



Salford City Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Year 8 Mid-Year Exams Revision Booklet

January 2026

Name: _____

Tutor group: _____

RESPONSIBILITY | EXCELLENCE | ASPIRATION | COMMITMENT | TEAMWORK



Salford City Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of the Salford Learning Trust

DEAR

Drop Everything And Revise

Revision at SCA

Start early by completing homework throughout the year

Complete active revision activities

Always check your progress



FLASHCARDS

They helps us to:

- Self-test
- Aid memorisation
- Chunk down information

We use them for:

- Memorising key facts, dates, formulae, vocabulary.
- Linking images and vocabulary
- Spaced retrieval



CORNELL NOTES

They help us to:

- Organise information
- Write notes in a structured format
- Summarise information

We use them for:

- Taking and reviewing notes
- Recalling information



MIND MAPS

They help us to:

- Stay organised.
- Remember things visually
- Write less

We use them for:

- Linking information
- Representing ideas visually
- Selecting key information

English Paper 1

Exam Format: Written

Paper: Reading Assessment

Reading exam on an unseen extract.

Length of Exam: 1 hour

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Comprehension of an unseen gothic text	Unseen Text 1 – revision booklet Read the text and answer the questions	
Comprehension of an unseen gothic text	Unseen Text 2 – revision booklet Read the text and answer the questions	
Comprehension of an unseen gothic text	Unseen Text 3 – revision booklet Read the text and answer questions	
Conventions of the gothic genre	Revise the conventions of the gothic genre in your revision booklet. Make mind maps or flash cards.	

Resources: Revision guide and practice papers

English Paper 2

Exam Format: written

Paper: Writing Assessment

Length of Exam: 1 hour

Resources: Revision guide

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Show Not Tell	Rewrite the sentences using show not tell strategies	
ISPACE	Write a sentence using the different ISPACE sentence starters	
Word Choice	Complete the word trees, thinking of synonyms and different words	
Word class	Revise word class, attempt the word class practice questions in your revision booklet.	
Sentence structure and grammar	Revise the parts of a sentence and grammatical structures in your revision booklet.	
Write a description	Write 2 paragraphs describing the gothic settings suggested in your revision booklet	

REVISING INDEPENDENTLY WITH SPARX

STEP ONE: Finding independent learning

When you log in you will see the independent learning feature in the top right hand corner (circled in red below).

You can choose to work on any topic by:

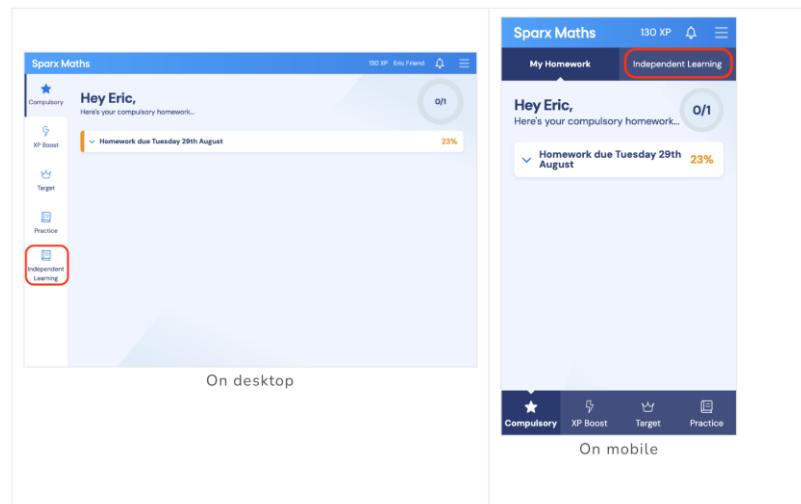
Typing one of the following in the Search for topics field:

The name of a topic

A keyword

A code given to you in the list below.

Browsing the content by clicking on one of the main Strands:



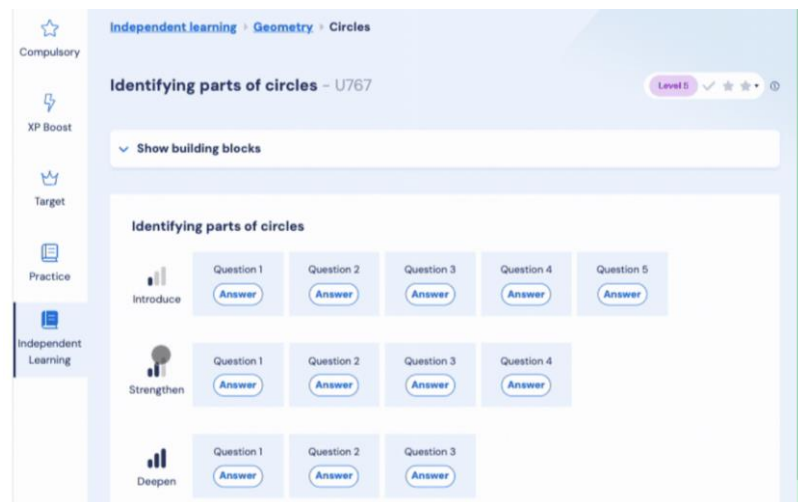
STEP TWO: Choosing the right work

The difficulty level will be in line with that of your normal homework.

You can choose to complete questions that **introduce** the topic if you don't remember much about it, **strengthen** the topic if you need a recap or **deepen** the topic if you are looking to increase your knowledge.

An example of this is shown on the right with the topic of circles.

You will see the difficulty level is set to 5 (in the top right corner) but you can change this if you are finding questions too hard or too difficult.



MATHEMATICS REVISION LIST

MID-YEAR NON-CALCULATOR ASSESSMENT

Unit	Topic	Sparx topics – highlight as you complete these clips using the independent learning function
8.01	Powers and Roots	M135, M608
8.02	Prime Factorisation	M322, M823, M108, M365, M227, M698
8.03	Rounding	M111, M431, M994, M131, M878
8.04	Fractions	M939, M410, M671, M601, M835, M931, M157, M197, M110, M265
8.05	Solving equations 1	M707, M509, M387, M554, M813, M795, M531, M957
8.06	Angles in parallel lines	M319, M606, M393, M818
8.07	Circumference	M565, M169

Biology:

Exam Format: Written exam

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 30 minutes

Revision Resource: Sparx Science, revision booklets

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Digestion and Nutrition	<p>The seven nutrients and healthy diet</p> <p>Effects of poor diet including deficiency diseases</p> <p>Food tests for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fat• Protein• Starch• Sugar <p>Human digestive system</p> <p>Mechanical and chemical digestion</p> <p>Absorption of digested food into the bloodstream</p> <p>Enzymes and the effect of temperature on enzymes</p> <p>Respiration and the uses of energy</p>	
Plants and Photosynthesis	<p>Plant roots</p> <p>Photosynthesis</p> <p>Testing leaves for starch</p> <p>Leaf adaptations</p> <p>Transport in Plants (phloem and xylem tissues)</p> <p>Measuring the rate of photosynthesis</p> <p>Plant impacts on the atmosphere</p> <p>Plants as producers in food webs</p>	

Chemistry:

Exam Format: Written exam

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 30 minutes

Revision Resource: Sparx Science, revision booklets

Topic	Revision Content	Check
The Periodic Table	Definitions of elements, compounds and mixtures The periodic table Structure of the atom: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electrons, protons and neutrons• Nucleus• Electron shells History and development of the atomic model Formation and naming of compounds Chemical formulae of compounds Conservation of mass in chemical reactions Group 1 elements (alkali metals) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reactions with oxygen and water• Trends in reactivity, melting/boiling points Group 7 elements (halogens) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displacement reactions• Trends in reactivity and appearance	

Physics:

Exam Format: Written exam

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 30 minutes

Revision Resource: Sparx Science, revision booklets

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Light and Sound	Longitudinal and transverse waves Comparing light and sound waves Reflection and refraction The eye and correcting vision Colour and filters Wavelength, amplitude and frequency Human hearing (pitch and frequency, volume and amplitude)	

History:

Exam Format: Written

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 1 hour

Revision Resource: BBC Bitesize, revision notes

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Unit 1 – The Tudors	The creation of the printing press Reasons why Henry VIII wanted to break from Rome: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Annulment with Catherine of Aragon and marriage to Anne Boleyn- Financial reasons- Power The Dissolution of the Monasteries Religious changes under Mary Tudor The Spanish Armada	
Unit 2 -The English Civil War	The Gunpowder Plot Reasons why the English Civil War broke out: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Power- Financial reasons- Religion Who the English civil war was between, and who won.	

Geography:

Exam Format: Written exam

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 1 hour

Revision Resource: Knowledge organisers, BBC Bitesize

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Population distribution• Population structure• Population change• Managing population• Migration• Factors influencing population distribution• Factors affecting birth and death rates• Population structure and development• Ageing population• Youthful population• Factors affecting migration	
Coasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wave features• Weathering and erosion• Geology• Coastal processes• Headlands and bays• Caves, arches, stacks and stumps• Beaches and longshore drift• Threats to the coast• Coastal management• Coastal erosion case study: Happisburgh, Norfolk Coast	

Spanish:

Exam Format: Writing, Reading and Listening

Revision Resource: [Languagenut/ Sentence Builders](#)

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Going out and staying in	Free time activities Future/ weekend plans Favourite TV/ film/ music	
Linguistic structures	Infinitives Present tense verbs Conjugation Negatives Opinions and justifications Agreement of adjectives Connectives Quantifiers Time expressions	
Y7 Content	Greetings and introductions Family School Where I live	

Religious Studies:

Exam Format: Written Exam

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 1 hour

Revision Resource: BBC Bitesize, Knowledge Organiser, Key Words Sheet

Topic	Revision Content		Check
Islam	Key Terminology Final Sermon Equality Qur'an Revelation Shahadah Salah Sawm Hajj Zakat Revelation Angel Jibril Nomadic Tribes Conquest Hijrah Sunni Abu Bakr Elected Shi'a Ali Inherited	1. What happened during the Final Sermon? 2. What happened when the Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Muhammad? 3. Why was life difficult in Pre-Islamic Arabic? 4. How did Prophet Muhammad conquer Mecca? 5. Why are the Five Pillars important to Muslims? 6. Why did the Sunni/Shi'a Split happen?	

Music:

(this exam will be done before
Christmas)

Exam Format: Multiple choice quiz on Microsoft Forms

Paper: 1

Length of Exam: 20mins

Revision Resource: on TEAMS

Topic	Revision Content	Check
Musical elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dynamics from pp to ff including crescendo and diminuendo• Tonality – recognising whether a piece is major or minor• Tempo – Adagio, moderato, allegro• Pitch – how high or low a note is• Rhythm – the length of quavers, crotchets, minims – recognising the symbols	
Musical devices and chords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drone• Ostinato• Riff• Articulation – Legato, Staccato, Accents• Symbols on sheet music: Flats and sharps, repeat mark, time signatures, Treble clef, Bass clef	
Topic-specific vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chord• Strum• Finger numbers on piano and ukulele• Skanking• One drop• Drum fill• Patois• Chord sequence• Verse• Chorus• Syncopated• 4/4• Reggae Instrumentation	

Key Terms:

- Pitch** – How high or low a note is
- Tempo** – The speed of the music
- Dynamics** – The volume of the music
- Rhythm** – The length of music
- Tonality** – Major or minor – this effects the mood

Fun fact: The full name of the piano is the "grandfather", because it was the first keyboard instrument that could play quietly (piano) and loudly (forte). Over time, people got used to calling it just "piano".

Notation can tell us the pitch (note) and the rhythm (how long the notes are):

Pitch: C C C C C C C C

Rhythm Lengths:

Note Type	Duration
Whole Note	4 beats
Half Note	2 beats
Quarter Note	1 beat
Eighth Note	0.5 beats

Y8 Keyboard Skills / Exploring Classical Music / Ukulele Skills

SKANKING SKANKING ONE DROP

Time Signatures - how many beats in a bar:

- 4 beats in a bar
- 3 beats in a bar
- Flat - makes note a semitone lower
- Sharp - makes note a semitone higher
- Repeat sign

Notes on the keyboard

Ukuleles are from Hawaii.

Chords: C, Am, F, G

