Year 10

Revision Guide

Christmas Examinations

2026

Name:	
Form Class :	
Parent Signature	

About this guide

At Cullybackey College our motto is 'creating opportunities for success'. Young people today are measured on their performances and grades across a host of subjects, so it is important that we help to support our students to achieve their very best.

We want our students to get into the good habits of working hard and preparing thoroughly for exams from an early age. We want them to experiment with different revision techniques and we want them to realise the importance that revision plays in making sure that they achieve the result that they are capable of and the result that they can be proud of.

This short guide gives a little bit of help and support as you plan for the exams that will be taking place between Mon 30th November to Thursday 3rd December 2026.

Don't forget that the grades you achieve are a direct result of the amount of effort, time and work that you put in.

All the very best for your exams,

Mr T Manson

Vice Principal



Getting ready for the exams . . .

Exams are not meant to be easy – they are designed to be something that will test your knowledge and understanding across the different subjects that you study.

Here are a few tips that might help . . . .

1. **Study environment:** try to find a quiet, peaceful place where you can work. Turn off the TV, the music and your computers and digital devices
2. **Know what you are meant to learn**: make sure that you know what you have been studying, that all missing notes have been copied up and that you know what might be coming up in the exam
3. **Take notes of your notes:** it is not enough to just sit with your book open to read – you need to rework your notes and try to remember the key points – why not . . .
    a. reduce your notes down to sentences or key words
    b. colour code your revision with highlighters
    c. create a mindmap
    d. turn your notes into pictures
4. **Memorise**: you need to get your subject notes into your head!
    - Use your hand to cover and check what you can remember
    - Use Post its – put a question on one side and the answer on the other side
    - Make posters for your bedroom with the key things you need to remember
    - Test yourself – ask a friend or parent to ask you questions.
5. **During the exam:** Close your eyes, take a deep breath . . .
    - Read every question carefully. Underline the key words in the question.
    - Show what you know!
6. **Stay fit and healthy:** During exams make sure that you drink enough

Art



Year 10 – Observational Drawing

As you know you will be given the task of completing a split portrait for your exam. You will have practiced this in class with your teacher.

In order to prepare for your exam, you should:

- Practice the split portrait task both in class and at home. You will be working on A3 size paper in your exam, remember this is twice the size of your normal A4 paper.
- Follow the instructions below to ensure you are not missing any vital elements of the drawing.

1. Neatly fold the portrait image in half and cut it down the middle. Tip – if you are right handed stick down the left side of the face. If you are left handed stick down the right side of the face. The other half of the portrait can be thrown away.
2. You will need a ruler, pencil, rubber and sharpener to complete the portrait.
3. Use your ruler to mark measurements on the blank side of the page. Mark out key points which will serve as a guide. For example, how far from the centre line are the ears, jaw, forehead etc. You will have practised this in class, take your time when measuring key points as this will ensure your portrait is in proportion.
4. When you have measured out the key points you will effectively be able to 'join the dots' to create the outline. If your measurements are correct you will have a perfect outline! Repeat the same process of measuring key points to add in the facial features.
5. Now that the outline is complete you are ready to add tone, I recommend adding the darkest areas first then working gradually through the lighter tones.
6. You will receive marks for including the full tonal range. You should also remember to leave highlights.
7. When you have finished the drawing check areas of tone are well blended!








Drama

Written Christmas examination:

For your written assessment, you will be required to draw and annotate a ground plan based on a specific scene. You will need to provide a

Key terminology you will need to know:

- Ground Plan: A bird's-eye view of the set showing the placement of furniture, walls, and levels.
- Centre Line: A dashed line that divides the stage into left and right halves.
- Plaster Line: An imaginary line running across the back of the proscenium arch.
- Sightlines: The angles of visibility from the audience's perspective.
- Flat: A wooden frame covered in fabric or board used to represent a wall.
- Rostra/Platform: A raised level or platform used to create height on stage.
- Wings: The offstage areas to the left and right of the performing space.
- Backdrop: A cloth or curtain hung at the back of the stage.
- Entrances/Exits: Marked openings where actors enter or leave the stage.
- Furniture/Props: Symbols representing items like chairs, tables, or lamps.
- Key: A guide explaining the symbols used in the plan.

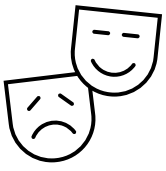
K - Key

A - Audience and Arrows

V - Viability

E - Entrances and Exits

S - Symbols, Scale and Staging



French

Qu'est-ce que tu penses de tes matières? (What do you think of your subjects?)
Quelle est ta matière préférée ? (What is your favourite subject ?)

J'aime (I like) J'aime beaucoup (I really like) J'adore (I love) Je n'aime pas (I don't like) Je ne supporte pas (I can not stand) Je déteste (I hate) Je préfère (I prefer)	le français (French) le dessin (Art) le théâtre (Drama) la géographie (Geography) la musique (Music) la technologie (DT) l'anglais (English) l'espagnol (Spanish) l'informatique (ICT) l'histoire (History) l'EPS (l'éducation physique et sportive) (PE) l'instruction religieuse (RE) les mathématiques (Maths) les sciences (Science) les arts ménagers (HE)	parce que (because) car (for)	c'est (it's) je suis (I am)	passionnant (exciting) amusant (fun) bon (good) fantastique (fantastic) créatif (creative) relaxant (relaxing) actif (active) intéressant (interesting) fascinant (fascinating) marrant (funny) utile (useful) facile (easy) plus facile que…(easier than ….) ennuyeux (boring) trop dur (too hard) difficile (difficult) horrible (horrible) inutile (useless) nul (bad) nul(le) en maths bad (at maths) bon(ne) en espagnol good (at Spanish)

Le lundi (on Monday) Le mardi (on Tuesday) Le mercredi (on Wednesday) Le jeudi (on Thursday) Le vendredi (on Friday)	à (at)	neuf heures et quart 9.15 dix heures moins dix 9.50 onze heures moins vingt 10.40 onze heures et quart 11.15 midi moins dix 11.50 une heure cinq 1.05 deux heures moins vingt 1.40 deux heures et quart 2.15 trois heures moins dix 2.50	j'ai (I have)	le français (French) l'anglais (English) l'histoire (History) le dessin (Art) les sciences (Science) la musique (Music) le théâtre (Drama)

Tu aimes tes profs?
(Do you like your teachers?)

Je pense que (I think that) À mon avis (In my opinion)	ma (f)/ mon (m) prof (my teacher)	de maths de géo de français d'anglais d'espagnol d'histoire d'informatique	est (is)	sympa (nice) trop sévère (too strict) enthousiaste (enthusiastic) positif/positive (positive) travailleur/travailleuse (hardworking) gentil(le) (kind) marrant(e) (funny) barbant(e) (boring) bien organisé (well organised)

Je (I)	me réveille (wake up) me lève (get up) me lave (get washed) me douche (shower) me repose (rest) me couche (go to bed) m'habille (get dressed) quitte la maison (leave the house) prends le petit déjeuner (have breakfast) vais au collège (go to school) déjeune (have lunch) dîne (have dinner) rentre à la maison (go home) regarde la télé (watch TV) fais mes devoirs (do my homew	à (at) vers (around)	cinq heures 5.00 six heures 6.00 sept heures 7.00 huit heures cinq 8.05 neuf heures dix 9.10 dix heures et quart 10.15 onze heures vingt 11.20 deux heures vingt-cinq 2.25 trois heures et demi 3.30 quatre heures moins vingt-cinq 3.35 quatre heures moins vingt 3.40 quatre heures moins le quart 3.45 quatre heures moins dix 3.50 quatre heures moins cinq 3.55 midi 12pm minuit 12am	puis (then) après (after) finalement (finally) et (and)

J'ai neuf cours par jour (I have 9 lessons per day)

Les cours (lessons)	commencent (start) finissent (end)	à (at)	neuf heures et quart 9.15 trois heures vingt-cinq 3.25
La recréation (break time) La pause déjeuner (lunchtime)	est (is)		dix heures vingt-cinq 10.25 midi vingt-cinq 12.25

Mon collège s'appelle Cullybackey College (My school is called Cullybackey College)

Il est situé à Cullybackey, près de Ballymena en Irlande du nord.
(It is situated in Cullybackey, near Ballymena in Northern Ireland.

Mon collège est (My school is) Le bâtiment est (The building is)	assez (quite) un peu (a bit) très (very)	grand/petit (big/small) moderne (modern) lumineux (bright) vieux (old)
Au rez-de-chaussée (on the ground floor) Au premier étage (on the first floor) Au deuxième étage (on the second floor)	il y a (there is)	les salles de classe (the classrooms) une salle de sport (a sports hall) un terrain de sport (a sports pitch) une bibliothèque (a library) une cantine (a canteen) les laboratoires (the labs) la cour (the playground)
A mon avis… (In my opinion…) Je pense que….(I think that…	Il n'y a pas de (there is no) mon collège est (my school is)	piscine (pool) gymnase (gym) très bien (very good) assez bien (quite good) trop strict (too strict) amusant (fun) barbant (boring)

Geography

Topic: Map Work
Students should be able to use the following skills on an Ordnance Survey map:
State **direction** (4 and 8-point compass)
Identify features using **symbols** and the map key
Identify the **height** of land using an Ordnance Survey map
Using **four figure grid references**
Using **six figure grid references** to locate features
Measuring the straight-line **distance** between two places using 1:50,000 scale

Topic: Population
Understand the following topics:
Why learn about population?
Population distribution
Population density (sparsely and densely populated)
Population change (definitions for birth rate, death rate, natural increase and decrease)
Reasons for the changing birth and death rates
Migration change – types of migration
Reasons why people migrate
The impacts of migration
Migration case study – Mexicans migrating into the USA



History

Topics to be covered on the examination include: The 20th Century and the Holocaust.

20th Century

- Historians state that the 20th century was the "bloodiest century" yet it was the century where the greatest changes took place.
- What events happened during the 20th century?
- Was the 20th Century a good or a bad century?



The Holocaust

- What was the Holocaust?
- What groups of people suffered during the Holocaust?
- What's the difference between a concentration camp and death camp?
- Where were the concentration camps in Europe?
- Where were the death camps in Europe?
- How did the Nazis view the Jews?
- For what reasons were the Jews persecuted in Germany?

In the examination you will see lots of sources – ensure to use the sources when answering questions.

Home Economics

1. **Know all about Iron**



Functions in the body.

Haem and Non-haem iron and good sources of each.

How much iron is needed daily by teenagers?

Which vitamin helps absorb iron?

People who may be deficient in iron and why.

What are fortified foods.

Anaemia- causes and symptoms.

2. **Know the 8 Healthy Eating Guidelines**

3. **The Eatwell guide**

Names for each group, portions from each and foods contained in each of the groups.

Practical ways to eat more fruit and veg in the diet.

Practical ways to eat more fibre in the diet.

Practical ways to eat less salt.

Practical ways to eat less sugar.

Practical ways to eat less saturated fat.

3. **Know diseases related to-**

Too much salt (e.g. high blood pressure and strokes).

Too much fat (e.g. obesity and coronary heart disease).

Too much sugar (e.g. obesity, diabetes and tooth decay).

Not enough fibre (e.g. constipation, diverticular disease and bowel cancer).

4. **Recipe Adaptation**

Know how to adapt a recipe – learn examples in files.

Maths

Pythagoras' Theorem

- Understand, use and apply Pythagoras' Theorem to find the length of the missing side of a right-angled triangle
- Find the midpoint of two co-ordinates
- Calculate the midpoint of a line
- Find the length of a line given in co-ordinates

Ratio

- Simplify ratios
- Divide a quantity in a given ratio
- Use ratio in real-life examples: including maps and recipes

Angles, Triangles and Parallel Lines

- Name the types of triangles using their sides and angles
- Use letters to give the name of angles
- Calculate interior and exterior angles
- Calculate the missing angles in triangles and quadrilaterals
- Recognise, label and draw parallel lines
- Name angles made by intersecting lines
- Calculate interior/exterior angles in polygons
- Calculate the number of sides a polygon has
- Construct triangles with compass/protractor and ruler

Co-ordinates and Straight Line Graphs

- Plotting and identifying points in all four quadrants
- Locate position (including maps, angles and turns)
- Generate co-ordinates for a line
- Explore linear functions and make tables of linear function
- Plot straight line graphs
- Find the gradient of a straight line graph



Music



Christmas Exam (Listening and Theory) – 80%

Keyboard (Performing) – 20%

Your Music Christmas Exam will include questions on the following topics.

1. **Blues Music:** Features and instruments.
2. **Styles that influenced Blues:** Features of work songs, spirituals and ragtime.
3. **Chords:** Know the formula of a major and minor chord and be able to identify triads.
4. **12-Bar Blues:** Be able to complete the twelve-bar blues table.
5. **Piano:** Identify the notes on a piano.
6. **Treble and Bass Clef:** Identify the notes on the treble and bass clef and know their rhymes.
7. **Note and Rest Values:** Identify note and rest values.
8. **Listening:** Be able to identify instruments, voices, time signatures, texture, blues features, blues instruments in the listening section.



RE

Topic 1 – Islam



- Origins of the religion – date and name of the key prophet in the faith.
- Symbol – be able to draw and explain what it means
- Famous Muslims today – 2 examples
- Muslim Place of worship – the Mosque
  - Label key features
- Holy Book: The Qu'ran
  - What does it mean?
  - Why it is important for Muslims
  - Ways in which Muslims show respect for the Qu'ran
- The Five Pillars of Islam
  - Shadhada
  - Salat
  - Zakat
  - Sawm
  - Hajj
- Ramadan
  - How it is celebrated.
  - Why do Muslims fast?

KNOW EACH OF THE PILLARS AND HOW MUSLIMS OBSERVE THEM

- WOW Words



Science

- Parts of a plant
- Flower structure
- Fertilisation
- Life cycle butterfly
- Plant and animal cell structure.
- rusting and methods of protection
- Magnets and magnetic materials
- electromagnets
- Nutrients in food
- Digestion
- Illness in relation to poor diet
- Law of reflection
- Conduction of heat
- Convection of heat
- Circuit diagrams series/parallel
- Safety rules
- Melting curves
- Insulators and conductors
- Speed
- separations



English



The Year 10 Christmas exam is a Reading paper.

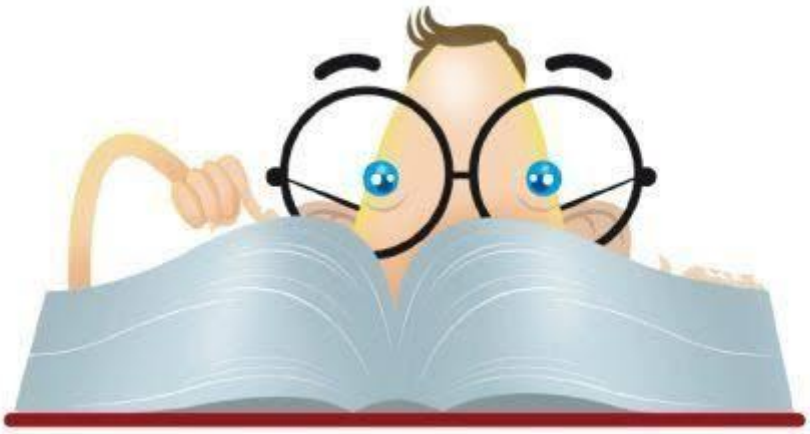
- Practise comprehension activities

Revise:

- Language features: DAFORRESTHASME / SPPLASHANDFIRE
- How to use the PEE structure effectively when explaining or analysing a writer's work
- Use evidence effectively to your support answers

REMEMBER TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

REMEMBER TO READ THE TEXT CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU BEGIN



Technology & Design



Your year 10 Technology Exam will be based on the following topics:

Health & Safety



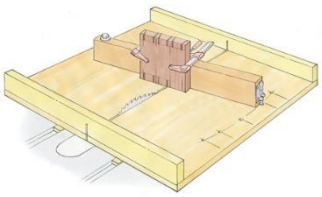
- Know the different types of Health and Safety Legislation within the Technology industry.
- What HASAWA stands for and its aim.
- Be able to identify employer and employee responsibilities.
- The types of accidents that could occur if rules aren't applied.
- Know what a Risk Assessment is and how to complete one.

Tools & Equipment



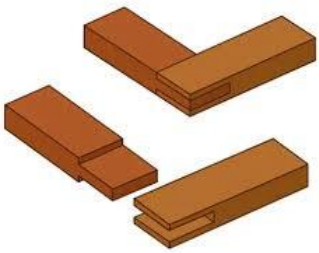
- Know the difference between a Tenon saw and a Coping saw.
- Discuss how to use a Pillar Drill and safely.
- What a Jig is and why they are used in a manufacturing process.





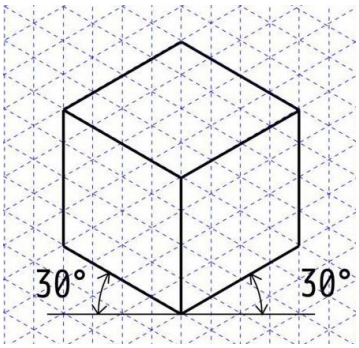
Materials

- Understanding of Woods.
- Be able to identify the difference between a hardwood, softwood, and manufactured board.
- Identify the different type of wood joints.: Housing Joint
  Half-Lap Joint
  Mortise & Tenon Joint
  Bridle Joint



Design Task

- Use of drawing skills to create a specific Isometric drawing.
- Be able to read a working drawing and create one.



You will receive a further revision guide in class to help with exam revision.

Spanish

Key Topics: Healthy Living & Environment

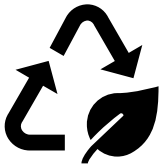
Learning Objective	***I can:***	***YES? NO?***
1	Describe what a healthy diet is in Spanish	
2	Describe what healthy habits are in Spanish	
3	Name the different parts of the body in Spanish	
4	Say you are sick or are sore in Spanish	
5	Ask for medication in Spanish	
6	Describe a variety of environmental problems in Spanish	
7	Say what you should and should not do to protect the environment in Spanish	

Revision Materials:

Revision materials and spare booklets are available to access via Google Classroom. There you will also find links to Quizlet Vocabulary Sets for each learning objective.







Year 10 Exam Timetable

From Mon 30th November to Thursday 3rd December 2026

Y10	1 08:55 – 10.20	10.00-10.20	10.20-10.40	2 10:40 – 12.30	12.30–13.00	3 13.00 – 14.15	4 14:15 – 15:25
Mon	French ½ hour	Drama ½ hour	Break	Music* ½ hour	Lunch	Art 1 hour	RE 45 mins
Tues	Technology 45 mins		Break	English 1 hour	Lunch	Science 1 hour	Spanish ½ hour
Wed	Maths 1 hour	PASS test	Break	History 1 hour	Lunch	Geography 1 hour	HE 45 mins
Thurs	Exceptional Closure						

PASS test to be taken by all students following first exam on Wednesday/ Music exam in Boys Gym on Monday

My Revision Timetable

Week beginning Mon 2nd November 2026

Time	Monday 2 Nov	Tuesday 3 Nov	Wednesday 4 Nov	Thursday 5 Nov	Friday 6 Nov	Saturday 7 Nov	Sunday 8 Nov
9 – 10am							
10 – 11am							
11 – 12am							
12 – 1pm							
1 – 2pm							
2 – 3pm							
3 – 4pm							
4 – 5 pm							
5 – 6pm							
6 – 7 pm							
7 – 8pm							
8 – 9pm							
9 – 10pm							

My Revision Timetable

Week beginning Mon 9th November 2026

Time	Monday 9 Nov	Tuesday 10 Nov	Wednesday 11 Nov	Thursday 12 Nov	Friday 13 Nov	Saturday 14 Nov	Sunday 15 Nov
9 – 10am							
10 – 11am							
11 – 12am							
12 – 1pm							
1 – 2pm							
2 – 3pm							
3 – 4pm							
4 – 5 pm							
5 – 6pm							
6 – 7 pm							
7 – 8pm							
8 – 9pm							
9 – 10pm							

My Revision Timetable

Week beginning Mon 16th November 2026

Time	Monday 16 Nov	Tuesday 17 Nov	Wednesday 18 Nov	Thursday 19 Nov	Friday 20 Nov	Saturday 21 Nov	Sunday 22 Nov
9 – 10am							
10 – 11am							
11 – 12am							
12 – 1pm							
1 – 2pm							
2 – 3pm							
3 – 4pm							
4 – 5 pm							
5 – 6pm							
6 – 7 pm							
7 – 8pm							
8 – 9pm							
9 – 10pm							

My Revision Timetable

Week beginning Mon 23rd November 2026

Time	Monday 23 Nov	Tuesday 24 Nov	Wednesday 25 Nov	Thursday 26 Nov	Friday 27 Nov	Saturday 28 Nov	Sunday 29 Nov
9 – 10am							
10 – 11am							
11 – 12am							
12 – 1pm							
1 – 2pm							
2 – 3pm							
3 – 4pm							
4 – 5 pm							
5 – 6pm							
6 – 7 pm							
7 – 8pm							
8 – 9pm							
9 – 10pm							