

## Key Stage 3 &4 Exam Preparation Course

When it comes to taking international exams, it is not just about how much you know. You also need to know how to revise effectively, how to approach the exam, and how to use your time wisely both in the revision period and during the exam itself. This 10 hour course is aimed at students who are preparing for examinations, or will be in the next few years, and want to develop their understanding and skills. It is written by an ex - Oxford and Cambridge/Edexcel/AQA Examiner.

On this course you will understand how mark schemes are applied and where you should focus in different parts of the exam. You will also understand how to understand the rubric of the question, how to manage your time so you don't waste any, and many tips and tricks to impress the examiner. The course includes brain-based accelerated learning techniques which means you will understand your own learning style and how you should best revise and optimise your memory.

The course materials will include texts typical of those selected in exams, including unseen texts, and opportunities for students to work with past papers from a range of exam boards, and to practice working under pressure and in timed conditions.

By the end of the course, students will:

- know how to make a comprehension revision timetable for all their school subjects
- have a list of revision tips suited to their unique learning style
- will know how to make 'mindmaps' as a revision and memory aid, according to the original Tony Buzan methodology
- Will be familiar with the format of typical exams and what is being tested in each section
- will have developed a range of reading skills, using annotation and highlighting
- will have understood where to focus in the writing exam and have practised short timed exercises.
- will know how to plan and construct an exam style essay under timed conditions
- will know how to allocate time and stick to this, including checking time
- will learn some brain-based learning tricks to help them stay calm before and after an exam, and what to do if they freeze in the exam
- will understand how mark schemes are applied so they don't waste time on things that are not in the mark scheme, (for example, did you know that making small grammatical or spelling errors in a reading exam will not affect your mark?)

Lesson	Topic	content
1.	Learning styles and revision  Exam format	- How your brain learns, stores and remembers - what is your learning style? - how you should organise, record and revise according to your learning style - making a revision timetable and sticking to it  - examination paper format/rubric
2.	English Language Reading	- past papers - English Language exams – reading skills - how to write the answer - mark schemes – how to pass and how to get higher grades
3.	English Language Writing	- past papers - English Language exams – writing skills - how to write the answer - mark schemes – how to pass and how to get higher grades
4.	English Literature	- past papers - English Literature reading skills - approaching unseen texts - how to write the answer - mark schemes – how to get higher grades

5.	Approaching the exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- timing</li><li>- working under pressure</li><li>- staying calm</li><li>- tips to get high grades</li><li>- preparing physically (helping your brain and your hand!)</li></ul>