

When studying A-level Environmental Science, it is important that you not only attend all of your lessons and complete all of your homework, but that you are also doing independent study. We would recommend that you are spending at least 5 hours a week on your independent study. In order for this study to be of maximum benefit it is important that you do a range of different activities, you should be doing some from each of the boxes below. In addition, if you would like to stretch yourself beyond the A-level curriculum then have a look in the super-curricular box for ideas.

Content

One important part of independent study is making sure you have learnt all of the content, below are some suggestions of things you can do to help learn the content in Environmental Science A-level:

After each lesson:

- ✓ *Reviewing previous lessons using your notes and the textbook to create summary notes and/or flashcards*
- ✓ *Completing questions in the textbook*
- ✓ *Asking classmates about content you may have found difficult or missed due to absence*

After each topic:

- ✓ *Creating mind maps about topics you have finished e.g. "Biological resources"*
- ✓ *Completing the summary questions at the end of each chapter in textbook / completing past paper questions*
- ✓ *Highlighting/ colour coding your notes*
- ✓ *Using a revision wall to display your learning*

Skills

The most important part of independent study in Environmental Science is developing the skills to be able to succeed in the exams. Below are some suggestions to help you develop those skills:

- ✓ *Writing exam answers under timed conditions*
- ✓ *Planning or writing out answers to exam questions using your notes/textbook (not timed). Link to past papers and mark schemes: [AQA | AS and A-level | Environmental Science | Assessment resources](#)*
- ✓ *Reading model answers*

Feedback

The final important part of independent study is getting and using feedback. Feedback allows you to understand what it is you need to do differently next time in order to improve. Below are some ideas about how you can use feedback:

- ✓ *Working with other students in groups/pairs*
- ✓ *Handing in extra exam questions you have done for marking*
- ✓ *One-to-one discussions with your teachers*
- ✓ *Reviewing previous mock papers to find areas of weakness to work on*
- ✓ *Attending sessions to catch up on any assessed practicals you missed due to absence*

Super-curricular Environmental Science

*If you were considering studying **Environmental Science** at university, or just really interested in the subject, then you could complete some super-curricular activities. These are things which go beyond what is covered in the curriculum and includes things such as watching relevant documentaries, listening to podcasts, reading relevant journal articles and reading relevant books.*

For up to date ideas look at the Environmental Science Padlet (CAN THE LINK BE ADDED)