Independent Study Guide





After each lesson...

- Review your notes attempt a summary of the key learning from the lesson in your own words or create a diagram to represent key concepts or make a note, on a post-it, of how what you have just learnt is similar too or different from or how it is related to another concept.
- Review your understanding of key vocabulary and find current UK/US examples.
- See your teacher to address any misconceptions
- File your notes in the appropriate place

Every week...

- Create a diagram which includes definitions, in your own words, of the key concepts and terms from the lessons this week and shows how they are connected
- Complete a Seneca quiz on the concepts you have been learning this week. Revisit areas of concern by seeing your teacher or watching a relevant tutorial / video from Pre-Chewed Politics.
- Choose a concept from the week before and attempt a retrieval task put the concept in the middle of a page and sit with the discomfort of attempting to remember the material. Check what you have recalled against the original notes. Add what you missed but change the format (reword / create a diagram) to ensure that you process the information deeply. (Reading it through or copying it out are not effective ways of promoting long-term learning).

Every term ...

- Carry out a RAG rating of the concepts you have studied this half-term and address areas of concern by seeing your teacher, studying with a peer, watching a tutorial on Pre-chewed. If you can explain it to someone else (or on paper) you understand it. If you can't, revisit using a different method because as yet your understanding isn't secure.
- Spend time re-learning (retrieve what you can, deeply process what you have forgotten by changing the format) concepts you have forgotten.
- Create a summary of an entire topic, showing key concepts from the spec, key terms and how they are connected.
- Write yourself or a peer a series of quiz questions on a topic
- Do past paper questions on the material you have met this half term/read a case study on a past topic from Pre-Chewed Politics
- Test yourself on concepts you met last half-term and spend time re-learning those that are not secure- see technique above

Every year...

- Organise your folder, to ensure that you have all your class notes in the right order.
- Create a revision resource for the topics you have studied.
- Go back to your RAG rating sheets has your knowledge of the topics improved, are there any where you still struggle with your understanding? See your teacher for help on the concepts/vocabulary that you still find challenging.
- Find current political examples from the UK/US to support the topics that you have studied so far
- Check Pre-chewed for the latest case studies and complete the tasks.
- Plan an essay and a source question from a past paper, write one of these in timed conditions and get your teacher to check it.