



1. **Whatever you do, don't stay up all night revising the night before your exam.** Your brain actually needs processing time to sort out all of the information you have bundled into it during your revision, and sleep and relaxation are the best way to achieve that. Last minute cramming only makes you stressed and tired and makes it harder to access all the information at the back of your brain. Finish revising at about 6pm, have a nice meal, and then take the night off. Nothing will disappear out of your brain, and all of the information you need will be much easier to find in the morning.
2. **Before you leave the house, make sure you have got all your equipment.** The most important is your calculator for Paper 2. Other important pieces of equipment are: pen, pencil, ruler, compass, and angle measurer (protractor).
3. **Be careful who you talk to before the exam!** Don't let other students stress you out! I know it is hard to do, but maybe try and keep to yourself before an exam and just be confident that you have done everything you needed to do.
4. **When you get into the exam and you find your seat, it is probably going to be a good ten minutes before the exam starts. Spend the time wisely.** Use the time to calm your nerves.
5. **A lot of people struggle with the timing of exams.** They either go too quickly and end up with about forty minutes left at the end with nothing to do, or they go so slowly that they don't get chance to finish. As a rough guide, spend NO MORE THAN ONE MINUTE ON EACH MARK. So a 3 mark question should take no longer than 3 minutes.
6. **If you get stuck on a question, move on!** This especially tends to happen at the start of exams when you are still a little nervous and your brain hasn't had a chance to warm up. Leave it, move on, and come back to it later.
7. **Read the questions carefully!** I know everyone always says this, but there is a reason. Maths questions, more than in any other subject, contain words which, if you don't spot them, can send you down the completely wrong path.
8. **Show your working.** Again, I know everyone says it, but it is just so crucial! The beauty of working out is that even if you make a couple of daft mistakes, you are still picking up lots and lots of marks.
9. **Check your answers at the end.** A couple of daft mistakes (and everyone makes them), could make the difference between a grade, and you won't spot the mistakes if you don't read through the paper at the end.
10. **After you walk out of the exam, don't listen too much to what others are saying.** You always have the people who come up to you and say "What did you get for question 7c?... I got 2.35776, but I think I should be 2.35775... what do you think?... what do you think? ". That is not what you need. Then there are the people who say they have done rubbish and messed it up, when you know very well they have probably got 99%. Again, don't worry about others.