



Knowledge Organisers

What are they?

Knowledge Organisers relate to the content being covered in your lessons. They will show you the exact facts, dates, events, characters, concepts and precise definitions that you need to remember for each topic.

Why are we using them?

Research around memory suggests that if knowledge is studied once and not revisited or revised **you will forget it!** Your Knowledge Organisers will enable you to remember key information in lessons as well as at home and independently. If you use your Knowledge Organisers regularly, the information you need to know **will stick** and it will be stored into your long-term memory.

How can you use them independently?

Knowledge Organisers can help you to **pre-learn** and **re-learn** information. Here are some tasks, which will help you to improve your understanding and memory.

Suggested activities/tasks

- 1. Read, cover, write, check, correct:** Read a section of your Knowledge Organiser and when you're ready, cover it up and write down as much information as you can remember. Then check your work using your Knowledge Organiser and correct any mistakes or add any information missed. You could repeat this task until you remember all of the key information.
- 2. Mind maps:** Mind maps are a great way of getting information in and out of your brain. You could create a mind map for one section of your Knowledge Organiser with a key theme in the middle and then you can branch off with all your thoughts and ideas linked to this. To help this stick you could use colours, keywords and images. Alternatively, you could create mind map for a whole topic or unit, getting everything down you can remember and then colour coding it to make links between key pieces of information.
- 3. Knowledge Drop:** This is a great task for knowledge recall from a previous lesson or a topic studied some weeks ago. Simply write down all the points you can remember about a topic, it could be a spider diagram or a bullet pointed list. You can then check what you have remembered by using your Knowledge Organiser.
- 4. Flash Cards:** These are great for examination preparation and especially good for you at home to support you with your revision. On one side write a question from your subject. This can be an examination style question or facts on a topic from the Knowledge Organiser. On the other side bullet point the answer.
- 5. Condense it:** Read detailed pieces of information from your Knowledge Organiser and find the key points. This can be done by highlighting the information or taking it further by condensing the information into 4 or 5 points or even some trigger words which will spark memory.
- 6. Mnemonic:** The aim of a mnemonic is to remember important points, which may otherwise be tricky to achieve. The time spent making the mnemonic is a great memory aid itself! An

example used in history classes to remember the terms of a World War One treaty can be seen below:

B- Blame

R- Reparations

A- Army

T – Territory

Remembering the word BRAT will help you recall these key points. Take a section of your knowledge Organiser and see if you can create your own mnemonics to remember key terms/points

7. **Sketch it:** A creative way of remembering information is to sketch it out using pictures and symbols. Get a blank piece of paper and translate your Knowledge Organiser into a piece of art using only pictures and symbols that will help you remember key information. Once you have designed your visual Knowledge Organiser, see if you can remember what each picture/image/symbol means. You could draw this or create one online using this useful website <https://thenounproject.com/>
8. **Quizzing:** This can be done in many ways. You could create a quiz for each section, or a quiz covering all of your Knowledge Organiser. Once you have created your quiz, test yourself on your knowledge.
9. **Voice note:** Record yourself reading the knowledge from the organiser and listen to it back when you are required to recall this.
10. **Clock learning:** For this technique you need to draw a simple clock with twelve sections. Divide the subject you are learning/revising into twelve chunks and write the title of each chunk in a different section. Then spend five minutes noting down everything that you know about that section before moving onto the next. Correct and check using the knowledge organiser.