

Making revision cards

Revision cards are among the most popular revision resources. The idea is that you summarise some information on a single blank postcard or note card (front and back if necessary). Several different types are available from stationers or you can make them online at www.getrevising.co.uk. You then use the card for revision.

→ What are revision cards and how can they be used?

Five things to do with revision cards

1 Write questions on one side and answers on the other – then test yourself or ask someone else to test you.

2 Write key names or terms on one side and a summary of what they wrote or the definition on the other side.

3 Write the advantages of something on one side and the disadvantages or criticisms on the other.

4 Write about something in reasonable detail on one side and use the other side to summarise its key points as a short list (no more than five points).

5 Discuss a subject with a few friends and decide what sort of cards would be most useful. Divide the subject up into sections and make each person responsible for making revision cards for one or more sections. Meet up when the cards are made and revise from the cards together, for example by testing each other.

ACTIVITY

Imagine you need to revise the following information.

The dance style primarily associated with hip hop is 'breaking', which appeared in New York City during the early 1970s. Funk styles, such as popping and locking, evolved separately in California in the 1960s-70s. In the late 1980s, as hip hop music took new forms, new dance styles began appearing. Most of them were danced in an upright manner in contrast to breaking (with has more ground moves), but overall they contributed a lot to later hip hop styles, and heavily influenced the development of house dancing. During the 1990s and 2000s, parallel with the evolution of hip hop music, hip hop dancing evolved into heavier and more aggressive forms. All hip hop styles from the 1980s and beyond are sometimes collectively called new school while the distinct styles from the 1960-70s, are considered old school. However, this classification is controversial.

Source: www.wikipedia.org

Complete this revision card (which has been started) following the advice provided.

Hip hop dance

A clear title for the card

1. Important dates

- 1960s - funk styles start in California
- early 1970s - breaking started in New York
- late 1980s - new upright styles
- 1990s/2000s - heavier forms emerge

2. Styles

3.

Information broken down into three chunks

Complete the information on 'styles' using sub-headings

Add the third sub-heading to cover some different information

The card can be improved by:

- adding any relevant links to other topics
- using colour
- adding diagrams or pictures
- checking understanding – for example, it may be necessary to find out why the old school/new school classification 'is controversial'