Avoiding Boredom



It can become very tedious using the same revision method all the time. Be prepared to try other methods. Sometimes a change is as good as a rest! Consider the following alternative methods and try some that seem to appeal to you.

Reading Rapid Revision books:

These books greatly reduce the amount of material you have to read and so save a lot of time. The "padding" has been removed, clearly displaying the "need to know" information. These books allow you to revise far more frequently than you could if using the textbooks.

Reading your Notes:

Good personal chapter notes allow very frequent revision. The time spent making out these notes is well rewarded.

Self-testing using Study Cards:

When a chapter is mastered study cards allow you to stay in control because you can revise the chapter very quickly and therefore very frequently. These study cards only contain the main headings of the chapter or your notes on the chapter. The idea is that if you can remember the headings the details should automatically follow. If the details fail to follow you can check them in the chapter or your notes.

Writing full answers to questions from past papers:

Full answers take a lot of time. You should do this for some questions to practise your depth of answering and timing so that you will not lose marks because of bad technique on exam day. Many of the past papers questions will be given as homework so do your best and correct them neatly and accurately in a different colour.

Include answers to questions as part of your study because exams don't just test your ability to remember information they particularly test your ability to answer questions.

Reading 'old' homework:

This is great revision especially if you have written and corrected them neatly. Many of these questions are similar if not identical to those you will see on the exam paper. These 'old' friends now won't let you down.

Daydreaming with a purpose:

Listening to Jimmy Magee a famous sports memory man and commentator being interviewed on the radio brought this method to mind. Seemingly in his early days as a reporter Jimmy didn't have a radio in his car. So to pass the time as he drove around Ireland he would try to remember the details of the major sporting events of the past. Without realising it he was laying the foundation for his fantastic rapid recall of all things sporting. Practise Jimmy's method when you have spare time.

Quiz and be quizzed

This is a brilliant method of study. All you need is a willing partner. This is a method that students often use in a free class. Students use it to avoid boredom but it is powerful learning as well as great fun.

Study is not easy, you have to work at it. The more you accomplish in school the easier it is at home.