
Physics

Success at any A Level is about mastering 6, 7 or 8 skills – these are detailed below for your subject.

This is **not** about the 'KNOW' but about the 'DO' – what do you need to 'DO' with the content once you recall it?

You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Be able to communicate clearly using clear scientific prose
2. Have good mathematical skills
3. Problem solving and Logical thinking skills
4. Practical skills including manipulation of apparatus
5. Data analysis
6. Evaluation of methods and equipment - both qualitative and quantitative



Biology

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Key skills

1. Demonstrate practical skills including manipulation of apparatus
2. Data analysis
3. Evaluation of methods and equipment - both qualitative and quantitative
4. Application of subject knowledge to a variety of contexts
5. Ability to communicate both verbally and written
6. Good mathematical skills including application of statistical methods
7. Reading and identifying relevant information from a variety of texts and sources



Chemistry

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Written communication skills both mathematical and using clear scientific prose
2. Problem solving and Logical thinking skills
3. Practical skills including manipulation of apparatus,
4. Data analysis
5. Evaluation of methods and equipment - both qualitative and quantitative
6. Good mathematical skills to include rearranging equations, drawing graphs and simultaneous equations (HT GCSE Maths skills)



Music

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Key skills

1. Listening to music whilst identifying and applying the elements of music
2. Analysis and application of musical understanding
3. A sound understanding of musical theory and the ability to comment on this in an exam
4. Performance of a program of music on your instrument or voice
5. Composition of a 'Free piece' and one set by a brief
6. Historical and contextual understanding on set works and being confident in structuring essay style answers



Music Technology

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Key skills

1. Recording a piece of music in the studio with at least four multi-track parts
2. Producing music using logic pro and having a good understanding of digital plugins
3. Composing music in a style of your choice
4. Analysis of musical pieces and the use of music technology in their production
5. Evidencing your work and explaining the reasons for your music and technological decisions
6. Historical and contextual understanding for a wide range of popular music



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Sixth Form

Physical Education

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Key skills

1. Have specific **sporting examples** for every key term. Not vague or wordy, specific.
2. Know how the **assessment objectives** (AO's) link to command words eg:
 - i. define/identify = AO1
 - ii. describe/explain = AO2
 - iii. discuss/analyse/evaluate = AO3
3. To access AO3 you are credited for relevant **judgements/opinions/deeper explanations**. When revising, provide these points to stretch yourself. (do not just identify and describe when revising).
4. Where **diagrams/graphs** can be used to demonstrate understanding, you must be able to create an accurate diagram/graph, but also provide a supporting explanation.
5. If you are given a graph or some data to analyse, you must respond directly to that specific graph/data
6. When you read an exam question, **underline/highlight the key aspects** ie what is it asking you to do (eg identify/describe/evaluate) and what knowledge is it asking you to apply (eg which time period, long or short term effects etc)
7. **Plan your answers** to make sure you are directly answering the question in the correct context. This is essential for the 10 markers but will also positively impact your success in shorter answer questions, making sure you do not go off on a tangent or waste your time including unnecessary information. Use the margin to write down a list of the specialist vocab you need to refer to.
8. The **synoptic question** is a question that links together two parts of the specification. When revising, attempt to make these links to develop your exam readiness.



Business/ Economics

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Key skills

1. Application of knowledge – using case study material or own examples to illustrate and develop a point
2. Analysis of concepts – be able to consider the pros and cons within context
3. Evaluation – be able to make justified judgements based on evidence
4. Use of tables and graphs – be able to comment on trends and patterns and what might have been the causes
5. Quantitative – be able to carry out calculations and analyse what the results mean and how they might affect the business and/or economy
6. Time management – be able to answer questions within a limited time



Art

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Analysing critically work by a range of artists
2. Developing ideas from a range of sources both critically and contextually
3. Experiment with a range of materials and techniques
4. Review and refine work critically as work develops
5. Record ideas and developments in visual and other forms such as reflective annotation
6. Present a personal and meaningful response
7. Create final piece that makes connections to appropriate artists and sources



Photography

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Analysing critically work by a range of photographers
2. Developing ideas from a range of sources both critically and contextually
3. Experiment with a range of materials and techniques within photography
4. Review and refine work critically as work develops
5. Record ideas and developments in visual and other forms such as reflective annotation
6. Present a personal and meaningful response
7. Create final piece that makes connections to appropriate artists and sources



English Language

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Write a clear response to the question that has been asked
2. Include evidence to support the point(s) you are making
3. Refer back to your argument throughout the essay
4. Analyse points by discussing strengths and weaknesses
5. Include a counter point in your argument
6. Justify any and all conclusions
7. Include (name) specific scholars in your essay



Geography

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Key skills

1. Write **developed explanations** of concepts & processes
2. Integration of **geographical terminology**
3. **Evaluate** & reach substantiated judgements
4. **Assess using evidence** to determine relative significance
5. **Evaluation** of sources (e.g. photographic, maps)
6. **Calculation** to include measures of central tendency & statistical tests
7. **Interpretation & analysis of data** sets
8. **Critical consideration** of field research methodologies and processes



Psychology

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Key skills

OUTLINE/DESCRIBE:

1. Be able to recall key content and write concise summaries

DISCUSS/EVALUATE:

2. Be able to state the relevant strengths and limitations of a topic/theory/treatment etc. Define what we mean by that strength or limitation i.e if we say a theory is 'reductionist', what does this actually mean?

EVIDENCE:

3. Be able to provide a summary of a piece of evidence that is relevant to the point you have made AND explain how it's relevant

ELABORATE:

4. Be able to explain WHY something is a strength or limitation. You need to be able to PUSH IT!!! Keep adding further levels of elaboration i.e if you've said that a strength is having a large sample size, elaborate by saying that this will mean a larger set of data can be gathered >>>>PUSH IT FURTHER>>>> this is positive as it means data is more representative of the target population >>>>PUSH IT FURTHER >>>>>this matters because it means results are more likely to be valid >>>>>PUSH IT FURTHER>>>>>this is important as it means that we are more able to generalise from the findings>>>>>PUSH IT FURTHER>>>>>thus making the research more useful

APPLICATION:

5. Be able to link points you are making back to the stem material that has been outlined in the exam question

COMPARE AND CONTRAST:

6. Be able to identify, evidence and elaborate on similarities and differences between theories, models, approaches, treatments etc



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Sixth Form

Sociology

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. **Assess the significance:** You need to be able to make judgements. How important is the concept/ perspective to society as a whole? This must be well argued and supported with evidence
2. **Evaluate:** You need to be able to explain the strengths and limitations of concepts, evidence and sociological perspectives. Do they apply equally to all? Can other ideas explain things better? Is the evidence biased or flawed?
3. **Analyse the causes and consequences:** you need to be able to explain what caused the social trend or key concept and explain what it's consequences will be for specific social groups and over time
4. **Identify patterns:** You need to be able to spot, explain and provide evidence for social trends and patterns. Such as explain what has happened in terms of birth rate, death rate, marriage and divorce rates over time
5. **Illustrate with examples:** You need to be able to give examples to show what the concepts you've defined look like in real life. For example, men having all the financial decision-making power within families would be an example of patriarchy
6. **Define:** You need to be able to define key sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives. For example: Patriarchy is a society based on male domination and power over women. Marxism is a theoretical perspective which sees society as based around a conflict between the ruling class and working class



Spanish

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice

Key skills

All papers

1. Applying key terminology/vocabulary/verbs/grammar related to the topic/film
2. Proofreading written work for common mistakes (spellings/ verbs/missing words)

Paper 1

3. Identifying key points and structuring answers in listening /reading summary tasks
4. Grammar strategies to increase success in gap filling tasks

Paper 2

5. Essay – use of quotes from the film as evidence for points
6. Essay – integration of complex language into essay
7. Essay – planning key points, including introduction and conclusion

Paper 3

8. Learning and using complex sentence starters



Textiles

Success at any A Level is about mastering 6, 7 or 8 skills – these are detailed below for your subject.

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Key skills

1. Awareness of the elements of textile design, such as shape, line, scale, colour, texture, pattern
2. Contrast and/or repetition in relation to the chosen area(s) of textile design
3. Awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of textile design
4. Ability to respond to an issue, concept or idea, working to a brief or answering a need in the chosen area(s) of textile design
5. Appreciation of the relationship of form and function and, where applicable, the constraints of working to a brief
6. Understanding of a variety of textile methods, such as: fabric printing, mono-printing, relief printing
7. Screen printing and laser printing; tie-dye and batik; spraying and transfer; fabric construction
8. Stitching, appliqué, patchwork, padding, quilting and embroidery



Media

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Key skills

- 1) Structure and organise your response
- 2) Refer to media language within your analysis (e.g. direct address, a type of camera shot)
- 3) Be able to apply relevant media theory to appropriate examples
- 4) Understand key facts within the media industries.
- 5) Know the set products in full detail
- 6) Choose appropriate examples from the media products



Level 3 Food

Success at any A Level is about mastering 6, 7 or 8 skills – these are detailed below for your subject.

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Describe , Explain and Classify information
2. Assess and evaluate information
3. Analyse information
4. Calculate nutritional information
5. Use tools and equipment
6. Use of advance techniques
7. Ability to present foods



The Nottingham Emmanuel
Sixth Form

Product Design

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Describe , Explain and Classify information
2. Assess and evaluate information
3. Analyse information
4. Calculate nutritional information
5. Use tools and equipment
6. Use of advance techniques
7. Ability to design, make, and evaluate products
8. Design and manufacture skills
9. Professional drawing skills



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Sixth Form

Drama

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Key skills

1. **Create and develop** ideas to communicate meaning.
2. **Make connections** between **practitioners** dramatic theory and practice
3. Apply **comprehension skills** from set text to justify intentions as a Director/performer
4. Select **appropriate quotes** to support intentions
5. **Apply theatrical skills**
6. **Understand and acknowledge** how different drama and theatre is developed and performed
7. **Make connections with your ideas** and the historical, cultural and social **contexts** of the text/devised work
8. **Analyse and evaluate** their own work and the work of others



History

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Key skills

1. Analysing and evaluating sources
2. Selecting and appropriately using relevant knowledge
3. Applying valid criteria in coming to a judgment
4. Chronology – depth and range
5. Evaluation of key factors and explaining links
6. Analysis and evaluation of interpretations



The Nottingham Emmanuel
Sixth Form

Maths

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Key skills

1. Convert a real life situation into a mathematical model
2. Analyse, process and interpret information/results found
3. Apply a number of different mathematical skills to the same situation
4. Set work out in a logical manner
5. Problem solving
6. Algebraic manipulation
7. Annotate mathematical diagrams
8. Write key formulas used



The Nottingham Emmanuel
Sixth Form

Computer Science

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Clearly show your **knowledge and understanding** of the topic but then **apply** it to the context given
2. For debate/compare style questions, comment appropriately on all sides of the argument
3. Where suitable, show your knowledge of CS being used in the real world
4. Communicate effectively using appropriate **technical terminology**
5. For long answer questions, make a purposeful **evaluative** comment at the end
6. For calculation questions, **always** double check your answer



ICT

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You should audit your skill development so that you have a clear picture to focus your practice.

Key skills

1. Clearly show your **knowledge and understanding** of the topic but then **apply** it to the context given
2. For debate/compare style questions, comment appropriately on all sides of the argument
3. Where suitable, show your knowledge of ICT being used in the real world
4. Communicate effectively using appropriate **technical terminology**
5. For long answer questions, clearly state the **impacts** and the **consequences** of those impacts
6. For long answer questions, make a purposeful **evaluative** comment/conclusion at the end



English Language

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Key skills

1. AO1: Apply appropriate methods of language analysis, using associated terminology and coherent written expression
2. AO2: Demonstrate critical understanding of concepts and issues relevant to language use
3. AO3: Analyse and evaluate how contextual factors and language features are associated with the construction of meaning
4. AO4: Explore connections across texts, informed by linguistic concepts and methods
5. AO5: Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English to communicate in different ways



English Literature

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Key skills

1. Create an argument
2. Structure an argument
3. Use critical terminology
4. Clear expression
5. Analyse authorial methods
6. Understand significance of contexts
7. Explore genre
8. Engage with debate



Philosophy and Ethics

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Key skills

1. Write a clear response to the question that has been asked
2. Include evidence to support the point(s) you are making
3. Refer back to your argument throughout the essay
4. Analyse points by discussing strengths and weaknesses
5. Include a counter point in your argument
6. Justify any and all conclusions
7. Include (name) specific scholars in your essay

