

Part 2- Revision Strategies

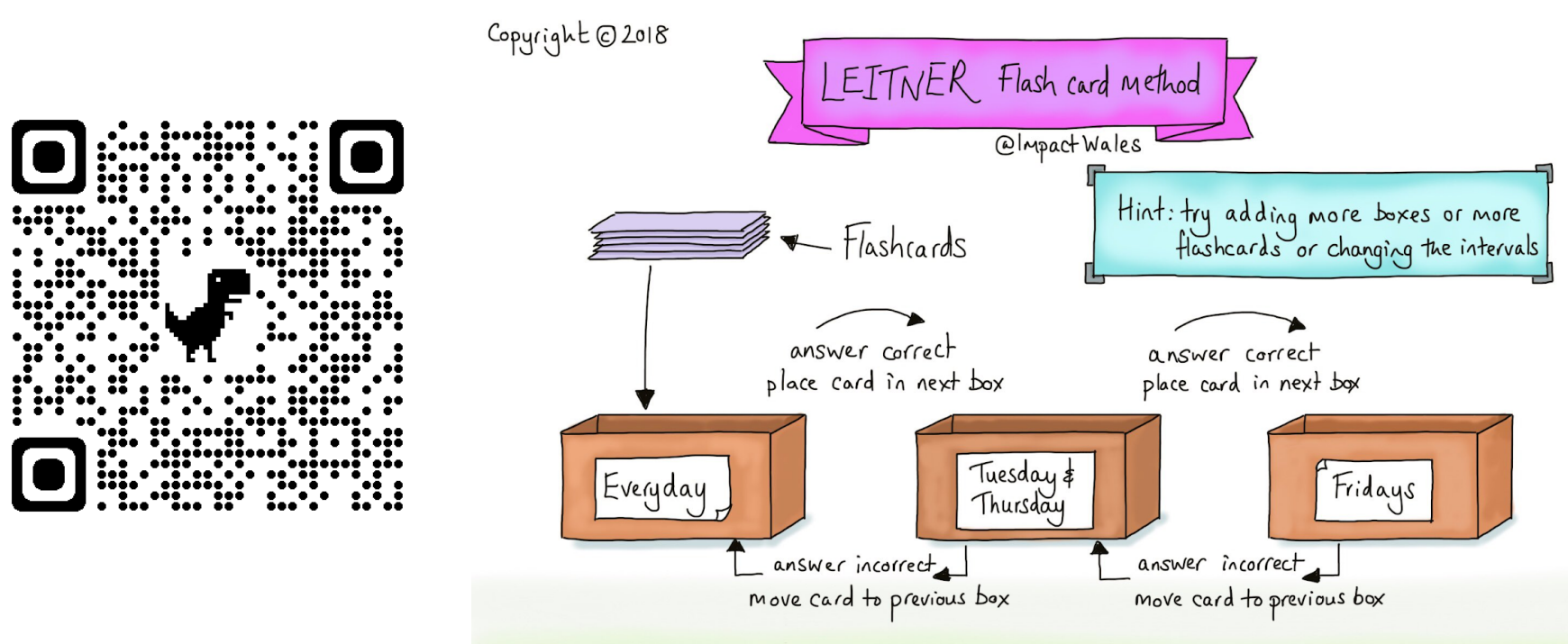
What is effective revision?

In the previous Study Skills bulletin we learned that revision involves regular review of learning as we can easily forget what we have learned. It is not enough to simply look over or read our notes. This is not actually testing what we have learned. Just reading can often make us more familiar with the topics, giving us false confidence that we know something when we may not.

It is important to retrieve our learning by testing ourselves. Often pupils test themselves by using past papers. However, it is important to revise and **learn the content** before applying this knowledge to a past paper.

Strategy 1- Flashcards

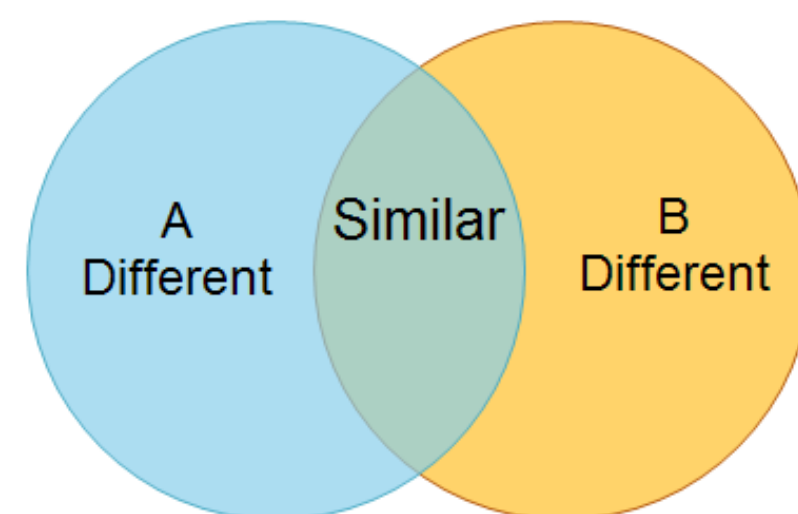
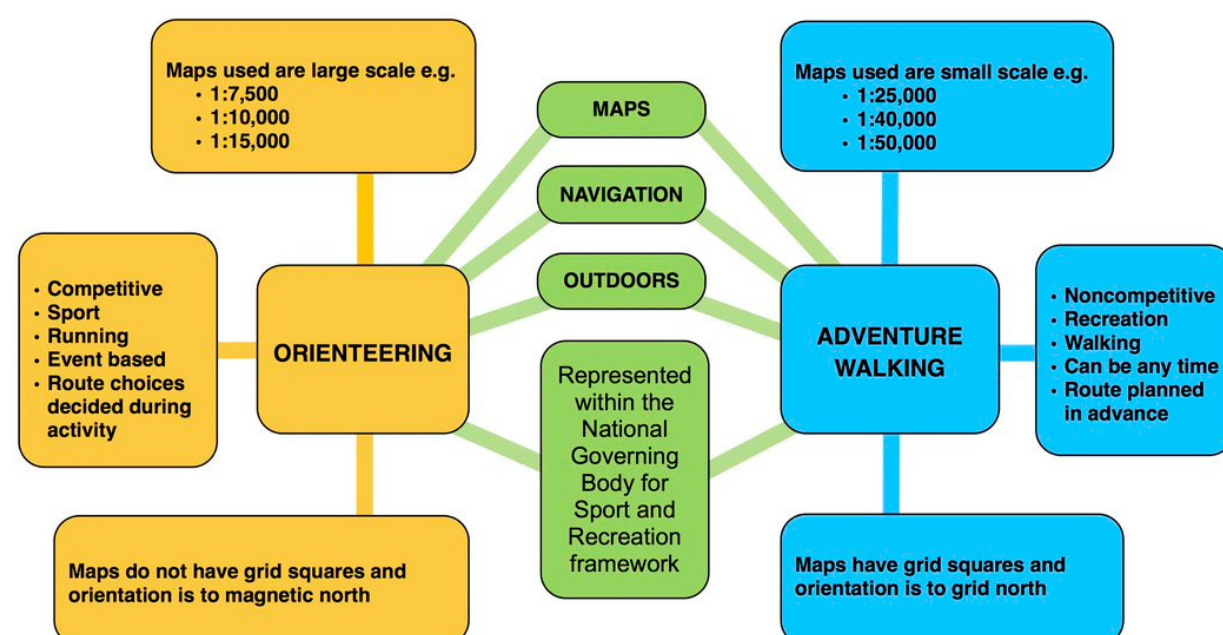
The key to effective flashcards is how you use them once they are made. The Leitner method is a good way to ensure that you are revising the content you are less confident with more regularly.



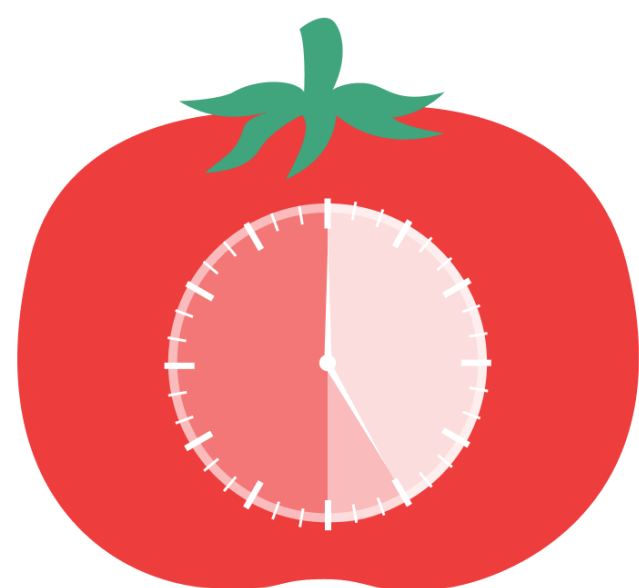
Strategy 2- Graphic Organisers

More commonly known as "mind maps" graphic organisers are a helpful way of visualising connections and relationships between topics.

However, a top revision tip is to use the most appropriate graphic organiser for your topic or purpose. For example, if you are comparing and contrasting use a Venn diagram or double spray (see below). If you are revising events, use a timeline. In all cases, it is recommended to 'dual code' and use images in addition to words as part of your notes.



Pomodoro Technique



25 min working
5 min resting

From ⌚ clockwise

Strategy 3- Pomodoro Technique

Research shows that putting off revision is not about being lazy or a lack of self control. We often put off doing something to avoid negative feelings. Revision may feel 'too big' and complex- so we avoid it.

An effective way to get started is to break something into small parts and focus for a short space of time. The Pomodoro technique (named for the tomato shaped timer) involves focusing for 25 minutes by setting yourself a timer. Then break for 5 minutes and repeat.