for the quality of your language.

A-level RS

A01 questions will always ask you to 'examine' and A02 will always ask you to 'evaluate this claim'.

A-level RS

You should spend 18 minutes answering a 10-mark A01 and 27 minutes on a 15-mark A02.

GCSE RS

The 12-mark A02 questions are worth 50% of the marks for the whole exam, so it's important that you leave yourself time to answer them. You should have approximately 12 minutes to write your answer.

REMEMBER Your examiners want you to do well.

They're real people who have sat exams before themselves and they understand what the exam experience is like. Find more advice at bit.ly/2YzM9TV