

What type of reviser are you?

There are basically two types of reviser and each type has a different combination of strengths and weaknesses. If you find out what type of reviser you are, you can note your weaknesses and avoid them. Fill in the following questionnaire and then follow the instructions to find out if you are a 'sprinter'; or a 'long-distance runner'.

Which of these apply to you....	Yes, this is me	No, this is not me
1. I am easily distracted		
2. I am usually thorough		
3. I can be disorganised		
4. I can be impatient		
5. I can concentrate well		
6. I can forget important details		
7. I can get 'bogged down' with too many unimportant details		
8. I can often see new ways of doing things		
9. I can see the link between the subjects I am taking		
10. I can see links between topics in each subject		
11. I can skim through my text books quickly		
12. I do not organise my notes		
13. I usually do not check my revision notes to see if they are accurate		
14. I prefer to work on my own		
15. I enjoy creative writing		
16. I keep my notes in good order		
17. I enjoy revising and sitting exams		
18. I have to understand every aspect of a topic before I move on to another		
19. I get very enthusiastic about some topics		
20. I like solving problems		

21.	I make revision timetables but do not keep to them		
22.	I know the exam syllabus quite well		
23.	I like to use lots of books for revision		
24.	I make a revision timetable and keep it		
25.	I never prioritise my revision		
26.	I often leave things until the last minute		
27.	I often rework my revision notes		
28.	I often rush into answers without thinking		
29.	I often spot the links between the ideas		
30.	I often try to do too much at once		
31.	I organise my revision notes before I start revising		
32.	I often forget my textbook		
33.	I pay attention to the small details		
34.	I often find interesting solutions		
35.	I prefer to revise each topic piece by piece		
36.	I prefer to work things out on paper		
37.	I prefer to work in short bursts		
38.	I prioritise my revision		
39.	I rarely ask teachers for advice		
40.	I read the instructions on revision questions carefully		
41.	I see problems as a challenge		
42.	I am not usually critical of ideas		
43.	I usually stick to the same methods		
44.	I work well on my own		
45.	I often guess what I do not know		

46.	If I start a task I must finish it		
47.	I often delay before starting my revision		
48.	Once I have found a way to do something I keep to it		

Circle all the answers where you have ticked 'yes, this is me' in the boxes below. Whichever box has the most 'circles' in is the type of reviser you are.

SPRINTER	LONG-DISTANCE RUNNER
1 3 6 8 9 10 11 12 13 15 17	2 4 5 7 14 16 18 20 22 24
19 21 23 25 26 28 30 32 34	27 29 31 33 35 36 38 39
37 42 45 47	40 41 43 44 46 48

Revision pitfalls for sprinters

If you are a 'sprinter', these are the problems you are likely to have:

- You can be disorganised
- You try to do too much revision at once
- You are easily distracted
- You do not plan revision
- You do not prioritise revision topics
- Your revision does not test how much you have learnt

If you are a 'sprinter', these are the things you need to do:

- Make a revision plan/timetable
- Prioritise your revision
- Test yourself
- Avoid distractions before they distract you

Revision pitfalls for long-distance runners

If you are a 'long-distance runner', these are the problems that you are likely to have:

- You can become 'bogged down' in small details
- You can work on your own too much
- You try to collect too much information before you start
- You always use the same way of doing things
- You do not ask teachers for help if you are stuck
- You like to finish each section of your revision regardless of how thorough you have been

If you are a 'long-distance runner', these are the things you need to do:

- Try new revision techniques
- Start a revision session by writing down three points about the topic just to get you started
- Ask others for help