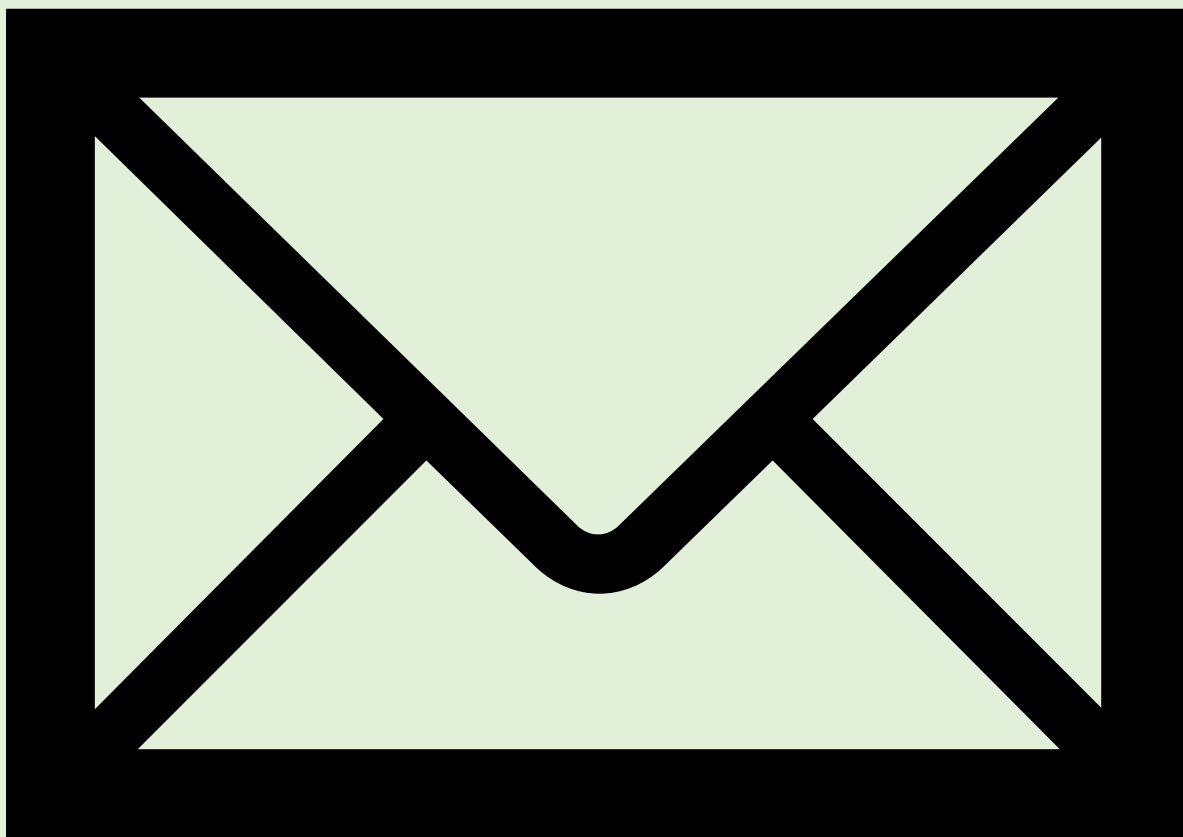




Dear Class of 2027,

Last year, we were sitting where you are now; starting Year 11 and knowing that GCSEs and BTECs were ahead of us. We know that revision can sometimes feel overwhelming, so we wanted to share some of the things that genuinely helped us along the way. These are the tips, techniques and resources that worked for us, from students who have just been through it. We hope you find something that works for you too!

Evie: “Flashcards and past papers” were the most effective revision strategies for me. I also found **YouTube**, including *Glow Up Your Grades* for English, really useful. Create your own **space dedicated to revision** so that you can focus when you sit down to work. Competition with others kept me motivated”.

What are the
elements of an
animal cell?

NCCMM

Nucleus, Cytoplasm
Cell Membrane, Mitochondria

Lucy: The most effective strategies for me were **mind maps, flashcards and past papers**. Mind maps helped because I could get lots of information down in a simple way. Flashcards allowed me to check my knowledge of the topics I had revised. I recommend **Seneca** for checking your knowledge because you can use it on the go, and **Physics & Maths Tutor** for past papers and questions. Use **multiple different revision methods** so that you aren't always being asked the same questions in the same way.

AQA GCSE MATHS PAST PAPERS



FREE PAST
PAPERS



MARK SCHEMES
& ANSWERS

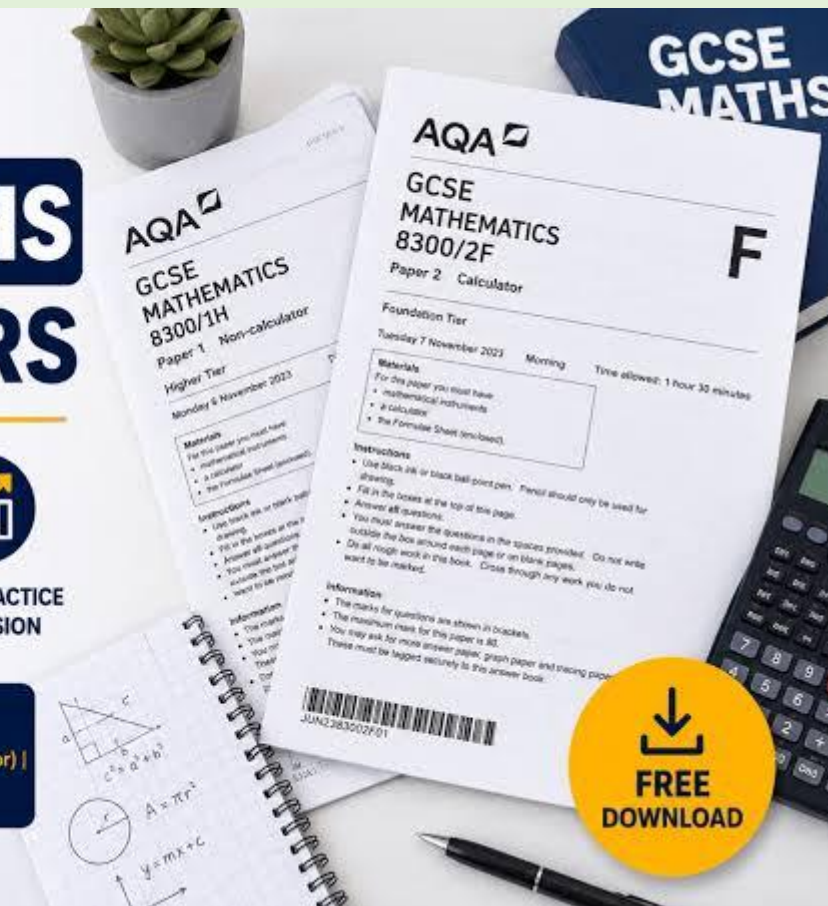


EXAM PRACTICE
& REVISION



Foundation & Higher Papers

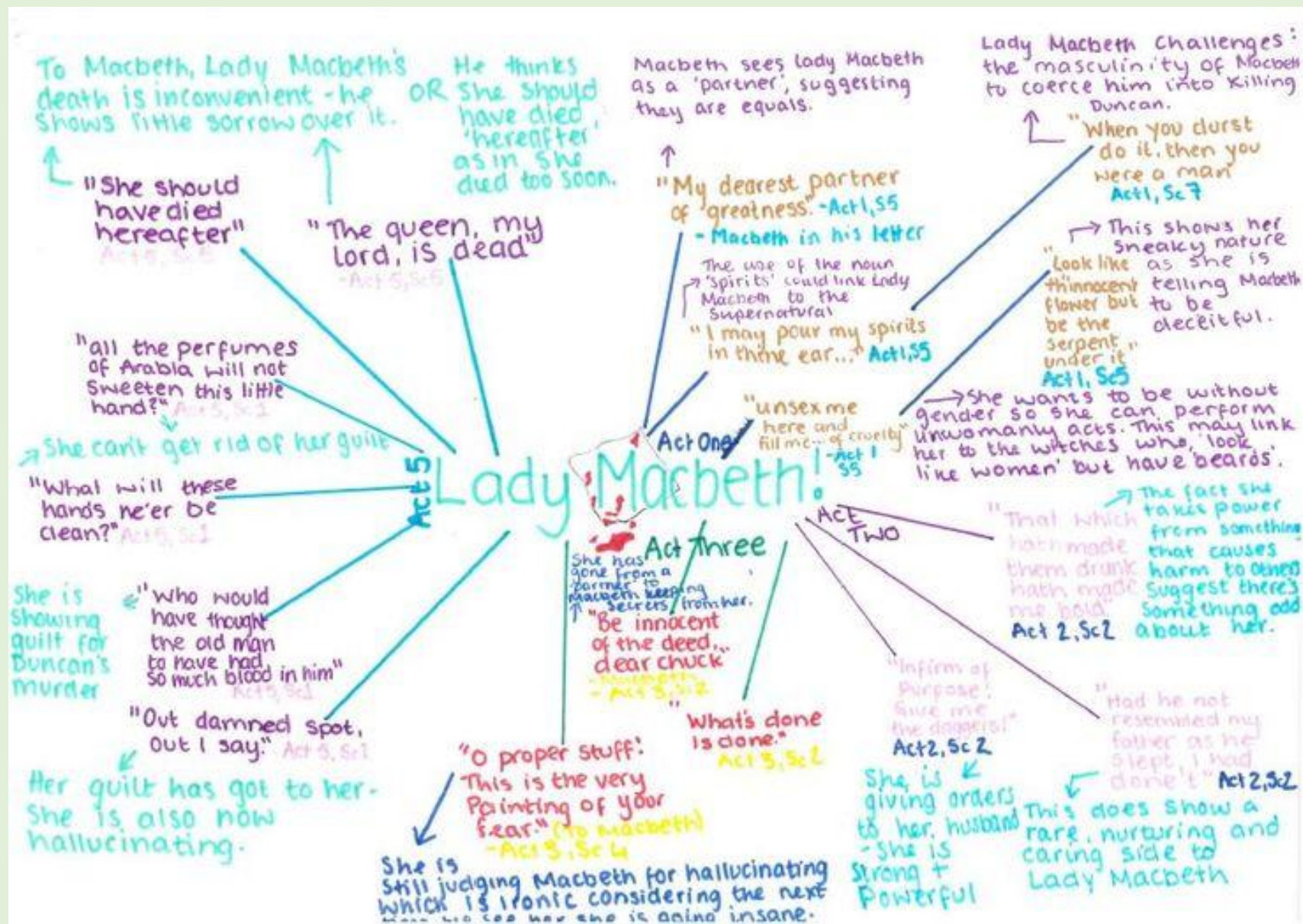
Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) | Paper 2 (Calculator) |
Paper 3 (Calculator)



Olly: I completed lots of **past papers** and made sure I really understood the **mark scheme**, especially for Science. I marked my work using the official mark scheme so I knew which **key words** to use to maximise my marks. I recommend **Physics & Maths Tutor** for past papers and mark schemes and **Free Science Lessons** for recalling content. My top tip is that **consistency is key** — start with around an hour a day after school and build it up closer to the exams.

Hannah: I created a **mind map about a topic and then blurted everything I could remember**. I went back over it and added new information in a different colour to show what I didn't know.

Watching summary videos and **reading information out loud** also helped me. I recommend **BBC Bitesize** for summary videos and using **whiteboard sheets** that stick to your wall so you have a constant reminder of the information. Make sure you revise throughout the year so that you can **spread the work out**, rather than starting a couple of months before the exams.



Freya: Watching videos and making **notes and mind maps afterwards** helped me understand topics I was unsure about. I then made flashcards from those notes. **Elevate after-school sessions** were a massive help, so I tried to attend as many as possible. Worksheets, guidance and past papers from teachers were also really useful. I recommend **Cognito** for Science, **Seneca** for last-minute revision on the bus, the **Geography Case Studies YouTube channel**, and **Physics & Maths Tutor** for past papers and questions by topic. My top tip is: **start making resources like flashcards early - your future self will thank you!**

Joshua said: Flashcards helped me learn quickly, and past papers helped me understand how I was performing. I recommend **Mr Everything English** for English, **Free Science Lessons** for Science and **Physics & Maths Tutor** for practice questions. My biggest tip is simple: **revise early and keep going little by little.**



Isla said: Seneca was the resource I used most. My biggest tip is to **always revise little and often rather than a lot and rarely**. Although doing a big amount seems more productive, little and often helps your brain retain what you are revising. Even 20 minutes of revision is worthwhile. I found it useful to revise **straight after school**, before getting changed, while I was still in the school mindset. Then I could relax afterwards.

As you can see different things work for different people. We wish you the very best of luck with your GCSEs and BTECs. Work hard, believe in yourself, look after yourself and remember that little and often really does make a difference.

Good luck and best wishes from the Class of 2026.