

QUALIFICATION QUARTERLY

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Welcome to the Qualification Quarterly- connecting communities through qualifications.

Brought to you by Tutors & Exams South Africa, the Qualification Quarterly is your central source for educational updates, insights and inspiration. More than just an exam centre, Tutors & Exams South Africa sees itself as a central point of communication and support for alternative learning communities across South Africa.

Created for candidates, parents, and partners alike, this publication is a curated collection of all thing's qualifications, from online learning and homeschooling to events, expos and expert advice.

This is your quarterly newspaper bringing clarity, confidence and conversation to the world of education and beyond.



The Tutors & Exams South Africa Team



A MESSAGE FROM OUR TEAM

As another examination season begins, the Tutors & Exams South Africa team reminds every candidate that they are capable, prepared, and fully supported.

Success is built through the small, consistent decisions candidates make each day to learn, practise, and keep moving forward. Every lesson studied, practice paper completed, and challenge overcome has helped prepare candidates for this moment. Here are some motivational words from our team:

Hennie: "Believe in the foundation you have built. Walk into every examination with confidence, knowing that your dedication has already demonstrated your strength of character. We believe in your potential, and we cannot wait to see where your journey takes you."

Mari-etta: "Believe in yourself, the time spent preparing. Get enough sleep and keep a healthy perspective. This is just a blip in your life. Good luck with all your exam preparations!"

Amy: "Trust in your preparation, believe in your abilities, and take each examination one step at a time. Your hard work has brought you this far. Now is your chance to let it shine."

Shaafi: "Just as I have learned through years of fishing that patience, persistence, and determination eventually bring rewards, the same applies to your studies. Stay focused, remain positive, and give it your very best."

Anastasia: "We believe in you and in the hard work that has brought you this far. Every hour of preparation, every challenge you have overcome, and every sacrifice you have made has contributed to your journey."

Shakira: "Believe in yourself, trust your preparation, and take each examination one step at a time. We are so proud of you and cannot wait to see your efforts rewarded."

Wanda and Carmen: "We celebrate every milestone and every achievement. We wish all our candidates continued success, both during this examination season and in the exciting journeys that lie ahead."

The entire team recognises that examinations represent months of dedication, perseverance, and personal growth. Tutors & Exams South Africa wishes every candidate the very best for the October/November examination season and for the exciting journey ahead.

EXCITING NEWS AT TUTORS & EXAMS SA

We are excited to announce that Tutors & Exams South Africa is growing! We will be opening new alternative exam sites in Rosebank; Johannesburg, and in Hout Bay; Cape Town, for the October/November exam season.

What Is an Alternative Exam Site?

An alternative exam site is an examination venue for a specific exam season, allocated to overflow candidates. These sites allow candidates to write their exams at an approved, supervised location outside of our main centres, while still managed by Pretoria and Cape Town. This also creates a collaboration opportunity for centres, learning partners, schools, tutors and educational institutions located within approximately 90 minutes of our main centres, to create more venue opportunities for candidates.



Rosebank Alternative Site

Rosebank

Our new Rosebank alternative exam site will be available for the October/November exam season and is ideally located for candidates in Johannesburg and the surrounding areas. Its central location makes it a valuable addition to our growing network of examination facilities, and reflects our ongoing commitment to meeting the needs of the communities we serve.

We are also especially pleased to announce that our Rosebank exam site will become a permanent part of our offering from 2027. This will allow us to provide more consistent support to candidates, families, and learning partners in the Johannesburg area throughout future exam seasons.

Hout Bay

We are equally delighted to introduce our Hout Bay alternative exam site for the October/November exam season. This additional Cape Town venue will provide candidates in Hout Bay and surrounding communities with another convenient option when registering for their examinations. It will help reduce the need for candidates to travel to our main Cape Town centre in Bellville while ensuring they continue to receive the same professional supervision, clear communication, and candidate support.

The addition of Hout Bay reflects our commitment to expanding examination access throughout the Western Cape and creating practical solutions for candidates who may otherwise need to travel significant distances to reach an approved exam venue.

Register here: <https://www.tutorsandexams.co.za/apply/>

SOME TIPS FROM TUTORS & EXAMS UK

By Simon Cherriman, Tutors & Exams UK

Practical Study tips

Although it has been many years since I last studied for exams, the core basics for getting the most out of your studies have not changed, especially when the discipline of study and the practical application of it is down to you.

Before you commence your studies, ask yourself why, and what are you wanting to achieve. Have a mission statement that you can refer back to, when you are finding your studies challenging to reaffirm why you are doing this, and what you hope to achieve.

When I was studying, I found that allocating specific time slots helped keep the discipline of study, allowing me to focus entirely on the subject that I had allocated time for. This does not have to be huge chunks of time, in fact that can be self-defeating as concentration wanes, but shaped around what subject I was studying and the topic involved. It is also important that when you are not studying to allow yourself time to rest, recharge your batteries, and to do things that bring you joy, be it playing sport,



meeting friends, whatever it is, this allows you to switch off from your studies.

Making notes, to review regularly and reinforce the key points done over a number of weeks, or months, so that you have regular opportunities to check and ensure that those key components of the topic are not forgotten.

Regularly test yourself against the topics/subjects that you have studied, to reaffirm that you have retained that knowledge or highlight that more work is required. Mock papers are gold dust when it comes to this.

Always remember that the study goals you set yourself must be achievable, ensure these enable you to remain on course with your studies to achieve your goals.

Finally, enjoy and embrace your studies because if you don't it will feel like a long road rather than a journey that you want to embrace.

SUPPORTING CANDIDATES WITH CONFIDENCE

Tutors & Exams South Africa is proud to offer a Reader/Scribe Training Course, now available online.

Led by our Head SENCo, this course provides practical, hands-on training, aligned with the official guidelines set by Cambridge, Pearson, and the IEB. It is designed to equip participants with the knowledge, confidence, and understanding needed to support candidates who require Reader or Scribe assistance during examinations.

The training is open to anyone looking to upskill, including tutors, tutoring companies, learning support staff, and parents who would like to better understand how to support their children.

Upon successful completion of the online training and practical component, participants will receive a certificate of completion.

For enquiries, please contact: aa@tutorsandexams.co.za

CAREER ASSESSMENTS WITH PURPOSE

Choosing subjects and planning a future career can be exciting, but it can also feel overwhelming for candidates and their families. Tutors & Exams South Africa offers career assessments to help bring clarity and direction to this process.

These assessments explore a candidate's strengths, interests, abilities, personality, values, and possible career pathways. They are not designed to force candidates into one career, but rather to highlight suitable options worth exploring. Career assessments are especially valuable before choosing subjects or registering for examinations.

Making informed subject choices early can help protect future study opportunities and reduce the need for unnecessary changes later. Our assessments are facilitated by Laura Cotton, HPCSA Registered Psychometrist (Independent Practice) (PMT0102458).

Each candidate receives personalised guidance based on their assessment results and individual circumstances. The process can support candidates who feel uncertain about their subjects, studies, or future direction, while also helping parents make more confident decisions.

By combining career planning with exam planning, candidates can move forward with greater confidence, purpose, and a clearer sense of direction.

GIVING BACK, ONE EXAM SEASON AT A TIME

Upcoming Charity Drive

During the October/November 2026 exam series, Tutors & Exams South Africa will be hosting a charity drive at both our Cape Town and Pretoria centres.

This season, we are focusing on supporting human organisations, helping provide support and care for our communities.

Donation boxes will be available at both centres:

Cape Town Centre – for Saartjie Baartman Centre
Pretoria Centre – for Louis Botha Kinderhuis

How You Can Help

Donations can be dropped off at our centres, where we have collection boxes at reception. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

Donation boxes will be available at all Tutors & Exams South Africa exam centres, making it easy for candidates, families, and partners to contribute.

 **Saartjie Baartman Centre**
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN


**Louis Botha
Kinderhuis**



**TUTORS & EXAMS®
SOUTH AFRICA**
Opening Learning Doors!

Charity Drive



We need toiletries and sanitary products, clothing for women and children, non-perishable food items and blankets.

Drop your donations here!

What is Needed:

Saartjie Baartman Centre

- Toiletries and sanitary products
- Clothing for women and children
- Non-perishable food items
- Blankets

Louis Botha Kinderhuis

- Toys
- Blankets
- Clothing
- Non-perishable food items
- Toiletries

Our aim is simple: to give back, no matter how big or small the contribution, because making a difference always matters.

NEW PARTNERS

Learn more about our partners:
<https://www.tutorsandexams.co.za/our-learning-partners/>

GOER

GOER is an independent international organisation that promotes quality and innovation in online and digital education. Through accreditation, quality initiatives, and global collaboration, it helps education providers build trust and gain recognition. Its goal is to ensure learners benefit from high-quality, ethical education.



Exam Slayers

Exam Slayers supports candidates from Grade R to University level with tutoring, study resources, past papers, AI-powered quizzes, planning tools, and academic guidance. Covering multiple curricula, the platform helps learners prepare more effectively and approach examinations with confidence.



ExamSlayers

Bright Future Learning Centre

Bright Future Private Centre is a homeschool support centre offering small classes, personalised attention, and a nurturing learning environment. Its approach supports academic growth while building confidence, independence, creativity, and critical-thinking skills. The centre is also pursuing Pearson Edexcel and Cognia accreditation to provide globally aligned educational opportunities.



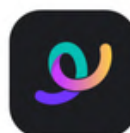
TeachMe2

Founded in 2006, Teach Me 2 offers personalised one-on-one tutoring and expert-led online classes across major school curricula and university subjects. Its carefully selected tutors provide tailored support to help students close learning gaps, build confidence, and succeed academically.



CoachBit

Founded in 2019, Coachbit helps students aged 11 to 21 build better habits, routines, study skills, and time-management systems. Through its mobile app, each student works with a personal coach who provides regular accountability and personalised support. The programme is especially helpful for students with ADHD or executive-functioning challenges.



Coachbit

NEW PARTNERS

PlayPot

PlayPot provides personalised ADHD coaching and developmental support to help children and adolescents strengthen skills such as emotional regulation, planning, organisation, and decision-making. Its patient, practical approach supports meaningful, lasting progress for young people and their families. We are pleased to welcome PlayPot to our partner network.



Learn more about our partners:
<https://www.tutorsandexams.co.za/our-learning-partners/>

BECOME A PARTNER

Become a Partner!

Whether you're an **online school, private tutor, homeschooling provider, tuition centre, or any educational service** supporting learners, we would love to look into working with you. Becoming a Distance Learning Partner (DLP) enables your students to benefit from simplified exam registration, accredited exam centres, and comprehensive support at every stage.

TUTORS & EXAMS® SOUTH AFRICA
Opening Learning Doors!

Simply fill in our partnership form, via this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/rP0MdrCWvE>

We will review it and reach out!

EVENTS

PAST AND UPCOMING

Parent Evenings: Guiding Your Journey

Our Parent Evenings on 1 June and 6 July 2026 focused on Access Arrangements and Planning Your Exam Journey. Both Facebook Live sessions were warmly received, and we are grateful to every parent, candidate, and learning partner who joined us.

These evenings continue to give our community a valuable space to learn, ask questions, and feel supported throughout the examination journey.

Our next Parent Evening will take place on **6 August 2026** and will focus on **Understanding Results and Next Steps**. We look forward to welcoming you again.

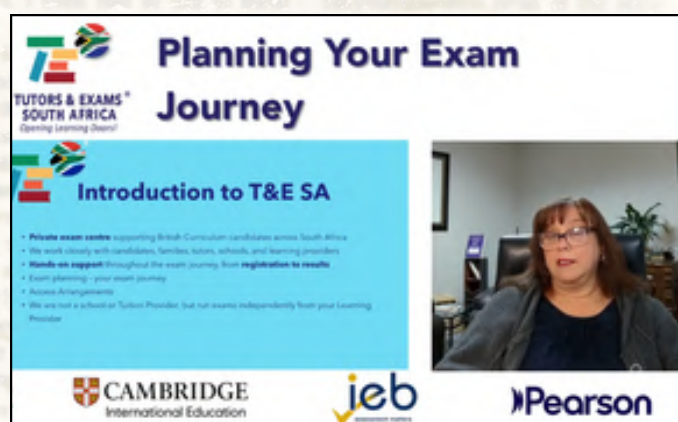


From left: Hennie Joubert, Jordan Joubert, Mari-etta van der Bank



Watch the last live session here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1BKz2zP5x8/>



Mari-etta van der Bank, Operations Director, at our last Parent Evening

End-of-Year Dances - Celebrate the Season in Style

Our 2026 Year-End Dances are just around the corner, and we cannot wait to celebrate with our candidates!

Pretoria will step into an Enchanted Forest on Saturday, **29 August 2026**, Johannesburg will enjoy a Night with the Stars on Saturday, **26 September 2026**, and Cape Town will end the year in Glitz & Glam on Saturday, **28 November 2026**.

Tickets are available for individuals and couples, but spaces are limited. Be sure to book before the relevant closing date and join us for an unforgettable evening of music, celebration, and special memories.

RSVP here:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/Epgd3hRmsb>

EVENTS

PAST AND UPCOMING

Come Visit Us at EduXplore 2026

Tutors & Exams South Africa will be at the EduXplore North Expo in Pretoria on 17 October 2026 and the CHE EduXplore Expo in Cape Town on 7 November 2026.

Visit our stand to meet the team, ask questions, and learn more about exam registrations, subject choices, access arrangements, practical components, and international qualifications. EduXplore offers families a welcoming space to explore flexible learning pathways and connect with education providers who understand the alternative education journey.

We would love to see you there!



Amy Rex, at EduXplore 2025



Mock Week 2026: Practise Today, Perform with Confidence Tomorrow

Mock exams help candidates practise important skills such as time management, following examination procedures, and completing a full paper under pressure. They also highlight areas that may need more attention before the official examination season begins.

Tutors & Exams South Africa's Mock Week will take place from **24 to 31 August 2026**, giving candidates the opportunity to write practice examinations in a structured environment that closely reflects official exam conditions.

Book your place for Mock Week here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/9Lq4UXRra1>

TUTORS & EXAMS SA UPCOMING

SPECIALS

Price Freeze Specials



This winter we're freezing our fees!

We are freezing our prices this August, that means if you register and pay for October/November 2026 exams or ANY 2027 exams during August 2026, you will pay 2026 fees! This offer is valid for Cambridge International Education and Pearson Edexcel.

Register now on our website, or give us a call on 087 655 5143 for more information.



Free Mock



Stay on track for January 2027!

Register for your January 2027 exams in September 2026 and receive a FREE unmarked mock exam to help you practise, plan and approach exam day with greater confidence.

Register now on our website, or give us a call on 087 655 5143 for more information.

Catch This Deal



Catch this deal before it gets away!

Register for your May/June 2027 Cambridge or Pearson exams during

September 2026 and receive a 10% discount on your exam entry.

Plan ahead, secure your place early and enjoy valuable savings while preparing for the next step in your exam journey.

Register now on our website, or give us a call on 087 655 5143 for more information.

Payment Plan



Don't let exam fees break the bank!

Secure your May/June 2027 Cambridge or Pearson exam place and make budgeting easier by spreading your fees over three manageable monthly payments. Plan ahead, reduce the financial pressure and stay focused on preparing for exam success.

Register now on our website, or give us a call on 087 655 5143 for more information.

EXAM ENTRY DEADLINES

Access Arrangements Deadlines

October/November 2026	Pearson Edexcel (JCQ-Modified Papers)	07/09/2026
October/November 2026	Pearson Edexcel (JCQ-Access Arrangements incl. Evidence)	07/09/2026
January 2027	Pearson Edexcel (JCQ-Modified Papers)	01/11/2026
January 2027	Pearson Edexcel (JCQ-Access Arrangements incl. Evidence)	01/11/2026

Provisional and subject to change in accordance with the relevant awarding organisations.

October/November 2026 Deadlines

Awarding Organisation	Qualification Type	Entry Deadline	Late Fees apply from	High Late Fees apply from
Cambridge International Education	All	06/08/2026	07/08/2026	11/09/2026
Pearson Edexcel	International GCSE	03/09/2026	04/09/2026	22/09/2026
Pearson Edexcel	International A/AS Level	20/08/2026	21/08/2026	11/09/2026

Provisional and subject to change in accordance with the relevant awarding organisations.

January 2027 Deadlines

Awarding Organisation	Qualification Type	Entry Deadline	Late Fees apply from	High Late Fees apply from
Pearson Edexcel	International AS/A Level	27/09/2026	28/09/2026	05/10/2026

Provisional and subject to change in accordance with the relevant awarding organisations.

Important Update

Cambridge International Education has introduced important subject changes that candidates, parents, and educators should be aware of. Read more here: [Provisional and subject to change in accordance with the relevant awarding organisations.](#)

TUTORS & EXAMS SA

TEAM GROWTH

Congratulations, Mrs Van Der Bank!

We are delighted to share a very special team update from Tutors & Exams South Africa.

Our very own Shakira, previously known as Miss Poots and now proudly Mrs Van Der Bank, tied the knot with her husband, Alex, on 6 June 2026. The beautiful day was shared with their closest friends and family, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter in their lives together.

Following their wedding celebration, Shakira and Alex enjoyed a romantic honeymoon breakaway, taking time to celebrate their love and the start of their marriage.

Shakira has been a valued part of our Tutors & Exams South Africa family, serving within our Growth and Relationships team, where her warmth, energy and care have been felt by many in our community.

From all of us at Tutors & Exams South Africa, we wish Mr and Mrs Van Der Bank a marriage filled with love, laughter, joy, patience, adventure and many beautiful memories. May this new season be everything they have hoped for and more.

Congratulations, Shakira and Alex!



From left: Shakira van der Bank, Alex van der Bank

Welcome, Little Sebastian!

With full hearts and so much excitement, we are delighted to celebrate a very special new arrival in the Tutors & Exams South Africa family.

Laura welcomed her beautiful baby boy, Sebastian, into the world on 24 June 2026. His arrival marks the beginning of a precious new chapter for Laura, her partner Johan, and their family, one filled with love, little milestones, and the joy that only a new baby can bring.

A new baby has a beautiful way of filling a home with wonder, soft moments, and memories that will be cherished forever. We hope that little Sebastian brings Laura and Johan endless happiness, laughter, love, and many special moments as they step into this new season together.

From all of us at Tutors & Exams South Africa, congratulations to Laura and Johan on the arrival of their precious bundle of joy. We wish your family a lifetime of blessings, beautiful memories, and all the love that comes with welcoming sweet Sebastian into the world.



Laura's family

Welcome, Hendrik Petrus Joubert!

It is with full hearts and so much joy that we celebrate a very special new arrival in the Tutors & Exams South Africa family.

Jordan and Hennie Joubert welcomed their beautiful baby boy into the world on 17 July 2026, marking the beginning of a precious new chapter for their family. Their little boy has been named Hendrik Petrus Joubert, lovingly carrying on a meaningful family name and proudly named after his father, now affectionately known as Hennie Senior.

TUTORS & EXAMS SA

TEAM GROWTH

This special season is one filled with love, excitement, and new beginnings. As Jordan and Hennie step into the beautiful journey of parenthood, we wish them nothing but joy, wisdom, patience, love, and a lifetime of cherished memories with their son.

From all of us at Tutors & Exams South Africa, welcome to the world, little Hennie Junior. May your life be filled with love, laughter, adventure, and endless blessings.

Once again, congratulations to Jordan and Hennie on the arrival of their precious baby boy!



Jordan and Hennie Joubert, with their bundle of joy.

Meet Anastasia!

We are excited to introduce Anastasia Bosman as the latest addition to the team at Tutors & Exams South Africa. Anastasia joins us with a genuine passion for people, partnership, and meaningful connection.

In her own words:

"Relationships are at the heart of everything we do, and we believe in fostering connections where everyone benefits and grows together. At Tutors & Exams South Africa, we are committed to delivering the highest level of care, support, and provision for our learning partners, candidates, and parents.

By working collaboratively, and prioritising mutual understanding, and respect, we aim to create an environment where each individual feels supported, valued, and empowered to succeed.

I am excited to be part of a role that allows me to do what I love most; connect with people. I have always believed that relationships become most meaningful when we take the time to understand people individually, not only what they do, but who they are, what they value, and how we can support them in a way that truly matters.

For me, strong relationships are built through trust, consistency, and genuine connection. When we take the time to listen, learn, and engage on a deeper level, relationships become more than professional interactions. They become long-lasting, fruitful partnerships that continue to grow and create impact.

I am honoured to be part of this journey and look forward to building strong, meaningful relationships with our candidates, partners, and wider community as we continue to grow together."



Anastasia Bosman

MEET THE TUTORS & EXAMS SA

TEAM

At Tutors & Exams South Africa, we believe that personal connection matters. In an increasingly digital world, we value every opportunity to engage face to face and build genuine relationships with our community. Here's a look at the dedicated team working behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly. We want you to know exactly who you're connecting with when you reach out, because for us, it's not just about exams- it's about people and partnership.



Hennie Joubert

Chief Executive Officer



Mari-etta van der Bank

Operations Director



Jordan Joubert

Growth & Relationships
Manager



Laura Cotton

Registered SENCO
(Psychometrist, HPCSA
Registered)



Anastasia Bosman

Growth & Relationships
Supervisor



Shakira Poots

Growth & Relationships
Co-Ordinator



Wanda du Plessis

Exams Officer (Pretoria)



Carmen Julies

Exams Assistant (Pretoria)



Shaafi Kamaldien

Exams Officer (Cape
Town)



Amy Rex

Exams Assistant (Cape
Town)

GET TO KNOW OUR EXAMS OFFICERS

At Tutors & Exams South Africa, our Exams Officers are the planners behind all exam days. They play a vital role in creating an organised and structured environment, and we thought it was time you got to know them a little better.

"Hi, I'm Wanda du Plessis!

I'm part of the Examinations team, where no two days are ever the same. I enjoy helping candidates, solving problems, and making sure exam sessions run as smoothly as possible. I love working with people and believe that a calm, positive approach can make all the difference.

When I'm not at work, you'll most likely find me at a kickboxing event. I'm a very proud kickboxing mom and spend many weekends cheering from the sidelines. When the opportunity arises, I also officiate at competitions, which gives me another way to support a sport that has become a big part of our family's life.

I enjoy learning new things, working as part of a team. I'm grateful to be part of the Tutors & Exams family and look forward to continuing to grow alongside such an amazing team."



From left: Wanda du Plessis, with her son; Tiaan du Plessis

"Hi, I'm Shaafi Kamaldien!

Some people find peace in a quiet room. For me, peace is found beside the water, fishing rod in hand, surrounded by nature. Fishing is about far more than catching fish. It is a chance to disconnect, reflect, recharge, and appreciate the simple beauty of life.

An extrovert by nature, I enjoy connecting with people from all walks of life. One lesson that has stayed with me came from my grandmother, "You cannot go through life with your own opinion." These words remind me to listen, respect different perspectives, and remain open-minded.

I'm married to my greatest supporter and best friend, Dr. Naeelah Kamaldien and together we are raising two beautiful children. As a husband and father, I strive to be present, supportive, and someone my family is proud of.

Be the best version of yourself every single day. Believe in yourself, value the people around you, and never stop appreciating the beauty that life has to offer."



From left: Dr. Naeelah Kamaldien, Shaafi Kamaldien

CONTACT DETAILS

Centre	Email	Call	WhatsApp	Physical Address
Pretoria	pretoria@tutorsandexams.co.za	087 655 5143	071 451 7116	Phase 4, Centurion Science Park, 1011 Pretorius Ave, Lyttelton Manor, Centurion, 0157, South Africa
Cape Town	capetown@tutorsandexams.co.za	087 655 5143	082 900 4923	First Floor, Tyger Terraces II, 2 D J Wood St, Bellville, Cape Town, 7530
Head Office	connect@tutorsandexams.co.za	087 655 5143	071 440 4890	Phase 4, Centurion Science Park, 1011 Pretorius Ave, Lyttelton Manor, Centurion, 0157, South Africa

Did you know?

Your brain starts consolidating memories while you sleep, especially during deep sleep.

Did you know?

Most exam mistakes happen from misreading the question, not from lack of knowledge.

Did you know?

Your brain remembers beginnings and endings better than middles.

PLAN YOUR EXAM

JOURNEY WITH

CONFIDENCE.

By Mari-etta van der Bank, Operations Director at Tutors & Exams SA
August 2026

Careful exam planning is essential for completing your qualification successfully. While revision and preparation are important, candidates must also understand that Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge International subjects are not available during every exam season.

Planning ahead can help candidates avoid delays, manage their workload and ensure that their chosen examination pathway meets university entrance requirements. This is especially important for students intending to study at a South African public university, as their subjects and examination schedule may need to meet Universities South Africa (USAf) Matriculation Board exemption requirements.

Why Planning Matters

Candidates should confirm when each subject is available before finalising their examination entries. Early planning allows students to:

- Complete their qualification within their intended timeframe.
- Balance subjects across different exam seasons.
- Avoid timetable clashes.
- Allow enough preparation time.
- Meet university admission and exemption requirements.

Pearson Edexcel Exam Seasons

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE examinations are offered in May/June and November. The May/June season generally includes the widest subject selection, while November offers fewer subjects.



Pearson International AS and A Level examinations are available in January, May/June and October. The full range of subjects and units is usually offered in May/June, while January and October may have more limited availability.

Cambridge International Exam Seasons

Cambridge International examinations are generally offered in May/June and October/November. However, not every subject is available in both seasons. Certain practical subjects, languages and specialised qualifications may only be examined once a year.

Candidates should therefore check the relevant syllabus and official examination timetable before registering.

USAf Exemption Requirements

Students applying to South African universities with Cambridge or Pearson International qualifications may need a Certificate of Exemption from the USAf Matriculation Board.

USAf considers both the subjects completed and the levels and grades achieved. Cambridge exemption pathways may include combinations such as:

- Two A Levels and three IGCSE subjects.
- Three A Levels and one IGCSE subject.
- Four AS Levels and one IGCSE subject, depending on the exemption category.

Continue on page 19...

Candidates must also meet the prescribed subject-group, language and minimum-grade requirements. Academic pathways should therefore be planned from the beginning of the IGCSE or International GCSE stage.

Understanding the Two-Sitting Rule

For certain Cambridge AS Level and AICE Diploma exemption categories, the subjects submitted to USAf must normally be completed within no more than two examination sittings.

Examinations completed within a 12-month period may be treated as one sitting. For example, May/June and October/November examinations written during the same calendar year can count as a single sitting. USAf may also recognise an adjacent season where a subject is only offered during a specific examination period.

Poor planning or postponing an unavailable subject could unintentionally create an additional sitting and affect exemption eligibility. Candidates should therefore seek guidance before confirming their entries.

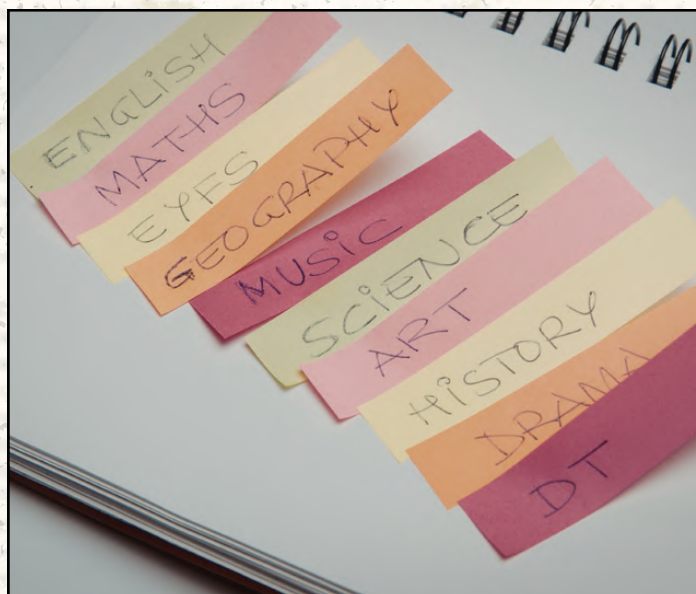


Plan Beyond One Exam Season

Rather than planning one examination season at a time, candidates should develop a longer-term academic plan that considers:

- Subject availability.
- USAf subject and sitting requirements.
- University application deadlines.
- The possibility of rewrites or grade improvements.
- The overall timeframe for completing the qualification.

Choosing when to write an examination is just as important as choosing which subject to study. By confirming availability early and planning a suitable qualification pathway, candidates can reduce pressure, avoid unnecessary delays and progress more confidently towards higher education.



[End]

NEWS

SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS

AUTHORITY

By Kathleen Kriel, Content Write - Communications & Advocacy

August 2026

Practical Learning: Preparing South Africans for the Future of Work

The world of work is changing rapidly. Advances in technology, shifting economic demands and evolving industries mean that qualifications must do more than certify knowledge. They must equip people with the practical skills and competencies needed to thrive in real workplaces.

This reality is at the heart of South Africa's transition from legacy qualifications to occupational qualifications. It is a shift that places greater emphasis on practical competence, workplace readiness and ensuring that learning is directly aligned with the skills required by employers and industries.

Speaking during the announcement of government's transitional arrangements for legacy qualifications, Minister of Higher Education and Training, Buti Manamela, described the transition as "one of the most significant reforms in South Africa's post-school education and training landscape."

He emphasised that the objective is to modernise, strengthen and future-proof the National Qualifications Framework while ensuring that qualifications remain responsive to the changing needs of the economy.

Occupational qualifications are designed differently from many of the legacy qualifications they replace. They integrate theoretical knowledge, practical skills and

Learn more about SAQA:

<https://www.tutorsandexams.co.za/saqa-equivalent-certification/>



workplace experience into a single learning pathway, enabling learners to graduate with both the understanding and the ability to perform effectively in their chosen occupations. This approach strengthens the connection between education, training and employment, ensuring that qualifications remain relevant in an increasingly dynamic economy.

Importantly, this transition is not about diminishing the value of existing qualifications. In his address, Minister Manamela assured the public that every qualification that has already been awarded remains valid, recognised and recorded on the National Learners' Records Database. The reform is about building on that foundation by creating qualifications that better prepare learners for today's workplaces and tomorrow's opportunities.

As the custodian of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) supports a qualifications system that responds to the needs of learners, employers and the broader economy. The transition to occupational qualifications represents an important step towards building a more responsive and future-focused education and training system that values both academic achievement and practical competence.

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The Minister captured this shift succinctly when he observed that many legacy qualifications “have favoured the classroom over the workshop.” Occupational qualifications seek to address this by guaranteeing practical experience and workplace exposure, making practical learning an integral part of every learner's journey rather than an optional extra.

“It is about modernising the system to make the Skills Revolution a reality.”

Practical learning should not be viewed as an alternative to academic learning, but as its natural extension. Whether through workplace learning, apprenticeships, internships, simulations, laboratories, community projects or other forms of experiential learning, practical application enables learners to translate knowledge into competence. It develops problem-solving abilities, critical thinking, adaptability and confidence. These are qualities that are increasingly sought after in every sector of the economy.

Practical learning also recognises that valuable learning happens beyond the classroom. Many South Africans acquire significant knowledge and skills through work experience, community service and informal learning opportunities. The National Qualifications Framework provides pathways that recognise learning from different contexts, promoting lifelong learning and enabling individuals to continue developing throughout their careers.

The transition to occupational qualifications also presents an opportunity for learners and their families to make more informed education and career decisions. By choosing qualifications that are aligned with industry needs and include

meaningful practical experience, learners position themselves for greater employability while contributing to South Africa's economic growth and development.

As South Africa continues to modernise its qualifications landscape, practical learning will become increasingly important. Success in today's economy requires more than knowing. It requires doing. By combining sound theoretical knowledge with practical competence, occupational qualifications prepare learners not only to enter the workforce but also to innovate, adapt and build sustainable careers.

“This transition is far more than the replacement of legacy qualifications. It is about building a more responsive, relevant and future-focused skills development system that equips South Africans with the skills required to thrive in the jobs of today and the opportunities of the future,” said Minister.

The transition to occupational qualifications is therefore more than a policy change. It represents a shared commitment by government, education institutions, industry and quality assurance bodies to ensure that South Africans leave education and training with qualifications that are credible, relevant and capable of opening doors to meaningful employment, entrepreneurship and lifelong learning. By embracing practical learning, we are investing in a workforce that is equipped to meet the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow.

[End]



NEWS

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL

EDUCATION

By Robyn Luizinho, Schools Territory Manager,
Cambridge International Education
August 2026

Fluent on Paper, Flop in Real Life

Why knowledge alone isn't enough, and why using it matters most.

I still remember my first weeks teaching in France. I arrived feeling fairly confident with three years of university French under my belt; verb conjugations memorised, vocabulary lists diligently revised, quotes from famous literary poets. On paper, I could do French. In reality, I really could not.

One afternoon, I hopped on a bus headed home. Ten minutes in, I started to feel unsure. Twenty minutes later, I knew I was lost. And yet, despite repeating "Excusez-moi, je suis perdue..." (Pardon me, I'm lost) in my head, I just couldn't bring myself to say it out loud. So I didn't. I just sat there, quietly panicking, riding that bus for a full hour... hoping I'd suddenly recognise a landmark near home... Eventually, the bus driver looked into his rearview mirror, smiled ruefully, and stepped in to help. It was humbling, to say the least.

Because in that moment, it became very clear: knowing something is not the same as being able to use it.

You've probably experienced this yourself. You learn something, you understand it, you can even get it right in a test... and then suddenly, in a real-life situation, it just doesn't come out the way you expect. Your mind goes blank. Or the context changes a bit and then you're not quite sure how to adapt. This is where we need to rethink what we mean by "practical" learning.

Learn more about CIE:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>



We tend to associate practicals with experiments and hands-on activities: connecting circuits, building a Lego robot, sewing a shirt, kicking a soccer ball. Yet some of the most important practical skills are far less visible. Communication is one of them.

Take a second example from my own home. A few years ago, my husband was working in an international company with the benefit of learning basic French. One day, at the end of class, he walked past the General Director, who asked how things were going with his lessons. A great opportunity to build rapport with the big boss... Except, instead of saying "Je suis très heureux" (I'm very happy), he confidently said "Je suis très jolie." (I'm very pretty).

Now, while I'm sure the humour slip was appreciated, it wasn't quite the intended message. And, apart from the fact that my husband and I clearly both need more French classes, it highlights something important: it's not just about knowing the words - it's about knowing how and when to use them.

Communication isn't static. It's not a list you memorise. It's something you do, in real time, with other people, with all the unpredictability that comes with that. And the same principle shows up in places you don't always expect...

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In my family, December is the time of year for celebratory gatherings and (although we never say it openly), the chance to hold the title for best host. One December, I decided to take on the mammoth task of making our family's favourite Christmas treat - Dime Ice Cream Cake. I'd seen my mom make it a hundred times and I knew the recipe well, so I skimmed through it and got started. I was confident I'd be stepping up in the family ranks of 'best baker.'

The result? Revolting. Teeth-cracking crust, lumpy butter-like ice cream. And a strong sense that something had gone very wrong.

When I went back and actually read the method properly, it made sense. I had followed the "what" but ignored the "how." Why do wet ingredients go into dry ones? Why do you gently fold in the eggs instead of mixing them in quickly? Why does the whisking time matter? As it turns out, baking isn't just about ingredient... It's about understanding the process. And learning works the same way.

Learning isn't complete when you understand something. It's complete when you can use it. It might look like:

- Explaining an idea in your own word, even if it feels a bit messy
- Applying knowledge to a new or unfamiliar situation
- Speaking up, asking questions, testing your understanding out loud
- Trying, getting it slightly wrong, and adjusting

Because real life doesn't hand you perfectly structured questions with clear instructions. It asks you to think, respond, adapt, and sometimes do all of that on the spot (preferably before you've spent an hour on the wrong bus).

Of course, knowledge still matters - it gives you the foundation and the tools.

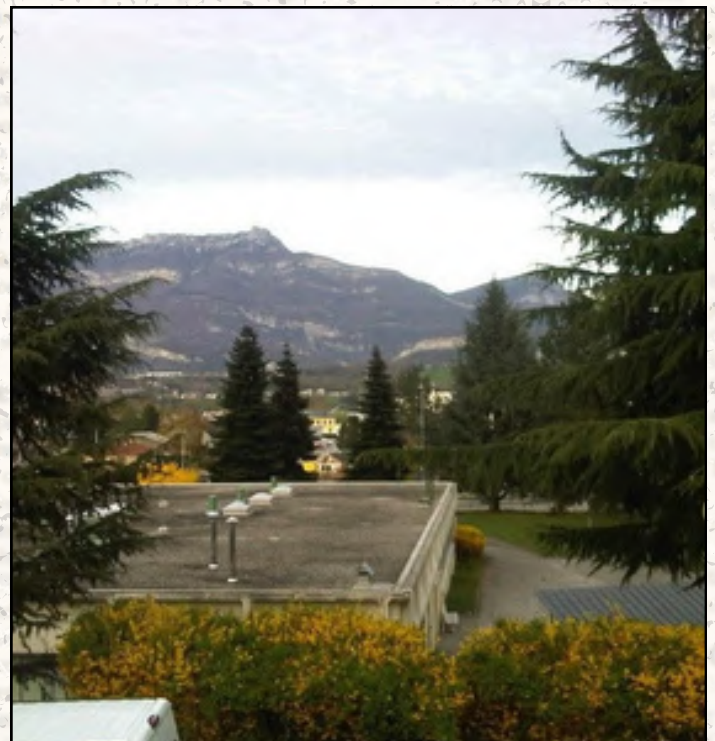
But if those tools stay neatly packed away (only used in controlled, familiar situation), you never quite build the confidence to use them when it counts. And confidence doesn't come from getting everything right the first time. It comes from practise, from taking small risks, from moments where things don't go exactly to plan but you learn anyway.

That bus ride in France, that mishap in workplace communication, and that flopped cake taught me more about real life than any exam ever did. I saw the gap between knowing and doing.

So perhaps it's time to think about practical learning a little differently... Not just as something you do in a lab or a structured activity, but as something that happens whenever you apply what you know; when you speak, explain, adapt, and engage with the world around you.

Because at the end of the day, it's not just about what you know... It's about whether you can actually use it when it matters.

[End]



NEWS

PEARSON EDEXCEL

By Rob Jamieson, Pearson Edexcel
August 2026

Why Top Universities Accept Written Practical Science Exams

Science practicals in Pearson's International A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics are assessed through written examinations rather than in live lab conditions. If this at first sounds like an inferior experience, think again.

A recent [Pearson International Schools blog article](#) explains why written practical science assessments are widely accepted by leading universities and are considered a rigorous, fair, and effective way to assess scientific skills. Top institutions including Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London and UCL do not distinguish between students who have completed written practical assessments and those who have undertaken live practical examinations. Nor do they give preference to one examination board over another.



Written practical examinations provide a highly reliable and consistent method of assessment. Unlike live practical exams, which may be influenced by differences in laboratory facilities,

[Learn more about Pearson Edexcel:](#)

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>



equipment quality, technical support, or local administration, written exams ensure that every student is assessed under the same conditions. This standardisation helps reduce inconsistencies and potential unfairness.

Written practical papers assess a broader and deeper range of scientific skills than you may assume. Rather than focusing solely on performing a procedure, students are required to plan and design experiments,

analyse and interpret data, evaluate methods and results, identify sources of error, suggest improvements, and apply scientific concepts to unfamiliar situations. These higher-order thinking skills are viewed as essential preparation for university-level science.

Written assessment also focuses on the cognitive challenge of tasks requiring critical thinking, scientific reasoning and problem-solving rather than the successful execution of a single experiment. Because written papers can incorporate multiple practical scenarios, they allow students to demonstrate understanding across a wider range of scientific contexts than would be possible in one live practical session. Another argument is that written practical assessments more closely reflect the realities of scientific research. Professional scientists frequently spend time designing investigations, analysing data, evaluating findings and refining methodologies. The ability to think critically about experiments is therefore just as important as carrying them out.

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Lastly, there are important practical considerations. Written assessments reduce the logistical burden on schools by removing the need for specialised laboratory resources,

extensive technical support, large quantities of equipment, chemicals or biological specimens. This can make science qualifications more accessible and equitable for IAL students wherever they are in the world. [End]

NEWS

TO PRAC OR NOT TO PRAC?

*By Anastasia Bosman, Growth & Relationships Supervisor at Tutors & Exams SA
August 2026*

When choosing a science qualification, candidates and parents may be surprised to discover that the word “practical” does not always mean standing in a laboratory during the final examination.

Both Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge International Education recognise practical science as an important part of learning. However, the way these practical skills are assessed can differ significantly. Understanding these differences can help candidates choose the pathway that best suits their learning style, available resources and future study plans.

Pearson Edexcel: Practical Knowledge on Paper

Pearson Edexcel International AS science qualifications do not ordinarily require candidates to complete a separate laboratory examination or practical coursework component.

Instead, practical understanding is assessed through questions within the written science examinations. Candidates are expected to study the core practical activities listed in the relevant specification and understand how experiments are planned, conducted and evaluated.

Candidates may be asked to:

- Identify laboratory apparatus.
- Describe an experimental method.
- Record or interpret results.

- Draw tables and graphs.
- Identify variables.
- Explain safety precautions.
- Evaluate an investigation.
- Suggest improvements to an experiment.

This makes Pearson Edexcel an attractive option for candidates who do not have regular access to a fully equipped laboratory. The practical component is still present, but it is assessed through written application rather than a separate physical practical examination.

However, “no practical exam” does not mean “no practical learning”. Candidates still benefit greatly from performing the experiments themselves. Hands-on experience makes it easier to understand equipment, measurements, observations and the small details that can be difficult to learn from a textbook alone.

Candidates can therefore follow the written assessment route while still attending practical workshops or laboratory sessions to strengthen their knowledge. Where physical access is limited, demonstrations, recorded experiments and simulations may also support learning, although these should be used alongside thorough study of the prescribed core practicals.

Cambridge: Science in Action

Cambridge International places a strong emphasis on practical scientific skills.

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At Cambridge AS and A Level sciences a practical exam is required. This applies to Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Candidates completing the physical Practical Test perform experiments under examination conditions. Depending on the science and qualification, they may need to:

- Assemble or use laboratory equipment.
- Follow an experimental method.
- Take accurate measurements.
- Record observations and results.
- Complete calculations.
- Present information in tables or graphs.
- Draw biological specimens or experimental arrangements.
- Evaluate results and identify possible errors.

This route allows candidates to demonstrate not only that they understand an experiment, but that they can carry it out carefully and accurately.

Which Route Is Better?

Neither pathway is automatically easier or better. The right choice depends on the individual candidate.



Pearson Edexcel may suit learners who are comfortable applying practical knowledge in written examinations or who have limited access to laboratory facilities. Cambridge's physical practical route may appeal to learners who enjoy active experimentation and perform well when demonstrating skills directly. Whichever board or assessment route is selected, practical preparation remains valuable. Science is about more than memorising facts. It is about asking questions, testing ideas, observing results and understanding why an investigation succeeds or fails.

Tutors & Exams South Africa offers science practical opportunities for candidates who need hands-on experience in preparation for their Cambridge examinations or who would like to strengthen their understanding of the practical content assessed by Pearson Edexcel.

Before booking, candidates should confirm the requirements for their specific subject, qualification level, syllabus code and examination season, as practical arrangements can differ between subjects and examination boards.

So, to prac or not to prac?

Even when the final assessment takes place entirely on paper, experiencing science in action can turn abstract theory into something candidates can see, measure and truly understand.

[End]

PARTNER PUBLICATIONS

EVETECH

By Alicia Flemming

Build a Better Study Setup with evetech.

A good study setup is about more than having a desk and a screen. The way a student sits, types and positions their monitor can have a real impact on comfort, focus and productivity.

With so much schoolwork now being completed on a computer, it is worth taking the time to create a space that feels comfortable and supports healthy study habits.

Start with the Monitor:

A monitor should be placed directly in front of the student, with the top of the screen sitting close to eye level. If the screen is too low, students may find themselves leaning forward or looking down for long periods, which can lead to neck and shoulder discomfort. A monitor stand or adjustable monitor arm can help raise the screen to a better height while also freeing up extra space on the desk. The screen should also be placed at a comfortable viewing distance so there is no need to lean forward or strain the eyes.

Choose a Chair That Offers Support:

A supportive chair can make a big difference during longer study sessions. Students should be able to sit with their backs supported, shoulders relaxed and feet resting comfortably on the floor or on a footrest. The chair should also be adjusted so that the keyboard and mouse are easy to reach without stretching or hunching over the desk. evetech offers a range of ergonomic and gaming chairs designed to provide comfort and support for studying, working and gaming.



Use Comfortable Peripherals:

The keyboard and mouse should feel comfortable and be positioned within easy reach. The keyboard should allow the elbows to remain relaxed, while the mouse should sit close by to avoid unnecessary stretching. A good mousepad can also make movement smoother, while a headset can help students focus during online lessons, research or group projects.

Don't Forget to Take Breaks!

Even the best setup cannot replace regular movement. Students should take short breaks to stand, stretch, walk around and give their eyes a rest from the screen.

With the right monitor, chair and peripherals, it is easier to create a study space that feels comfortable, organised and ready for learning.

Everything needed to complete the setup is available from evetech. Shop through the evetech website or download the evetech App, available on the Google Play Store and App Store.

[End]

PARTNER

PUBLICATIONS

EVOLVE

By Shakira van der Bank

Smarter Learning and Exam Preparation with MatX and CamX

Evolve Online School is introducing two innovative learning solutions designed to give candidates greater structure, support and visibility throughout their academic journey: MatX and CamX.

MatX supports students through a focused two-week learning cycle that encourages steady, measurable progress. Each cycle begins with a diagnostic check to identify the student's current strengths and the areas that may need additional attention. From there, the student receives a personalised learning plan and completes targeted lessons, activities and practice tasks designed around their individual needs.

At the end of the cycle, the student completes an assessment and receives feedback on their performance. Progress data and insights are then used to guide the next learning cycle, helping students understand what they have mastered, where they can improve and what their next steps should be. This structured approach encourages consistency, builds confidence and helps students remain actively involved in their own learning.



CamX is designed specifically for Cambridge examination preparation. Developed by experienced Cambridge teachers, the programme supports IGCSE and AS Level candidates through past-paper practice, instant feedback, teacher monitoring and weekly progress reports for parents. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English are available, giving candidates the opportunity to strengthen both their subject knowledge and their examination technique.

Together, MatX and CamX offer a practical combination of personalised learning, regular assessment and meaningful feedback. By helping students identify gaps early, practise consistently and track their progress over time, these programmes aim to ensure that candidates approach their examinations feeling more prepared, informed and confident.

[End]



PARTNER PUBLICATIONS

MOS WERELDWYD



Study tips

GR 12 CANDIDATES

Matric is a marathon, not a sprint. Plan smart, study with purpose and take care of your mind and body. Small, consistent steps lead to BIG results!

1 GENERAL STUDY TIPS FOR EXAMS



1. DO PROPER PLANNING.
Without good planning, you do not set yourself up for success. Use a self-generated table or calendar and plan out time to study, which subject to do, time to relax, family time, time to do physical exercise and keep in mind that enough rest and sleep is important. Your brain needs good sleep to function properly during the day.



2. START IN TIME.
Allow yourself enough time to do good preparation. Sometimes it takes more time to make summaries than you think. Stick to your planning. Now is your time to show good self-discipline.



3. ORGANISE YOUR WORKING STATION.
When you study, make sure you have exam paper and coloured pens or highlighters at hand and that everything you need is close by. A good organised desk and quiet surroundings is a good starting point.

2 SUMMARISING AND MEMORISING TIPS

1. KNOW HOW YOUR BRAIN WORKS:
Your brain has a left and right half. The left half is inclined towards logical thinking and reasoning, problem solving, reading and writing. The right side of the brain is the half that is used for imaginary thinking, colours and arts, music and rhythm and 3D-insight.

LEFT BRAIN

- Logical
- Analytical
- Reasoning
- Language
- Numbers



RIGHT BRAIN

- Creative
- Imagination
- Colours
- Music
- 3D Insight

2. MEMORISING THE WORK:
Keep in mind that your retention of the work will be much better if you can use both halves of your brain and if you are actively involved in the learning process.



Use your imagination and make up a good story, song or acronym about the work.



Use association with colours and shapes to remember better. Use different colours of paper and pens.



Use association with things that are familiar and hook your new facts onto old existing knowledge and pathways in the brain.



Number the facts if you have to remember it in a specific order and memorise it in association with your numeration.



Draw pictures or make symbols next to facts to remember better.



Underline or highlight keywords and important facts or terminology.

Always be actively involved in the learning process and try to use your senses as well!
Read, write, draw, underline, summarise, say it out loud, explain or discuss the work with someone else, to help your brain focussing and concentrating fully on what you are busy with.

3 MAKE GOOD SUMMARIES OR NOTES



Underline or highlight important facts.



Write questions in the margin.



Make a table with questions on the one side and answers on the other side.



Mindmaps done in different colours with different branches.



Mindmaps with symbols and formulae and/or pictures.



Summarise according to numbers and memorise your work in numerical order.

REPEAT, RECALL, REMEMBER!
Always remember to repeat your work – say it out loud for yourself, go back and try to recall all the important facts or practise old exam papers to make sure you know your work. Repeating the work helps to consolidate it better in the long-term memory.

Stay positive. Stay focused. Believe in yourself. You are capable of amazing things! | WE'RE PROUD OF YOU!

PARTNER

PUBLICATIONS

ARK ACADEMY

By Professor Atia Adam

Ark Academy's Theme-Based Teaching Approach in Lesson Planning

Everyone loves a good story and, in order to understand how concepts tie in together, Lesson Plans need to tell a good story. One way of doing this is through Theme-Based teaching. Subjects should link together to maintain the golden thread. Instead of planning and teaching lessons with compartmentalised instruction, connect English, Math, Science, Social Science and Global Perspectives to a central idea. Lessons are more cohesive and students show a deeper understanding of the concepts across all subjects.

What is theme-based teaching lesson planning?

- when you intentionally develop learning experiences that cross many different subjects. The big focus is developing a deeper understanding of a specific concept or idea.
- maintains the teaching standards in a way that allows students to make meaningful connections to what they are learning across multiple subjects.
- intentionally create connections and learning experiences between subjects, in order to improve the student's motivation and confidence.

What are the benefits of thematic planning?

It makes learning more purposeful. Instead of focusing on reading and writing objectives in isolation,



- you are helping your students understand that the same skills they are working on in reading can be translated to other subjects, for example reading is the fundamental skill that tie all concepts together.
- It helps students develop more robust content knowledge. When you intentionally incorporate theme-based teaching planning into your instruction, you CAN focus on all the subjects – English, Math, Science, Global Perspectives and Social Science, as well as social-emotional learning, etc.
- Students are exposed to more opportunities to develop their real-world reading and writing skills.

Here are 5 steps to create Theme-Based Teaching Lesson Planning:

Step One: Identify a Key Concept and Develop a Question

You first need to plot the concepts or ideas that you want to focus on. Begin with the end in mind, i.e. the Final Assessment Task.

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Step Two: Find a Variety of Texts Connected to the Topic

The texts you use in the theme-based teaching lesson planning, can be helpful to identify what concepts you want the students to learn and understand.

Step Three: Build Background Knowledge with Your Students

Before reading the texts in your theme-based teaching lesson planning, the students need to rely on their background knowledge. This helps to give context for why you are learning a specific topic.

Step Four: Read, Explore, and Respond to Texts

The aim is to link English, Math and Science. So, the student relies on their stronger subject's understanding to help them in the 'weaker' subject's concepts. In this way, connections are made, which forms the heart of the curriculum.

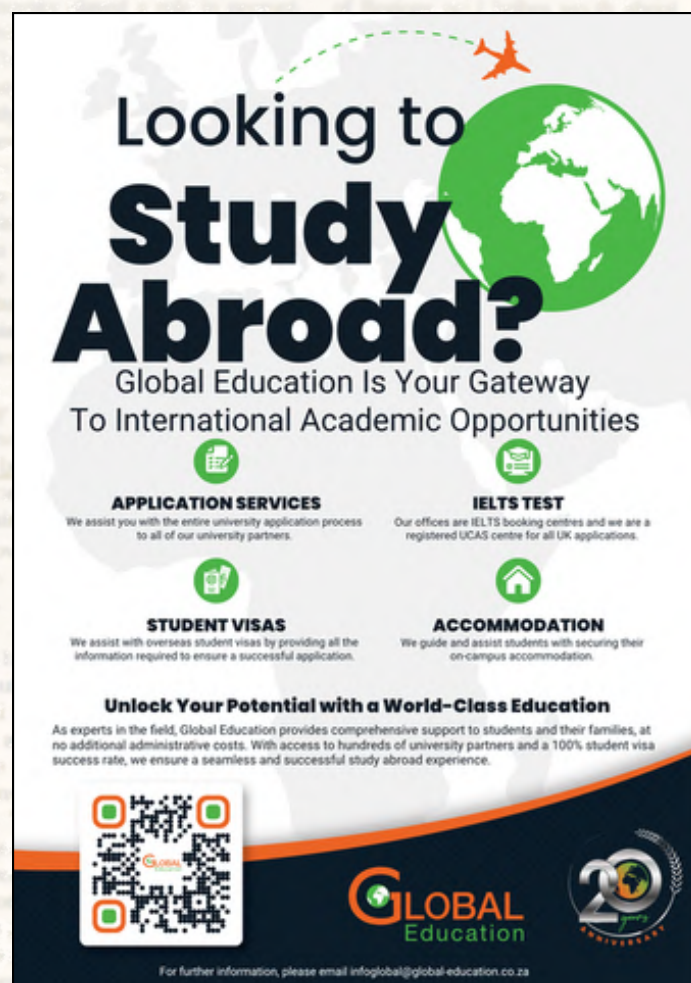
Step Five: Synthesize New Learning

At the end of the theme, the student should be able to complete the Final Assessment Task by including concepts taught in English, Math and Science. Theme-based teaching lesson planning can be a great way for you to spiral review through your previously taught reading and writing objectives while also focusing on Science, Math, Global Perspectives or Social Science objectives in a meaningful way!

[End]

GLOBAL TUTORS

By Dani Vergara



Looking to Study Abroad?

Global Education Is Your Gateway To International Academic Opportunities

APPLICATION SERVICES
We assist you with the entire university application process to all of our university partners.

IELTS TEST
Our offices are IELTS booking centres and we are a registered UCAS centre for all UK applications.

STUDENT VISAS
We assist with overseas student visas by providing all the information required to ensure a successful application.

ACCOMMODATION
We guide and assist students with securing their on-campus accommodation.

Unlock Your Potential with a World-Class Education
As experts in the field, Global Education provides comprehensive support to students and their families, at no additional administrative costs. With access to hundreds of university partners and a 100% student visa success rate, we ensure a seamless and successful study abroad experience.

For further information, please email info@global@global-education.co.za

The World Is Waiting: Why Studying Abroad Is an Investment in Your Future

For many South African families, the dream of a brighter future begins with education. While South Africa is home to good universities and talented young people, today's world offers opportunities that extend far beyond our borders. Choosing to study abroad is no longer simply about earning a degree in another country, it's about preparing for success in a global economy.

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PARTNER PUBLICATIONS

International education exposes students to world-class teaching, cutting-edge research, and industries that are shaping the future. It encourages independence, resilience, and adaptability, qualities that employers across the world actively seek. Students graduate not only with academic qualifications but with valuable life experience and a broader understanding of different cultures and ways of thinking.

One of the greatest advantages of studying overseas is choice. Graduates may decide to remain abroad and gain valuable international work experience, building careers in some of the world's most leading economies. Others choose to return home, bringing internationally recognised qualifications, global networks, and highly sought-after skills that enable them to make a meaningful contribution to South Africa's growth.

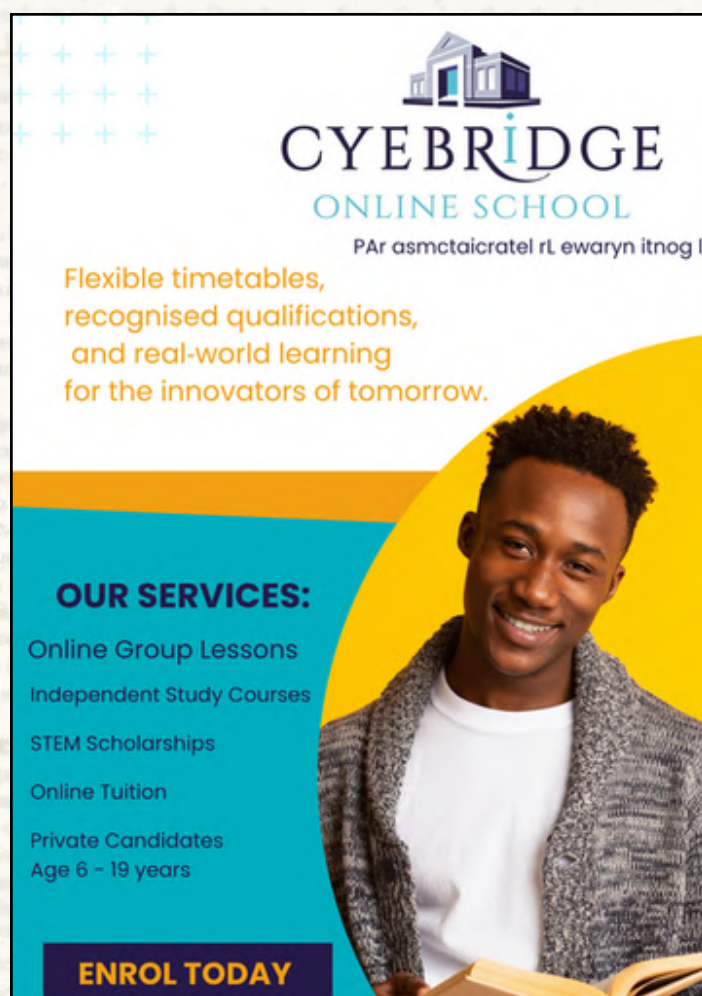
For parents, supporting a child to study abroad is an investment that extends well beyond graduation. It is an opportunity to equip the next generation with the confidence, knowledge, and experience to compete on the international stage while keeping every door open for the future.

The world has become more connected than ever before. Employers increasingly value graduates who can think globally, collaborate across cultures, and adapt to changing environments. An international education develops exactly these qualities.

South Africa has always produced great talent. Studying abroad simply gives that talent a larger stage. Whether the goal is to build an international career or return home with world-class expertise, the journey begins with one courageous decision: to look beyond familiar horizons and embrace the opportunities the world has to offer. [End]

CYEBRIDGE ONLINE SCHOOL

By M. Brown



CYEBRIDGE
ONLINE SCHOOL

Flexible timetables,
recognised qualifications,
and real-world learning
for the innovators of tomorrow.

OUR SERVICES:

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- Age 6 - 19 years

ENROL TODAY

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Putting Learning into Practice

At Cyebriidge Online School, we like to say that learning isn't just something you do - it's something you live. After all, what good is knowledge if you can't roll up your sleeves and use it? Whether it's a science experiment bubbling away, a creative project taking shape, or a student discovering how to manage their own study time, we believe education should be as practical as it is academic.

Our students, aged 6 to 19, join us from around the world for group lessons, independent study courses, and individual tuition. Many sit their exams as private candidates, supported by our dedicated tutors and the wonderful team at Tutors & Exams - partners who share our commitment to professionalism and care.

A highlight of our approach is our Study Skills for Life programme - a set of courses that teach students how to learn effectively. Instead of memorising facts, they discover how to apply knowledge, think critically, and overcome learning barriers. These skills are wonderfully practical: they help students organise their studies, tackle challenges with confidence, and even make sense of those tricky science practicals!

Our science lessons bring theory to life through digital simulations and, where possible, hands-on experiments using basic lab equipment under teacher guidance. It's learning that sparks curiosity and occasionally a few safe chemical reactions.

At Cyebriidge, we're nurturing future innovators who

can think, create, and apply what they learn with purpose. Because when learning is practical, it sticks - and that's what makes it truly exciting.

Discover more about our Study Skills for Life courses at cyebriidgeonlineschool.com/subject/study-skills-for-life.

Earlier this year, we launched our Referrals Programme, inviting families and educational institutions to refer students to Cyebriidge Online School for a commission. It's a rewarding way to help more learners' access flexible, high-quality online education while celebrating collaboration within our growing community.

Find out more about our Referrals Programme at [Find out more about our Referrals Programme at Earn 10% Commission for Referring New Students - Cyebriidge Online School \(formerly COA International\)](#)

[End]

GLOBAL TUTORS

By Natalie Osato

From Passive Learning to Active Practice Through Online Tutoring

In traditional classrooms, learning often follows a familiar pattern: students watch, listen, and read. Concepts are explained, examples are demonstrated, and notes are taken. While this builds foundational knowledge, it does not always guarantee that students can apply what they have learned independently. This is where tutoring, particularly personalised, one-on-one tutoring, plays a transformative role.

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At Global Tutors, learning is approached as a form of guided practical experience, even in a fully remote environment. Rather than passively receiving information, students are actively engaged in applying knowledge in real time using interactive online tools such as shared whiteboards, live annotations, document editing, screen sharing, and structured step-by-step problem breakdowns. These tools allow tutors and students to work side-by-side digitally, turning the online space into an active learning environment rather than a passive one.

Students are encouraged to think aloud, attempt responses, and work through challenges step by step with continuous tutor guidance. This applies across all subjects. In Mathematics and Physics, students solve problems interactively and build reasoning step by step. In English Language and Literature, they actively develop essay structures, analyse texts together, and refine argumentation in real time. In Business Studies, students work through case studies, apply theory to real-world scenarios, and practise structured analytical writing. Across all subjects, exam preparation becomes an active process of doing—not just reviewing.

One of the most powerful aspects of this approach is the transformation of abstract theory into active application. Essay writing is no longer a static task completed alone; it becomes a guided process of planning, drafting, refining, and improving with immediate feedback. Past paper practice is not simply

repetition, but a structured breakdown of exam technique, timing, and mark scheme interpretation. Case studies become interactive discussions where students learn to apply concepts critically and logically under guidance.

Equally important is the role of “trial and error” in learning. In school settings, many students hesitate to make mistakes for fear of being wrong in front of others. In contrast, online tutoring provides a safe, one-on-one environment where mistakes become an essential part of the learning process. With immediate feedback through annotations, corrections, and guided prompts, students are able to adjust their thinking in real time. Through repetition, correction, and refinement, confidence and mastery gradually develop.

In this sense, tutoring becomes the academic equivalent of a virtual learning workshop: a space where ideas are actively tested, refined, and strengthened through experience. At Global Tutors, every session is designed to move beyond passive learning, transforming online education into an interactive, hands-on practical experience where students truly learn by doing - even from a distance.

[End]

World-Class Online Tutoring

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- ✔ IB, Cambridge, Pearson Edexcel, IEB & CAPS
- ✔ Expert support across all subjects
- ✔ Personalised learning plan
- ✔ Bespoke tutor matching





PARTNER

PUBLICATIONS

LINGUAL EXPRESS

By Nikki Meyer

Navigating the Oral Exam

What to Expect on Test Day

The speaking component of a language exam often causes the most pre-test jitters, but knowing exactly how the session is structured can take away a lot of that anxiety. It isn't a casual chat, but it also isn't a trap—it is simply a structured showcase of what you can do.

Here is how the practical side of the examination typically unfolds:

The Preparation Room (The Head Start):

For many modern language exams, you won't just walk in and start talking. You will first spend 10 to 15 minutes in a supervised prep room. Here, you will be handed over your prompts—such as a photo to describe a short text to read, or a role-play scenario.

The Warm-Up:

Once you sit down with the examiner, they will usually start with unassessed, friendly questions (like asking your name or how your day is going). This is purely to help you find your voice and test the audio recording equipment.

The Main Components:

The formal exam usually lasts between 8 and 12 minutes and moves through distinct phases:

The Presentation/Description:

You speak uninterrupted about your prepared topic or photo stimulus.

The Guided Conversation:

The examiner will ask follow-up questions about your presentation, moving into broader, spontaneous topics.

The Recording:

A digital recorder will be on the table. Don't let this rattle you—it is there for your protection, ensuring a second examiner can moderate the grading fairly.

The Golden Rule:

Examiners aren't looking for absolute perfection or a flawless accent; they are looking for communication. If you make a mistake, simply correct yourself and keep moving forward! [End]



MASTER MATHS

By Dilette Van Zyl

Practice Matters: The Right Kind of Practice Builds Lasting Learning

Have you ever finished teaching a Mathematics or Physical Sciences topic believing your students understood it, only to discover a few weeks later that many could no longer solve the same type of question?

If so, you are not alone.

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Good performance during a lesson does not necessarily indicate long-term learning. When examples are fresh and solutions have just been demonstrated, Mathematics or Physical Science often feels easy. This can create an illusion of learning. Research in cognitive science shows that how well students perform during learning is often a poor predictor of what they will remember later. The goal is not simply to complete today's work successfully, but to develop knowledge and problem-solving skills that can be retrieved and applied weeks or even months later.

What is retrieval practice?

Retrieval practice is the deliberate act of recalling information from long-term memory without relying on notes, worked examples or the memorandum. Every successful act of retrieval strengthens memory, making future recall easier and more reliable. Although retrieval practice feels more difficult than rereading notes, that productive struggle is one of the reasons it is so effective.

Mix topics to strengthen learning

Choosing questions from different topics is known as interleaving. Instead of automatically applying the previous method, students must first identify which strategy is required. This extra thinking promotes retrieval from long-term memory and develops flexible, exam-ready thinking.

Two Study Approaches

Traditional Practice	Retrieval Practice
Completes the exercises after the lesson.	Completes the exercises after the lesson.
Continues practising only the newest topic being taught.	Every second day completes a mixed retrieval set of 3–5 questions from previously learnt topics.
Looks back at notes and worked examples.	Answers every question from memory before looking at notes or the memorandum.
Checks answers after completing the work.	Checks, corrects mistakes and notes what still needs improvement.
Studies one topic at a time.	Mixes questions from different topics (interleaving).
Usually remembers less several weeks later.	Is more likely to remember and apply the work weeks later.

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Both students spend the same number of hours studying.

The difference is not how much they practise—it is how they practise.

Traditional practice develops today's performance.

Retrieval practice develops tomorrow's memory.

A simple daily retrieval routine

- Set aside 15–20 minutes for retrieval practice.
- Choose three to five questions from different topics already learnt.
- Answer from memory.
- Mark your work.
- Correct every mistake.
- Redo difficult questions.
- Repeat tomorrow with a different mix.

Correcting mistakes is one of the most valuable parts of retrieval practice because it replaces incorrect thinking with accurate understanding.

Short, regular retrieval sessions are far more effective than last-minute cramming. Encourage students to explain solutions from memory, celebrate perseverance as well as marks, and make retrieval practice part of their daily routine.

How Master Maths puts Retrieval Practice into action

At Master Maths, retrieval practice forms part of our CCART teaching approach: Comprehension, Commit to Memory, Application, Reinforcement and Recognition, and Transference.

Students first develop a clear understanding of new concepts before committing key ideas to memory.

They then apply their knowledge independently, receive immediate feedback to reinforce correct thinking and recognise misconceptions, and finally transfer what they have learnt to unfamiliar questions and new contexts.

Retrieval practice is therefore not an additional activity—it is woven throughout the learning process to help students build understanding that lasts beyond the next test.

Learning is not measured by what students can do today.

It is measured by what they can still remember and apply weeks later

Practice matters—but the right kind of practice matters even more.

Retrieval practice transforms practice into lasting learning. [End]

PLAYPOT

By Maryka Ludik

Procrastination Isn't the Problem. The System Is.

Procrastination is often misunderstood as laziness, lack of discipline or poor motivation. For many adolescents and adults with ADHD, however, procrastination is usually far more complex. It is often linked to executive functioning challenges — the brain-based skills that help us plan, start, organise, manage time, regulate emotions and follow through on tasks.

A person may fully understand what needs to be done and may even want to do it, but still feel unable to begin. This can be especially frustrating because procrastination is not always about avoiding the task itself.

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Sometimes the task feels too big, too unclear, too boring, too emotionally loaded or too difficult to organise. The brain then struggles to find a clear starting point.

This is where procrastination becomes less about willpower and more about the system around the task. If the process is unclear, the task stays overwhelming. If there is no structure, the brain has to hold too many steps at once. If time feels vague, it becomes difficult to judge where to begin and how long the task may take. For someone with ADHD or executive functioning difficulties, this can quickly lead to avoidance.

One practical way to reduce procrastination is to make the task visible and structured.

Practical tips to manage procrastination

- Write the full process down in a checklist format: Break the task into small, clear steps instead of keeping everything in your head.
- Use different colours: Colours can help separate priorities, sections, subjects or stages of the task.
- Tick off every box after completing a step: This creates a visible sense of progress and helps the brain recognise that movement is happening.
- Rewrite the checklist the next day if it is not completed: This is not failure. It is a reset. Rewriting the list helps reduce overwhelm and creates a fresh starting point.

Procrastination improves when the task becomes clearer, smaller and more structured. The goal is not to force the brain to work harder, but to create a system that makes starting easier.

For adolescents and adults with ADHD, this shift can be powerful: procrastination is not a character flaw — it is often a sign that the task needs more structure, visibility and support. [End]

Struggling to Focus, Plan, or Keep Up? You're Not Alone.

- Constant procrastination or trouble getting started
- Difficulty staying focused or finishing tasks
- Feeling overwhelmed by daily responsibilities
- Poor time management or frequent lateness
- Forgetfulness and trouble following through
- Emotional regulation and impulsivity
- Struggling with planning, prioritising, or organising
- Frustration from underachievement despite intelligence or effort





Your ADHD and Executive Functioning coaching sessions are offered in-person or online — whatever suits you best. All conversations are confidential and fully compliant with the POPI Act. Sessions are relaxed, supportive, and tailored to your unique needs.

Together, we'll explore what's been challenging you, unpack your frustrations, and develop practical tools and strategies that actually work for you. No pressure, no judgment — just a safe space to get unstuck and move forward. Your brain is powerful, with the right structure and support, the pieces begin to fit.

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COACHBIT

By Johann Minnaar

A Practical Fresh Start: Building Consistency Before You Need It

If the last exam season left a few bruises in your household, you are not alone. The late-night cramming, the untouched study timetable, the promises to start properly on Monday. Most families know that story, and most quietly hope the next season will somehow be different.

Here is the thing: it can be, but not by waiting. The single most practical thing a family can do at the start of a new term is build consistency now, months before it is needed. Don't wait for exam season to fix exam season. By the time the pressure arrives, habits are either in place or they are not.

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At Coachbit, we coach students on exactly this, and the pattern we see across thousands of learners is remarkably reliable. The student who works for 30 minutes a day almost always outperforms the student who crams for six hours the night before. Learning science calls it the spacing effect. Knowledge revisited in small, regular doses sticks. Knowledge crammed in a panic leaks.

The challenge is that consistency is genuinely hard, especially for homeschooling and distance learning families, where there is no school bell to enforce structure. The good news is that consistency is not a personality trait. It is a skill, and like any skill, it can be built. A new term, with no exams looming, is the perfect low-stakes time to build it. Here is how we coach families to do it.

Shrink the step. Do not aim for two hours of study. Aim for ten minutes. A small step taken every day beats a big plan abandoned by Wednesday. Once the ten minutes is routine, growing it is easy. Momentum is built on wins, not ambitions.

Anchor the habit. Attach study time to something that already happens every day. After breakfast, before sport, straight after lunch. A fixed anchor removes the daily negotiation about when to start, which is where most study plans quietly die.

Design the environment. Set up the desk the night before. Books open, phone in another room. Willpower is unreliable, but a well-prepared space does half the work before your child even sits down.

Make progress visible. A simple tick on a calendar for every day of work sounds almost too basic to matter. It is not.

Streaks are motivating, and a visible record turns effort into something a child can feel proud of long before any results arrive.

None of this is complicated, and that is rather the point. The most practical improvements to a child's schooling are rarely dramatic. They are small, boring, and repeated daily, and by the time exams do roll around, they have compounded into something last-minute heroics can never match.

This is what Coachbit does. We pair students with a personal coach who works with them one-on-one to build routines, organisation, and consistency, supported by an app that makes daily habits engaging rather than a chore.

Two Sides of the Same Coin

Building strong study habits is one of the best practical gifts you can give a learner. But consistency is only one piece of the puzzle.

Once students are showing up regularly, they also need confidence that they're focusing on the right content, closing the right knowledge gaps, and making every study session count.

That's where expert tutoring comes in. Together, Coachbit and Teach Me 2 support both the behavioural and academic sides of learning, helping students build lasting habits while making meaningful progress in the classroom. [End]



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TEACH ME 2

By Johann Minnaar

Practice Beats Revision: How to Prepare for Exams the Practical Way

There is a moment every exam parent knows, and if you lived through it last season, it will still be fresh. Your child spent the whole afternoon at their desk. The notes were highlighted, the summaries written, everything looked under control. Then the exam paper came out and half of it might as well have been in another language.

Here is the uncomfortable truth about studying: reading and highlighting feel productive, but they mostly build familiarity, not ability. Your child recognises the work. That is not the same as being able to do it. Exams do not test recognition. They test retrieval, under time pressure, with no notes in sight.

At Teach Me 2 we have supported South African families through many exam seasons, and the most practical advice we can offer is this: prepare the way you will be tested. That means less passive revision and more doing. And the best time to start is not in the panicked weeks before the next exams. It is now, at the start of the term, when one practice paper a week feels manageable rather than desperate.

Make past papers the centre of your plan. For exam candidates, past papers are the ultimate practical. One paper a week, written under timed conditions and marked honestly, teaches more than three afternoons of highlighting. It reveals exactly where the gaps are, builds exam stamina, and takes the fear out of the format.

Close the book before you test yourself. After studying a section, put the notes away and write down everything you can remember, or explain it out loud to a parent. The struggle to retrieve is not a sign of failure. It is the very thing that makes memory stick.

Mark like an examiner. Get hold of the marking guidelines and learn how marks are actually awarded. Many candidates lose marks not because they do not know the work, but because they do not answer in the way the paper rewards. Understanding the difference between "list", "explain" and "evaluate" is worth real marks.

Turn mistakes into a study guide. Keep a single page of the errors that come up repeatedly. By the final week before the exam, that page is the most valuable study material your child owns, because it is personalised to exactly what they get wrong.

The common thread in all of this is that good preparation is active, specific, and honest about weaknesses. That is also exactly where the right tutor makes the difference. At Teach Me 2, we believe every child deserves a tutor with a plan: someone who knows their subject inside out, identifies precisely where a learner is struggling, and knows how to make it finally click. Not another hour of generic revision, but focused, practical work on the things that will actually move the mark.

Exam season will always carry some pressure. But a candidate who has practised the real thing, week after week from the start of term, walks into that

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exam room with something no amount of highlighting can provide: the quiet confidence of having done it many times before.

Whether your child needs support building consistent study habits, mastering difficult subjects, or both, Coachbit and Teach Me 2 provide practical support for every stage of the learning journey.

Learn more at coachbit.com and teachme2.co.za.

[End]



WINGU ACADEMY

By Engela Janse Van Rensburg

Wingu Academy Avhieves IEB PSI Registration, Reinforcing Excellence in Online Education.

A new milestone that gives parents even greater confidence in their child's educational future.

Wingu Academy has reached another significant milestone by becoming a registered Independent Examinations Board (IEB) Primary School Initiative (PSI) school.

This achievement further strengthens the Academy's reputation as one of South Africa's leading online schools and reflects its unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality, future-focused education.

The Independent Examinations Board (IEB) Primary School Initiative (PSI) is a nationally recognised quality assurance programme that promotes excellence in teaching, meaningful assessment, and holistic learner development during the primary school years. Registration confirms that a school meets rigorous educational standards while embracing best practices that prepare learners for lifelong success.

For parents, this registration provides added confidence that their children are learning within a recognised framework built on academic excellence, innovation, and continuous improvement. Learners benefit from qualified teachers, engaging live online lessons, structured assessments, personalised academic support, and a nurturing learning environment designed to develop critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.

Adding to this accomplishment, Wingu Academy has also been recognised as one of the Top Ten Online Schools by the South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute (SACAI). This recognition reflects the Academy's dedication to maintaining exceptional academic standards while embracing innovative digital learning that empowers every learner to reach their full potential.

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As more families seek flexible, high-quality education without compromising academic integrity, Wingu Academy continues to lead the way. Its unique combination of personalised learning, experienced educators, learner wellness initiatives, interactive online classrooms, and supportive school community provides an educational experience that prepares learners for an ever-changing world.

The Academy's latest achievements reaffirm its vision of delivering education that is innovative, accredited, and centred on learner success. For families seeking an online school that combines recognised quality, academic excellence, and a genuine commitment to every child's future, Wingu Academy continues to set the benchmark for modern education in South Africa.

[End]

WINGU ACADEMY

WINGU ACADEMY PRIMARY, NOW IEB PSI REGISTERED

Wingu Academy Primary is officially IEB PSI registered, strengthening its commitment to quality, structured, future-focused primary education.

British International (Stage R - A levels) CAPS (NSC) Gr10-12

CONNECT Pearson Education Oxford International Curriculum SACAP

WINGU ACADEMY RATED TOP 10 ONLINE SCHOOLS

UPCOMING SIGNIFICANT/INTERESTING DAYS

9 August: National Women's Day

9 August: Book Lovers Day

12 August: International Youth Day

13 August: International Left-Handers Day

19 August: World Photography Day

26 August: Women's Equality Day

30 August: Frankenstein Day

1 September: Spring Day

First week of September: Arbor Week

6 September: Read a Book Day

8 September: International Literacy Day

13 September: Positive Thinking Day

16 September: Play-Doh Day

21 September: International Day of Peace

24 September: Heritage Day

26 September: European Day of Languages

Third Friday of September: Sunflower Day

1 October: International Coffee Day

4 October: World Animal Day

5 October: World Teachers' Day

10 October: World Mental Health Day

11 October: International Day of the Girl Child

16 October: Dictionary Day

21 October: Back to the Future Day

31 October: Halloween

CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS



Pavane Art School

Pavane Art School is a welcoming creative space where children can explore their artistic abilities in a fun and encouraging environment. Established in 1998, the school has many years of experience helping young artists build confidence and develop a love for art.

The school offers art lessons to children between the ages of 6 and 17. Classes are led by owner Linda Coetzee, who encourages learners to experiment, express themselves and develop their own artistic style.

Learners are introduced to a variety of artistic media, techniques and creative approaches. Lessons are designed to strengthen practical skills while allowing each child to use their imagination.

Pavane Art School also teaches art history and art appreciation, introducing children to famous artists and cultures from around the

world. By combining creativity with knowledge, the school offers a well-rounded art education that is both enjoyable and inspiring.



Evexia

Evexia provides specialised mental healthcare through its welcoming day hospitals in Menlyn and Midstream. As the first facilities of their kind in South Africa, Evexia offers a more supportive and structured level of care than occasional primary care visits, while being less disruptive than admission to a traditional psychiatric hospital.

The facilities welcome individuals aged 12 and older from all walks of life and backgrounds. Their experienced and compassionate teams work closely with each person to understand their needs and provide guidance throughout their mental health journey.

Evexia supports people facing a wide range of challenges, including trauma and grief,

social difficulties, daily living concerns and psychological or psychiatric conditions. Its programmes are designed to provide meaningful support, practical coping tools and a safe environment where individuals can focus on healing and personal growth.

Evexia's day-based treatment allows patients to receive structured professional care while remaining connected to their families, routines and responsibilities. Evexia offers an accessible and compassionate approach to mental healthcare

Room Rentals

Pretoria

Cape Town

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REAL ESTATE

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CAREERS



Join Our Invigilation Team

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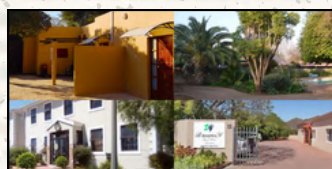
Tutors & Exams South Africa is always looking to expand our team of dedicated invigilators.

We welcome vibrant, kind, and diligent individuals who value integrity, attention to detail, and genuine care for candidates. As an invigilator, you become part of a supportive team that helps candidates feel at ease during an important moment in their academic journey.

Your professionalism, presence and compassion make a meaningful difference to every exam sitting.

If you are passionate about learning and would like to be part of our growing community, please reach out on 087 655 5143.

ACCOMODATION



Travelling Far For Your Exams?

View some accomodation options here:

Pretoria:

Lightstone Guesthouse.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/kr259c8dGurFKQwB9>

Green Grove Villa.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NGKrBu585z3aNdAF7>

Cape Town:

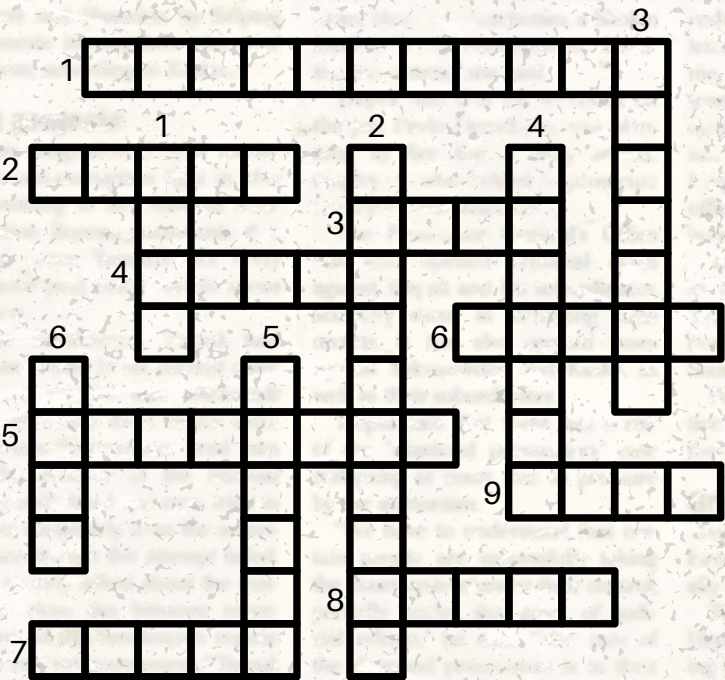
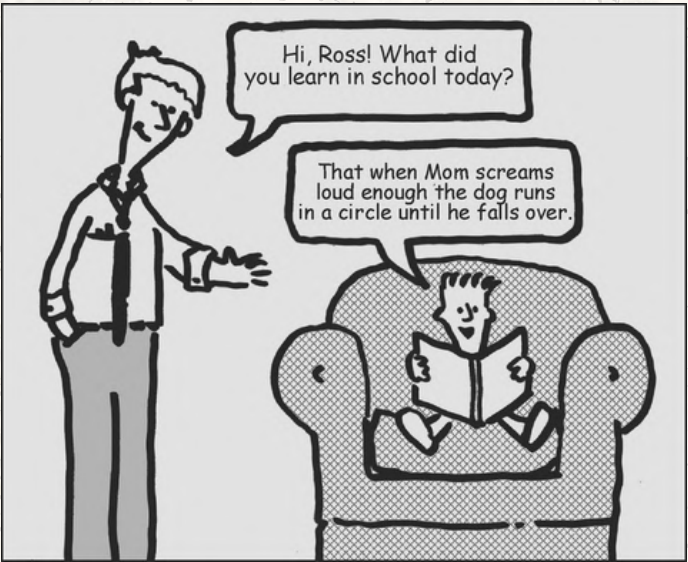
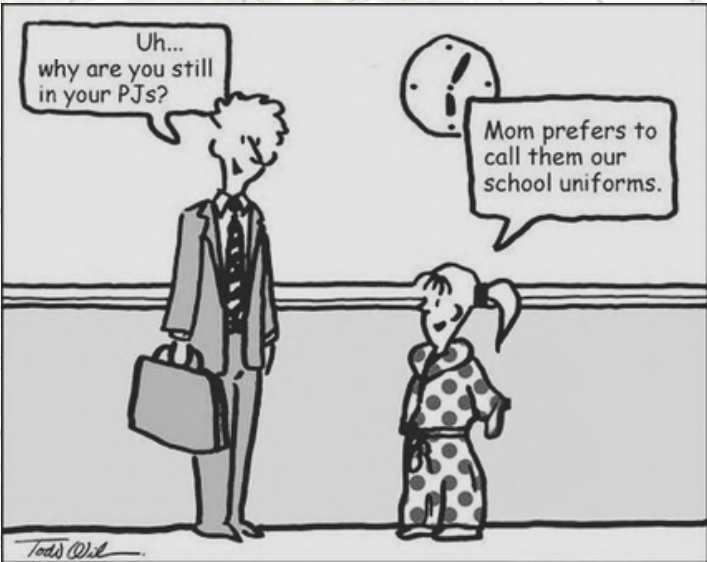
Broadway Bellville Guest House.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/cEf5gpmFBY5YfsgC8>

Bergsig Casa Guest House.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/zKnpnZabbWr8eaoy6>.





- 1 Across** - Person who supervises an exam room.
2 Across - Prepare by learning the material.
3 Across - Assigned place in the exam hall.
4 Across - Concepts you generate for essays or projects.
5 Across - Practice task to build skills.
6 Across - Corrections made to a draft.
7 Across - Printed page of questions or answers.
8 Across - Brief points you write to study later.
9 Across - Short assessment or trial.
- 1 Down** - A single topic or module in a course.
2 Down - Formal evaluation of learning.
3 Down - Published outcomes after exams.
4 Down - Person enrolled to learn and take exams.
5 Down - Candidate's written answer booklet.
6 Down - Work surface used for study or exams.

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