



GCSE MATHEMATICS

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR GRADE THE
EASY WAY



EQUIPMENT:

Pens, pencils, ruler, Angle measurer/protractor, compass and calculator (scientific for the Higher paper)
We can not guarantee that every student will be able to borrow the equipment from the school.

PRACTISE:

Our Maths Department has found the more practice exam style questions they complete the more prepared they are for the final exam.



READ THE QUESTION:

It is recommended that you read the question *TWICE*.

There is plenty of time.

You can underline the important parts of a question if you wish to



CALCULATORS

Make sure you can read a display that is in Standard Form.

No credit is given for writing an answer as 1.63^{06} .

Make sure your calculator is set in the DEG mode



FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH YOUR OWN
CALCULATOR

BRING IT TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY

DON'T RELY ON THE SCHOOLS CALCULATOR
WHICH MAY HAVE A DIFFERENT LOGIC SYSTEM TO
YOURS.



METHODS: Working out **MUST** be shown.

There are a lot of method marks available and it is recommended that all relevant stages of working are shown.

Incorrect answer and no working gains no marks

If *correct* working is shown and a careless error results in an *incorrect* answer you could gain 4 out of the 5 marks available for the question.



UNITS

You must always write down the units at the end of a question even though sometimes the question may not make reference to it

If a question contains mm and cm it
Is a good idea to convert all to the same



ACCURACY

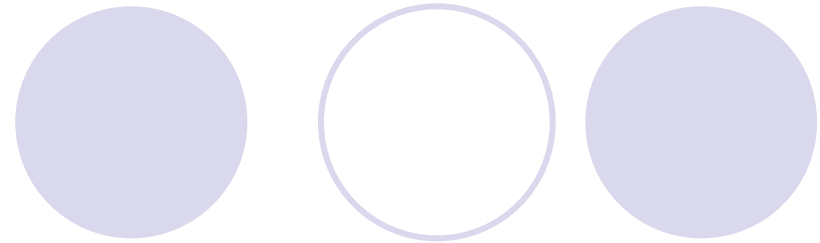
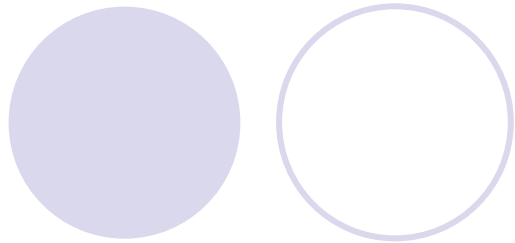
Do not round answers off until the very last line of working.

This is especially important in trigonometry questions.
(There is a significant difference between 23×1.66 and 23×1.66666666)

If the question asks you to give the answer to 1dp, 2sf or in Standard Form you will lose at least one mark every time you fail to do so.

If you are asked to measure a line and it measures 9.1cm use 9.1cm.

Do not assume that the line is supposed to be 9cm long.



FORMULA SHEETS

Make sure you know which formulae are given at the start of the exam paper.

Foundation: Only the area of a trapezium and volume of a prism are given. What other formulae do you need to know?

Higher: Sine rule, Cosine rule, area of a triangle, volume of cones, volume and surface area of sphere



For **borderline grade C** students attempting the **Higher paper**

It is usually best to **avoid the very highest grade topics**
(eg Trigonometry and Simultaneous Equations)

These can take up a lot of revision time.

There are **quicker and easier topics** to revise first.